



North Spitsbergen – 82 Degrees North

26th August – 2nd September 2019

M/V Plancius



M/V *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.



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Captain Artur Iakovlev

and his international crew

of 45

Including:

Hotel Manager:	Siegfried Penzenleitner	Austria
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Melanie Penzenleitner	Austria
Head Chef:	Heinz Hacker	Austria
Sous Chef:	Ivan Ivanovic	Serbia
Ship's Physician:	Claudio D'Ambrosio	Italy
Expedition Leader:	Philipp Schaudy	Austria
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Ali Liddle	UK
Expedition Guide:	Gerard Bodineau	France
Expedition Guide:	Daniels Karin Amby	Sweden
Expedition Guide:	Chloe Marechal	France
Expedition Guide:	Michelle van Dijk	Netherlands
Expedition Guide:	Johanne Skrefsrud	Norway
Expedition Guide:	Arjen Drost	Netherlands
Expedition Guide:	Benjamin Koster	Germany
Expedition Guide:	Andreas Alexander	Bavaria!

Welcome on board!

Day 1 – Monday 26th August 2019

Embarkation in Longyearbyen

GPS Position at 8:00am: 78°16'N - 015°18'E

Wind: SSE 4 **Sea State:** In Port **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +5°C **Sea Temp:** +7°C



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

Some of us had arrived a day earlier than our departure day on board Plancius and had time to

explore the town and maybe take a day trip but many of us arrived at the airport during the afternoon and only had a short time to visit the town before making our way to the port to join our ship for the coming trip.

We were met by members of the expedition team at the gangway and as we went on board, we were met by Sigi, our Hotel Manager. From here we were shown to our cabins by the very welcoming hotel staff and found our luggage already there.

We had some time to familiarise ourselves with our cabin before we were called to the Lounge to meet Philipp, our Expedition Leader, Captain Artur and the rest of the team. We had a glass of



champagne to toast our voyage and Sigi, the Hotel Manager also gave us a briefing about life on board Plancius.



This was followed by the mandatory safety briefing which was given by our Chief Officer Francois, which outlined aspects of safety on board and the abandon ship procedures.

We then gathered at the muster station, the Lounge, wearing our big orange life jackets, the only time we hope to be wearing them. We were shown to the lifeboats on deck and by this time for dinner, which was a chance to

meet with our fellow passengers before our last task of the day which was to collect our rubber boots from the boot room. With some sea swell causing Plancius to roll a little, a few people were feeling the effects of sea sickness and had an early night.

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

Day 2 – Monday 27th August 2019

Svidjodbreen & Raudfjord

GPS Position at 8:00am: 79°48'N - 011°01'E

Wind: ENE 5 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Air Temp:** +5 C **Sea Temp:** +5°C



After a rough start to our voyage with yesterday's swell and rockiness, the conditions had calmed overnight, and we were ready to start our adventures outside. We found ourselves in the north-west corner of Svalbard with zodiac cruising along a glacier as the first activity on the program. We dressed warmly and found our way to the gangway to be distributed in zodiacs, each with a zodiac driver. We cruised between

some small islands in Fuglefjorden (Bird fjord), where we could see birds of several different species flying around and nesting on the smooth surfaces. Arctic terns were the most numerous and some boats were lucky enough to watch an Arctic fox foraging on the island for chicks and being dive bombed by the adult birds everywhere it went. Some kittiwakes were also seen sitting in groups on some smaller icebergs.

We slowly made our way towards the glacier, Svitjodbreen. An impressive wall of ice in blue and white colours made up the calving front of the glacier. Every now and then some pieces of ice fell down, and we were also lucky to witness some huge pieces calve off, creating impressive sound and following waves. We had to be careful to stay away from larger icebergs as the waves could make them turn over and hit us. It was quite a special feeling to be this close to a calving glacier. With the engine off we could also hear the cracking of the smaller icebergs around us as they were slowly melting and the air bubbles inside popping.



In the afternoon the weather conditions got quite unpleasant with rain and overcast, but it didn't stop us going out on another zodiac cruise as we had spotted a polar bear from the ship. We approached with the zodiacs as a group towards the shoreline where a male Polar bear was slowly walking. It was quite a magnificent sight this close to the "King of the Arctic". He ended up on a small beach where we could approach even closer to him. On the sandy beach next to the blueish water we got some excellent photographs of this majestic creature as he lifted his head and checked us out. He then continued away from the beach climbing up the rocky hills.



As if that wasn't enough for today, we had just started our recap in the evening and Philip was telling us about the plans for the voyage. Then a Blue whale was spotted close to the ship. Despite the wind and rain outside on deck, we had to go outside to get a better view of the whale. We could see it breathing and making blows high up into the air. With the sight of the small dorsal fin we could only try to imagine how huge this creature is, the

biggest mammal on earth, even beating the biggest dinosaurs.

What an amazing first day we had had! Hopefully we haven't used up all our luck already. With these magnificent impressions in mind we could relax and enjoy dinner in the dining room. How lucky we are to get to experience this!



Day 3 – Tuesday 28th August 2019

Faksevågen & Lomfjorden

GPS Position at 8:00am: 79°38'N - 009°29'E

Wind: SE 7 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Rain **Air Temp:** +2°C **Sea Temp:** +3°C



During the night, the weather had changed. The wind had picked up and peaked at over 50 knots (Beaufort 9). In our Plan A-landing site, Palanderbukta, the wind was still blowing at 30 knots, so Philipp came up with Plan B. This was Faksevågen, a small bay in Lomfjord on the western side of Hinlopen Stretet. This turned out to be a super idea.

As soon as we came ashore, the weather cleared up and we were even walking in warm sunshine after a while. On shore, we split up in three different groups, one

with the mountain goats, who hiked all the way to the top of the hill to have a great view over the fjord (and saw the bad weather still lingering around in Hinlopen Stretet). The medium hiking group also went uphill, but not as far as the first. They spent some time watching the groups of young Ptarmigan, Snow Grouse on the hill. They were just losing their brown downy feathers and had their white winter feathers around their lower belly and legs. The views from the hills were beautiful, up to the glacier and down to the fjord. The last group was the beach group, who took a much more leisurely walk and enjoyed the beach. A little hike uphill brought them to an old fossilised beach and another group of Ptarmigan.

Back on the ship, Philipp decided we probably had found the best spot in the area in terms of weather, so during lunch, we only crossed over to the other side of Lomfjord, where we went ashore for another landing. This place, known as Gungnerodden is rarely visited by cruise ships, if ever. None of the expedition staff had ever been here for a landing but also judging by all the garbage that littered the beach it rarely gets any visitors at all. In the more visited places, people often pick up a few things,

cleaning the beach with all people together, but here, all rubbish that had drifted ashore was still there. Here lay a nice task for us. Many bits and pieces of plastic were picked up, including a massive fishing net that had washed ashore.

During the afternoon we split again in the three usual groups and all enjoyed the scenery of this beautiful place. The long hikers headed up to the moraines for views over the glacier and the length of the fjord. Their hike was challenging in places, with steep rocky sections and snow but



the views were more than worth it and the group got to name a new rocky outcrop, 'Monkeytoppen' as in profile the rock looked just like a monkey's face.

The medium and leisurely hikers encountered a little bit of mud on their journey across the tundra! With water draining down from the mountain the tundra was really wet and it was easy to sink in deeply, as Arjen especially noticed. Fortunately, all managed to come back in one piece and everybody could enjoy their walk either up the glacial valley or along the shore and coastal lagoon where the reflections were beautiful.



As we were enjoying clam conditions and sunshine in Lomfjord we could still see a wall of fog and white, wind-blown water out in Hinlopen Stretet so we all appreciated that the right decision had been made to stay in this area for the day. Plan B or maybe C was definitely a good one!

'Monkeytoppen'

In the evening in the bar many stories were exchanged and Rachel, our bartender, also had a busy evening. As we were heading towards the ice, Philipp allowed us a lay in the next day, so there was no need to go to bed early, though many of us did, full with excitement of what our ice day would bring us.



Day 4 – Wednesday 29th August 2019

Day in the Ice

GPS Position at 8:00am: 81°19'N - 018°11'E

Wind: SSE 3 **Sea State:** Ice **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +0°C **Sea Temp:** +0°C



We entered the pack ice at 07:45 in the morning, which was much further north than we had expected and that the ice chart indicated. The southerly winds we had encountered in the Hinlopen Strait had clearly pushed the ice a long way north. However, at breakfast we could all enjoy the beautiful view on the ice from the windows in the restaurant. The weather was really nice and we had great visibility. The initial ice edge was quite slushy and with small ice floes it wasn't great ice for polar bears but as we pushed

further north, we began to find ourselves in much better ice with large floes and less icy water. There were also plenty of Polar bear foot prints across the ice floes so things were looking promising.

So, after breakfast many of us went out on deck or up on the bridge with binoculars ready! Time for wildlife spotting. Some of us were extremely lucky to see a sleeping Bowhead whale in the ice close to the ship. These whales were almost hunted to extinction but their numbers are slowly beginning to increase again and they are being seen more frequently around Svalbard. They are the longest living animals on the planet.



Individuals have been found with harpoon heads still in their bodies which can be dated to over 200 years ago.

A little bit later Ivory gulls and Pomarine skuas were spotted aft of the ship. Then the announcement that we all had been waiting for came! A polar bear had been spotted in the far distance by the guides, and so Captain Artur began to navigate Plancius closer towards it. We all went out with our binoculars and cameras to see this young male who was quite curious about us. It crossed the ice floes heading in our direction and then stood and watched and sniffed very close to the starboard side of the ship. We stayed around the polar-bear for quite a while and it was a magnificent experience to see this wonderful Arctic animal in its right habitat. After a while he clearly decided that we were not really so interesting and certainly didn't smell of seal and he headed off over the ice in search of food.



In the afternoon Arjen gave a lecture about polar-bears and we learned a lot of interesting facts about these fascinating animals. During the lecture another Bowhead whale was spotted just next to the ice, and we all went out to see it, sadly it dived just before we came out and was not seen again. We spent the rest of the day in the ice where the conditions in terms of sunshine and light just got better and better. When the time finally came to leave the Arctic ice, we were all disappointed but

felt privileged to have experienced the ice and of course seen a Polar bear in its perfect environment. In these times of changing climate this environment is slowly changing, and not for the better.

In the recap Arjen showed us a movie that he made from 'our' polar bear in the ice and Johanne explained what sea ice really is, how it is formed and why it is so important. After this long day some of us spent the evening in the bar, a few stayed until after midnight and could enjoy a wonderful Arctic sunset and sunrise.



Day 5 – Thursday 30th August 2019

Texas Bar & Monacobreen

GPS Position at 8:00am: 79°38'N - 013°29'E

Wind: W 2 Sea State: Calm Weather: Rain Air Temp: + 5°C Sea Temp: +4°C



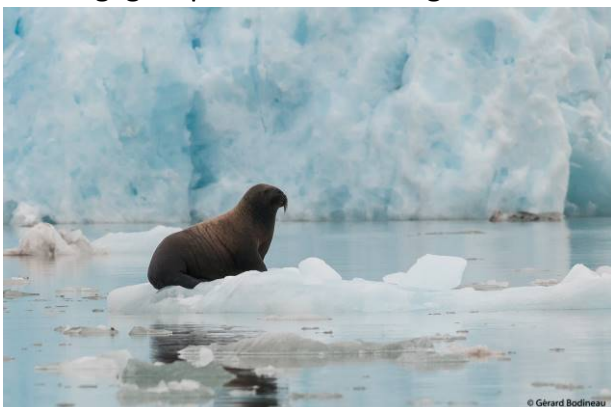
This morning, at 06:00 we had a very special wake up call from Philipp, “Good morning everyone, there are two Blue whales ahead of the ship...” We hurried to dressed up in order to quickly go outside on the deck. The two big cetaceans were there, quiet and peaceful, very close to the boat. It was a mother and its calf, which seems already quite big. What a nice sighting! We spent an hour watching them as they came to the surface, breathed a few times and then dived down to deeper water, with one of them

showing its tail fluke each time. In the calm conditions their blows reached around 9 metres in height and the morning light was just beautiful. A great start to the day and then it was time to finally get our own breakfast.

When the Plancius arrived in Liefjorden, where we were going to spend the day, the weather did not look too promising. It was raining and there was low cloud over the mountains. The staff launched the boats and incredibly just as Ali loaded the first zodiac with passengers the rains stopped and the skies began to clear. We landed on the west side of the fjord near to a hut named “Texas Bar”. The hut was built in 1927 by two famous Norwegian trappers: Hilmar and Peterson Nøis. The hut is still in



good shape and is now use by field scientist and locals from Longyearbyen. As we started to split into different walking groups, the weather became sunny and warm. What a scenery! The “fast walking group” went climbing a mountain to enjoy the view on the fjord. The “medium walk group” found a type of flowers, *Arabis alpinas*, that our botanist guides Karin and Michelle never saw before! The “leisure group” listened to Arjen’s stories about Norwegian trapping and Ali took a group up to



a waterfall in the valley. After a wet start it had turned into a beautiful morning on shore.

In the afternoon, we moved deeper into Liefjorden and zodiacs were dropped into the water in order to cruise along the majestic Monacobreen glacier. As we cruised in the middle of ice pieces, toward the glacier



front, two bearded seals were spotted by Michelle. They both seemed unconcerned by the boats floating nearby and gave us great views of their curling whiskers as they watched us from their ice floes. Kittiwake, Northern Fulmar and Arctic terns were flying around us. Suddenly, an impressive block of ice felt from the glacier, provoking a loud sound. It is always impressive to see a calving. As we continued cruising, another surprise were waiting for us: a young

walrus! He was swimming around and climbed on the ice. This animal was probably around 2 -3 years old and had only recently left its mother. It swam around and found a good ice floe near the glacier front where it hauled itself out and lay down to sleep.

After this amazing cruise, Melanie a Sigi welcomed us back on board with a delicious hot chocolate. A nice way to warm up after a chilly afternoon in the ice.

We ended up this beautiful day with our daily recap: Philip described the plans for tomorrow. Arjen explained how to identify whales and Chloé held a short presentation about the small critters living in the sea ice.



Day 6 – Friday 31st August 2019

Ny-Ålesund & Signehamna

GPS Position at 8:00am: 78°56'N - 011°55'E

Wind: Variable 1 **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Rain **Air Temp:** +7°C **Sea Temp:** +6°C



When we looked out of our windows this morning, we didn't see much. It was dark, foggy and raining. Apparently, we had used all our good weather for the first days of this trip. But that didn't keep us from going ashore in the small research settlement of Ny Ålesund. In this little town, we were allowed to walk around ourselves and we could have a look at the very nice museum, the old post office and the telegraph station. A little later the shop opened and many of us spent some time inside, some for buying some souvenirs, others just to get out of the rain for a while.

A little later Arjen and Michelle told the story of Amundsen and Nobile and their race to the North Pole and the role of Ny Ålesund in this to the English and German speakers, respectively. The groups then took a walk out to the mast to see exactly where the air ships had been moored prior to their departure to the North Pole and beyond. Despite the heavy rain at times it was a very enjoyable morning seeing the human side of Svalbard at this

northernmost settlement.

After this, it was time to go back to the ship and get dry and warm again. After another splendid lunch prepared by our hotel team, the Captain brought our ship around the corner into Krossfjord for our afternoon landing at Signehamna. Here the weather was still very damp but with light mist on parts of the mountains and very little wind at all it was a quiet and atmospheric afternoon in the fjord. After the heavy rain of the morning and still plenty of wet clothing on board only half of our group decided to join the landing ashore while those remaining on board were offered a presentation about Glaciers from Andreas in German and Gerard in French. Those who did make it on shore were landed at a little cove and from here took a walk up the hill where there were lovely views over a mirror like lake. In the usual groups we all took a nice hike on the rockier kind of tundra than we were used to and saw the remains of an old German weather station from the Second World War. Here the Germans secretly built a small station to be able to make weather forecasts for the northern sea route. In 1943 the station was discovered and destroyed and now only some rusty barrels (with still Kriegsmarine [German Navy] written on it) and some wood is left.

The scenery (at least what could be seen through the fog) was very nice, with a big lake and many Kittiwakes, Arctic terns and Arctic skuas on it. Several juvenile Kittiwakes were seen being chased



by Arctic skuas, who were after their last meal. Those who stayed on the ship could listen to lectures by Gerard and Andreas about glaciers.

Back on the ship, it was time for recap, with many stories about Ny Ålesund and the Second World War on Spitsbergen. It concluded with a beautiful short video of our day in the ice which had been prepared by Arjen. After this, we were all invited to the back deck, where the hotel team had prepared a nice BBQ. Many of us came outside to have dinner and the dance afterwards continued for quite some time...



Day 7 – Saturday 1st September 2019

Poolepynten & Alkhornet

GPS Position at 8:00am: 78°26'N - 011°55'E

Wind: NNW 3 Sea State: Moderate Weather: Fog Air Temp: + 4°C Sea Temp: + 5°C



This morning, as we were woken by Philipp we found ourselves in a bit of a foggy world once more but it kept clearing from time to time and we were hopeful that by the time we got to Poolepynten we would find conditions good enough for going ashore. Landing in fog isn't safe in Polar bear country. Shortly after breakfast we heard that Walrus had been seen on shore and conditions were improving so we were set for a landing.

The first 5 Zodiacs went ashore and the

group went for a walk across the coastal area at the back of the beach. They first had to navigate through all the driftwood that was washed up on the shore. Most of this comes from the forests of Siberia where it gets washed into the rivers and is brought here by the circum-polar currents. Beyond the driftwood there was a flat area and there was a large group of Brent geese, which are not commonly seen in such big numbers here on Svalbard. There were some distant reindeer grazing on the tundra so it was a nice gentle walk with plenty to see.



The second group walked straight along the beach to the group of Walrus that was hauled out on



the sandy point near the huts. There was around 25 animals, all male lying together in a large pile sleeping and generally relaxing on a Sunday morning. Walrus like to haul out together on these low lying point to rest after feeding out at sea on molluscs and clams. They don't need to stay together to keep warm but enjoy the social interaction of the groups and the physical contact that comes with it. This morning they occasionally lifted their heads and shifted position which caused some grunting and complaining but other than that it

was a very quiet encounter with these big, blubbery marine mammals.

Each group had around 30 minutes with the Walrus and had time to explore the area near the landing site and then it was time to head back to the ship for lunch and to navigate to our final landing destination of Alkhornet.



As we were sailing along the coast we suddenly heard a helicopter and Philipp announced that the Coastguard were going to use Plancius for a training drill for medical evacuation from a ship. The drill lasted around 20 minutes and during that time three people were lowered to the back deck along with a stretcher and all the time the pilot kept the helicopter in a steady hover by the side of the ship. It was amazing to watch the skill of the team on board the helicopter but also the skill of our crew who did a great

job of receiving the helicopter crew. It was a noisy, spray filled experience for us but certainly a good one.

From here we headed to the peace and tranquility of Alkhornet where we went ashore at the base of the horn for our final landing. In our usual groups we walked the tundra in search of reindeer while the long hikers headed for the moraines and for views of the glacier. Every group had time to enjoy the views and of the course the reindeer that were completely unconcerned by our presence as they grazed on the rich tundra. They need to fatten up before the winter comes and this is a perfect place to do it. There were Arctic foxes on the upper slopes, many of which were already in their white winter coat. They were constantly moving, foraging for any food they could find beneath the bird cliffs. It was a lovely place for a final landing.



At the end of the landing a few brave people decided to take a swim in the Arctic Ocean. With sea water temperatures around 5°C it was certainly a quick swim but a memorable one! Back on board there was time to warm up before we were invited to Captain's Cocktails as we made our way towards the port of Longyearbyen. Here we had a chance to meet with our Captain once again and raise a glass of champagne to a successful voyage.

It was a very pleasant evening on board as we enjoyed our farewell dinner and the company of new found friends.

Day 8 – Sunday 2nd September 2019

Longyearbyen

Some people had left the ship at midnight in order to catch the 2am flight to Oslo but for the rest of us we enjoyed a final wakeup call on board from Philipp and our last breakfast served by our lovely Philipino crew.

After breakfast we had our final landing and it was a dry one! We had been away for 7 days but it feels like we have been away for much longer on our Arctic voyage. During our trip we have seen Polar bears on the pack ice and on shore, watched walrus on the beach and on the ice. We have seen countless seabirds and walked the tundra and Polar Desert. It has been an amazing journey and one we will remember for many years to come.



Your Expedition Team!

Northern most position: 81°19'N - 018°11'E

Total distance sailed on our voyage:

Nautical miles: 943 nm

Kilometres: 1746 km

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



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

MAMMALS

English	German	French	Dutch	Latin	Date						
					26/8	27/8	28/8	29/8	30/8	31/8	1/9
Walrus	Walross	Morse	Walrus	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>					X		X
Bearded seal	Bartrobbe	Phoque barbu	Baardrob	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>			X		X		X
Harp seal	Sattelrobbe	Phoque du Groenland	Zadelrob	<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>					X		
Hooded seal	Klappmütze	Phoque à capuchon	Klapmuts	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>				X			
Common /Harbour seal	Seehund	Phoque commun	Gewone zeehond	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>						X	
Minke Whale	Zwergwal	Petit rorqual	Dwergvinvis	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>				X	X		
Blue Whale	Blauwal	Baleine bleue	Blauwe vinvis	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>		X			X		
Fin Whale	Finnwal	Rorqual commun	Gewone vinvis	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	X						
Humpback Whale	Buckelwal	Baleine à bosse	Bultrug	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>					X		
Bowhead whale	Grönlandwal	Baleine du Groenland	Groenlandse walvis	<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>				X			
White-beaked Dolphin	Weissschnauzendelphin	Lagenorhynque à bec blanc	Witsnuitdolfijn	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	X						
Polar Bear	Eisbär	Ours blanc	Ijsbeer	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>		X		X			
Arctic Fox	Polarfuchs	Renard arctique	Poolvos	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>		X				X	X
Spitsbergen Reindeer	Svalbard Renntier	Renne du Spitzberg	Spitsbergen Rendier	<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus</i>	X					X	X



- 1 Longyearbyen
- 2 Svitjodbreen
- 3 Polar bear in Raudfjorden
- 4 Faksevågen
- 5 Lomfjorden
- 6 ICE
- 7 Texas Bar
- 8 Monacobreen
- 9 Ny-Ålesund
- 10 Signehamna
- 11 Walrus at Poolebynten
- 12 Alkhornet

Philipp Schaudy – Expedition Leader



Philipp ist Physiogeograph und hat in Österreich, Island und Spitzbergen studiert. Als nimmermüder Reisender und Abenteurer, passionierter Alpinist und Ausdauersportler ist er am liebsten unter freiem Himmel unterwegs und versucht, sein Leben aufregend zu gestalten.

Philipp holds a Master's Degree in Physical Geography and studied in Austria, Iceland and Svalbard. Being a restless traveller and adventurer, a passionate alpinist and endurance sportsman, he loves the outdoors and tries to keep his life exciting.

Philipp hat mehr als 80 Länder und alle Kontinente bereist, viele davon per Fahrrad. Seit seinem ersten Besuch in Spitzbergen 1998 zieht es ihn jedes Jahr weit über den Polarkreis nach Norden. Von Januar 2004 bis Oktober 2006 lebten seine Frau Valeska und er durchgehend in Longyearbyen. Seit 2005 fährt Philipp auf kleinen Expeditionsschiffen und arbeitet als Expeditionsleiter, Guide und Vortragender auf Reisen in Spitzbergen, Grönland und in der Antarktis. Der Polarvirus hat ihn befallen und lässt ihn nicht mehr los; bitte Vorsicht – er ist ansteckend!

Philipp has visited more than 80 countries and set foot on all continents. He mostly travels by bicycle; in sum 120.000 kilometres so far. Since his first visit to Svalbard in 1998, it is dragging him far beyond the polar circle every year. From January 2004 to October 2006, he and his wife Valeska lived year round in Longyearbyen. Since 2005, he has been working on small expedition vessels as expedition leader, guide, and lecturer, on voyages to some of the wildest places on earth: Svalbard, Greenland and Antarctica. He is a victim of the polar virus; and be aware – it is contagious!

Ali Liddle — Assistant Expedition Leader



English

Originally from the UK, Ali spent 15 years living in the Falkland Islands where she worked as a Primary school teacher both teaching out in 'camp' and at the school in Stanley. Latterly, she was employed as Education Officer for Falklands Conservation and shared her time between classroom teaching and conservation. In 1997, she spent 9 months living on South Georgia where she ran the Post Office and took every opportunity to hike, ski and explore the surrounding peaks and coastline.

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

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

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

Deutsch

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

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

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

Gérard Bodineau—Expedition Guide



Born in 1960 in Western France, Gérard started to hike and camp at any season by the age of 13. After some years of mountaineering in the Alps, he discovered his passion for the Arctic in 1986. He loved it so much that he did several cross-country ski expeditions by himself ...

... in Greenland, Nunavut and Spitsbergen, among them a one-month solo expedition in Spitsbergen, one to the North Magnetic & also Geographic Poles, and a four-week yachting expedition to the Antarctic Peninsula. For 15 years, he shared his time between working as an IT specialist and guiding expeditions in the Arctic. Since 2004, he worked as a guide and Expedition Leader in Svalbard, Greenland, Antarctica and South Georgia. He decided to do guiding as his main activity in 2009. When not travelling, he lives in Provence under a sunny climate. He is most interested in glaciology and other Earth Sciences as well as ornithology.

Gérard, 1960 in Westfrankreich geboren, hat nach einigen Jahren der Bergsteigerei in den Alpen 1986 seine Leidenschaft für die Arktis entdeckt und war auf Skiexpeditionen in Grönland, Nunavut und Spitzbergen unterwegs (u. a. eine einmonatige Soloexpedition in Spitzbergen, Expeditionen zu den magnetischen und geografischen Polen und eine vierwöchige Yachtexpedition zur Antarktischen Halbinsel).

Seit 2004 ist er als Expeditionsleiter und Guide in der Arktis und der Antarktis unterwegs. Er interessiert sich besonders für Gletscherkunde, Geowissenschaften sowie für Ornithologie. Wenn Gérard nicht unterwegs ist, lebt er in der sonnigen Provence.

DANIELS KARIN AMBY – EXPEDITION GUIDE



Karin ist im wunderschönen Dalarna, in Schweden, geboren. Sie hat eine Guideausbildung gemacht, wodurch sie im Jahr 2004, mit gerade mal 20 Jahren, das erste Mal nach Spitzbergen kam und sich sofort in die arktische Inselgruppe verliebte. Da ihre schwedischen Freunde nach einer Weile ziemlich gelangweilt waren über das viele Geträume über Spitzbergen, packte sie 2007 ihre Sachen und zog nach Longyearbyen.

Auf Spitzbergen fand Karin vielerlei Beschäftigungen, neben Museumsarbeit und wissenschaftlicher Feldarbeit, studierte sie Biologie bei UNIS (University Centre in Svalbard), wo sie ihre Vorliebe für die arktische Pflanzenwelt vertiefte. Ihr grosses Interesse an der Botanik und der atemberaubender arktischen Natur, trieb Karin zur Gründung einer eigenen Fahrrad-Guide-Firma, mit der sie die letzten Jahre auf Spitzbergen beschäftigt war. Im Jahre 2016 beschloss Karin mit ihrer Familie schweren Herzens Spitzbergen zu verlassen. Sie leben seitdem in Älvdalen, Schweden, aber kann natürlich ihre Füße nie allzu lange von ihrer alten Heimat fern halten.

Karin was born in beautiful Dalarna in Sweden. She studied to become a guide and in 2004 with just 20 years she travelled the first time to Spitsbergen and fell in love with the Arctic Archipelago. Back in Sweden her friends got tired about her dreams of Spitsbergen, therefore Karin decided in 2007 to pack her bags and move to Longyearbyen.

On Spitsbergen Karin had a diverse range of occupations, besides working at the museum and doing scientific fieldwork, she studied Biology at UNIS (University Centre in Svalbard) where she increased her passion for the arctic plant world. Due to her love for Botany and the beautiful arctic nature, she decided to start her own bike-guiding company that kept her busy the last years. In 2016 Karin and her family decided with a heavy heart to leave Spitsbergen, since then she lives in Älvdalen, Sweden. However, Karin can never keep her feet away from her old home for too long.

Chloé Maréchal - Expedition Guide



Chloé is a passionate diver fascinated by marine life and exploration. She earned a European master degree in Marine biodiversity and conservation and has a love to share her expertise for the marine environment. In April 2013, she was selected as the 2013-14 European Rolex our world underwater scholar. She spends a year working side

by side with current leaders in underwater fields, getting very different experiences in marine science and in the diving industry. Diving and science are not her only passion; she enjoys exploring new countries and discovering new cultures. She has been diving on all continents and living in more than 20 countries. Chloé now lives in northern Norway just above the polar circle. When she is not onboard, she can be found underwater: observing the ocean's inhabitants, searching for forgotten wrecks or mapping and exploring undiscovered underwater cave passages.

Chloé ist eine leidenschaftliche Taucherin mit einer Faszination für Meeresleben und Exploration. Sie hat einen Masterabschluss in Marinerbiodiversität und Naturschutz und liebt es ihr Wissen über den Meereslebensraum zu teilen. In April 2013 hat sie das 2013-14 European Rolex our world underwater Stipendiat bekommen. Sie verbrachte daraufhin ein Jahr Seite an Seite arbeitend mit den derzeitige führenden Experten in Unterwassergebieten und erhielt so einen breiten Hintergrund in Meereswissenschaften und der Tauchindustrie. Tauchen und Wissenschaft sind nicht ihre einzige Leidenschaft. Sie liebt es auch neue Länder zu erkunden und neue Kulturen zu entdecken. Sie hat auf allen Kontinenten getaucht und in mehr als 20 Ländern gelebt. Chloé lebt mittlerweile in Nordnorwegen, unmittelbar oberhalb des Polarkreises. Wenn sie nicht an Bord ist, dann kann man sie Unterwasser antreffen. Dort beobachtet sie die Bewohner des Ozeans, sucht nach vergessenen Schiffswracks oder kartiert und erkundet Unterwasserhöhlen.

Michelle van Dijk – Expedition guide



Is nearly a local, since she is the owner of Longyearbyen Camping, world's northernmost camping site. Working as a guide, this campsite has been her home base since 2004. Living in a tent, she spends more than three months a year on Spitsbergen guiding day trips, trekking & expedition cruises. These days she mainly works on ships, as guide or expedition leader. She believes that there is no

better way to get closer to a place than to work there – she has also lived in Sweden & Iceland. Her first visit to Spitsbergen was back in 2001 and instantly she fell in love with this remote archipelago. Although she picked plants as her specialism, Michelle is a generalist. She took the course Arctic & Antarctic studies at Groningen University and recently she published a book about Sjef van Dongen, who took part in the rescue operation after Nobile's airship crashed in 1928.

Michelle has been working as a guide in Antarctica, the Falklands, Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Jan Mayen, South Georgia, Spitsbergen and Sweden.

Deutsch

Michelle besitzt Longyearbyen Camping, den nördlichsten Campingplatz der Welt. Als sie 2001 zum ersten Mal die Arktis besuchte, verliebte sie sich in diese karge, minimalistische Landschaft. Sie arbeitete anschließend als Naturführerin auf Tages- und Trekkingtouren sowie Expeditionskreuzfahrten. Sie lebte in Schweden und Island und arbeitete dort, denn sie glaubt, dass man einem Land am besten nahe kommt, wenn man dort auch zur Arbeit geht. Michelle hat an der Universität Groningen einen Kurs in Arktischen und Antarktischen Studien belegt. Sie hat in der Antarktis, auf den Falklands, Faröer-Inseln, Grönland, Island, Jan Mayen, in Schweden, auf Spitzbergen und Südgeorgien gearbeitet.

Sie können Michelle in verschiedenen Sprachen ansprechen, aber sie wird nur in Holländisch, Englisch, Deutsch oder Schwedisch antworten.

Johanne Skrefsrud – Expedition Guide



Growing up in Norway with the forests, lakes and mountains as her backyard, she has a strong passion for the outdoors and everything they have to offer. She enjoys travelling, exploring new places and meeting people of different cultural background. Of all the places she has visited, the spectacular northern nature and pure wildness of the Arctic have a special place in her heart.

Johanne has always had a fascination towards the complexity of nature and the extreme forces lying within it, especially the ocean, which has led her to study oceanography. Scuba diving deepened her love for the sea and the wish to protect our environment. Her studies give her the possibility to get an insight into how this incredible natural system works.

Johanne ist in Norwegen aufgewachsen; Wälder, Seen und Berge waren ihr Spielplatz, woraus sich eine Leidenschaft für alle Outdooraktivitäten und die Natur entwickelt hat. Sie reist gerne, entdeckt neue Orte und trifft gerne Menschen mit unterschiedlichen kulturellem Hintergrund. Die Wildheit der Arktis und ihre spektakuläre Natur liegen ihr besonders am Herzen.

Die Vielschichtigkeit der Natur und die extremen Kräfte, die in ihr liegen, haben Johanne schon immer fasziniert – ganz besonders die Ozeane, was sie dazu brachte, Ozeanographie zu studieren. Das Tauchen hat ihre Liebe zum Meer und den Wunsch, unsere Umwelt zu schützen, noch verstärkt. Durch ihr Studium bekommt sie die Möglichkeit zu sehen, wie dieses unglaubliche System der Natur funktioniert.

Arjen Drost - Expedition Guide



When Arjen arrived in Spitsbergen for the first time in 1999 as a biology student, he fell in love with the Arctic. After three summers of research on Barnacle Geese in Ny Ålesund, Spitsbergen he started guiding in small expedition cruise ships for Oceanwide Expeditions. Here he loves to share his passion for the Polar Regions with others.

Arjen was born in the Netherlands and soon started watching birds. Many hours were spent finding and watching birds in the local neighbourhood and enjoying nature. His choice to start studying biology came to no surprise for anybody. During this study he specialized in ecology, especially the interaction between herbivores and plants.

For ten years Arjen has combined guiding in the Arctic with a full-time teacher job at a secondary school in the Netherlands, where he taught biology. Now he gave up his teaching job to become a fulltime expedition guide in both

Polar Regions. In the past years his 'classroom' included Spitsbergen, Greenland, the Antarctic Peninsula, the Weddell and Ross Sea. In his spare time Arjen is a keen nature and wildlife photographer, giving photo workshops and lectures and is co-author of several Dutch books on nature photography.

Arjen speaks English, Dutch and German.

Deutsch:

Als Arjen zum ersten Mal in 1999 Spitzbergen besuchte, war er ein Biologie Student. Er sich zu diese Zeit in die Arktis verliebt. Er studierte über drei Sommer hinweg die Weisswangengans in Ny-Ålesund. Danach begann er für kleine Expeditionsfirmen zu arbeiten, als auch für Oceanwide. Als Guide auf den verschiedenen Expeditionsschiffen teilt er seine Leidenschaft für die Polarregionen.

Arjen wurde in den Niederlanden geboren und entdeckte früh sein Interesse an der Vogelwelt. Viele Stunden verbrachte er damit in seiner Nachbarschaft nach Vögeln Ausschau zu halten und sie zu bestimmen. Er liebt die Natur und so entschied er sich für ein Biologie Studium.

Für 10 Jahre verbande Arjen das Leben als Guide in den Polar Regionen mit einer Vollzeit Stelle als Lehrer an einer niederländischen Schule. Er unterrichtete natürlich Biologie. Er hat die Stelle als Lehrer nun aufgegeben und arbeitet als Vollzeit Guide in der Arktis als auch in der Antarktis. In seine Freizeit verbringt er viel Zeit mit Natur und Tier Fotografie. Er hält Vorträge über Fotografie und schrieb auch schon mehrere Bücher in den Niederlanden über Fotografie. Er spricht Englisch, Niederländisch und Deutsch.

Benjamin Koster – Expedition Guide



Benjamin (born in 1984) is an enthusiastic and interdisciplinary educated geoscientist. He studied at the RWTH Aachen University (Germany) and holds a PhD in geoscience (area of specialization: neotectonics and natural hazards).

His interests are not exclusively focused on geoscience, geology or geophysics, but additionally on outdoor activities, photography and music.

Although Benjamin travelled to several beautiful northern countries (like Norway, Iceland or Canada), he was fascinated by the Arctic's unique landscape and its outstanding environment since he performed his scientific investigations in the Arctic regions (including stays on Svalbard as well as Jan Mayen) some years ago. He visited the Arctic regions several times on his own after the research projects were finished.

Benjamin is part of the expedition team on board of the vessels of 'Oceanwide Expeditions' since the Arctic season 2018 and is deeply grateful for this fascinating, interesting and unique opportunity that one doesn't get often in life.

Benjamin (geboren im Jahr 1984) ist ein passionierter und multidisziplinär ausgebildeter Geowissenschaftler. Er hat an der RWTH Aachen University angewandte Geowissenschaften studiert und im Fachbereich Neotektonik und Georisiken promoviert.

Seine Interessen sind nicht nur die Geowissenschaften, die Geologie oder die Geophysik, sondern auch diverse Outdoor-Aktivitäten, Fotografie und Musik.

Nach diversen Forschungsprojekten auf Spitzbergen und Jan Mayen ist Benjamin von der einzigartigen und vielfältigen Landschaft sowie Umwelt der Arktis sehr angetan, obwohl er zuvor schon einige Male diverse nordische Länder (beispielsweise Norwegen, Island oder Kanada) bereist hat. Nachdem die Forschungsprojekte abgeschlossen waren, bereiste er die arktischen Regionen noch mehrere Male auf eigene Faust.

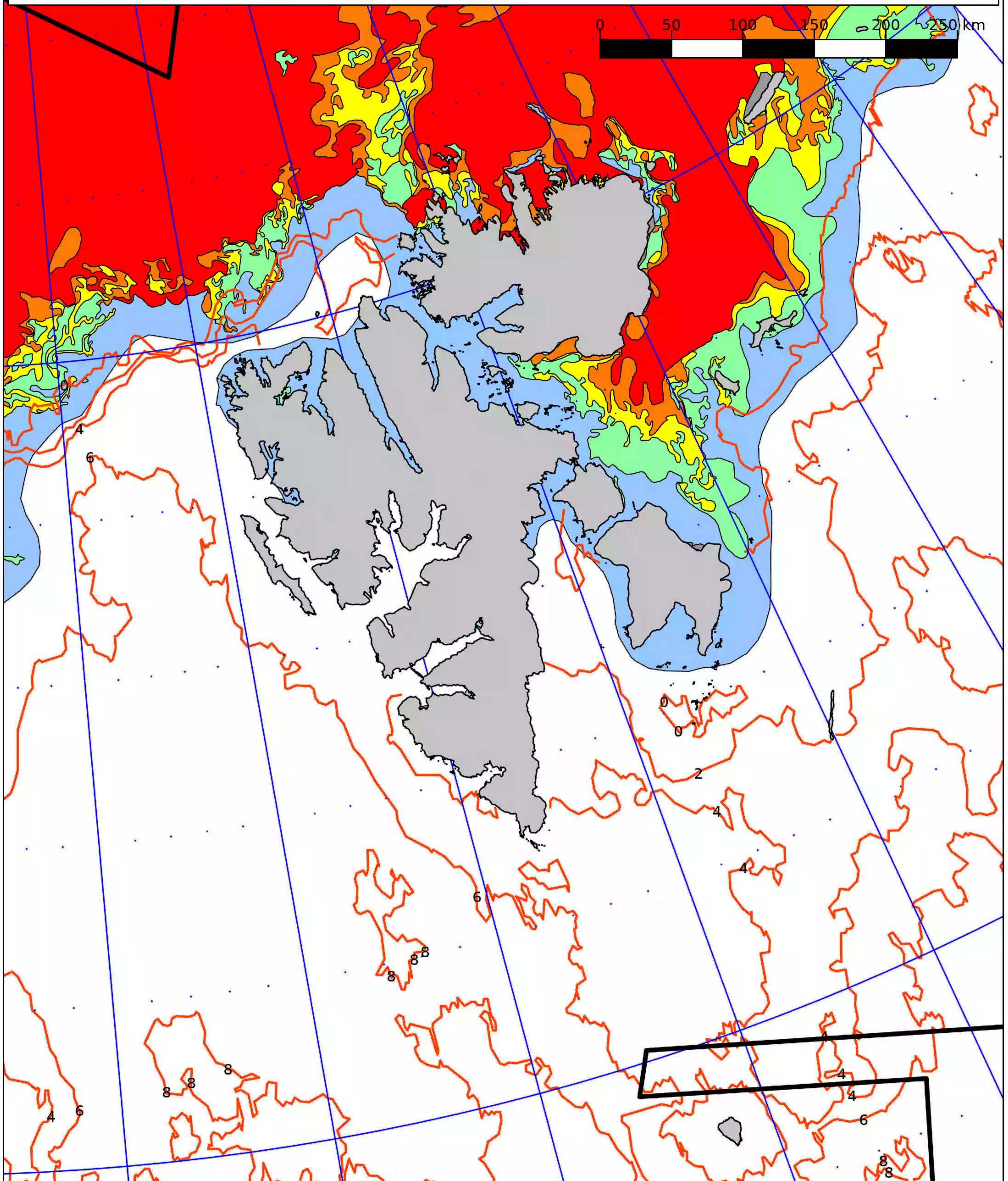
Benjamin ist Teil des Expeditionsteams von 'Oceanwide Expeditions' seit der arktischen Saison 2018 und ist sehr dankbar an dieser spannenden, interessanten und einzigartigen Möglichkeit, welche man nicht oft im Leben hat, teilhaben zu können.

Andreas Alexander – Expedition Guide

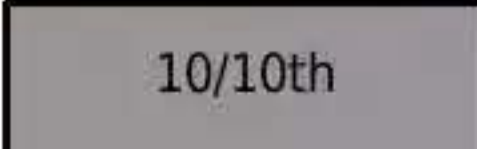

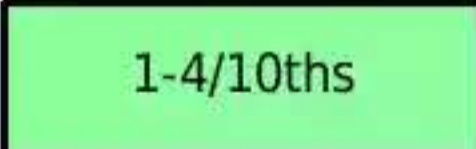
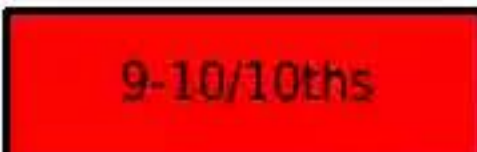
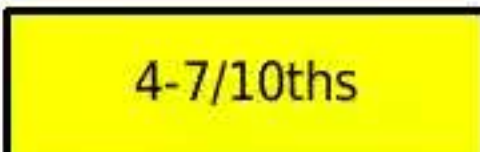
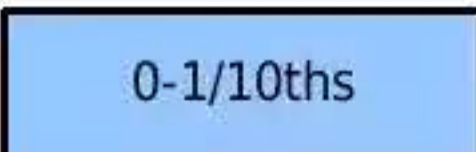


Andreas started his career as one of the „bad guys“: As a mechanical engineer on fossil power plant construction sites. Not completely convinced by that, he continued in materials research to finally follow his fascination for polar research. The direction was clear during the parallel studies in mechanical engineering and geology: North. Scientific drilling in the caledonic mountains in Sweden, volcanoes in Alaska and finally Svalbard. Andreas lived almost three years there and studied Arctic Geology and Geophysics at the University Centre in Svalbard. Hereby he could regularly be found crawling and climbing in and under glaciers for his research. Meanwhile Andreas is working as a PhD Research Fellow at the University of Oslo and spends his time in Norway, Svalbard, Greenland, Japan and Alaska. When he is not standing in the lecture room, sitting in his office or doing fieldwork in the Arctic, he works as an Expedition Guide in the Arctic and Antarctic. A job, where he shares his polar fascination with his guests and gladly talks about the life in polar sciences, glaciers and geology.

Andreas hat seine Karriere als einer der „bad guys“ begonnen: Als Maschinenbauingenieur auf fossilen Kraftwerksbaustellen. Nicht so ganz davon überzeugt, ging es in der Materialforschung weiter, um dann letztendlich der Faszination der Polarforschung zu folgen. Während des parallelen Studiums des Maschinenbaus und der Geologie ging es dann auch schnell Richtung Norden: Auf eine Forschungsbohrung in die schwedischen Kaledoniden, auf Vulkane nach Alaska und nach Spitzbergen. Dort verbrachte Andreas knapp drei Jahren und hat an der dortigen Universität Arktische Geologie und Geophysik studiert. Dabei konnte er regelmäßig, im Rahmen seiner Forschungsprojekte, kriechend und kletternd in und unter Gletschern angetroffen werden. Mittlerweile arbeitet Andreas als Doktorand in der Satellitenfernerkundung von Gletschern an der Universität in Oslo und verbringt seine Zeit in Norwegen, Spitzbergen, Grönland, Japan und Alaska. Wenn er mal nicht im Hörsaal steht, im Büro hockt oder auf Gletschern herumklettert, dann arbeitet Andreas als Guide auf Schiffen in der Arktis und Antarktis. Ein Job, bei dem er seine polare Faszination mit den Gästen teilt und gerne über das Leben in der Polarforschung, Gletscher und Geologie referiert.



Ice Categories

 10/10ths	Fast Ice	 7-9/10ths	Close Drift Ice	 1-4/10ths	Very Open Drift Ice
 9-10/10ths	Very Close Drift Ice	 4-7/10ths	Open Drift Ice	 0-1/10ths	Open Water

Projection: Polar Stereographic, True Scale at 90°N, WGS84 Scale: 3,792,530

Map Corners:

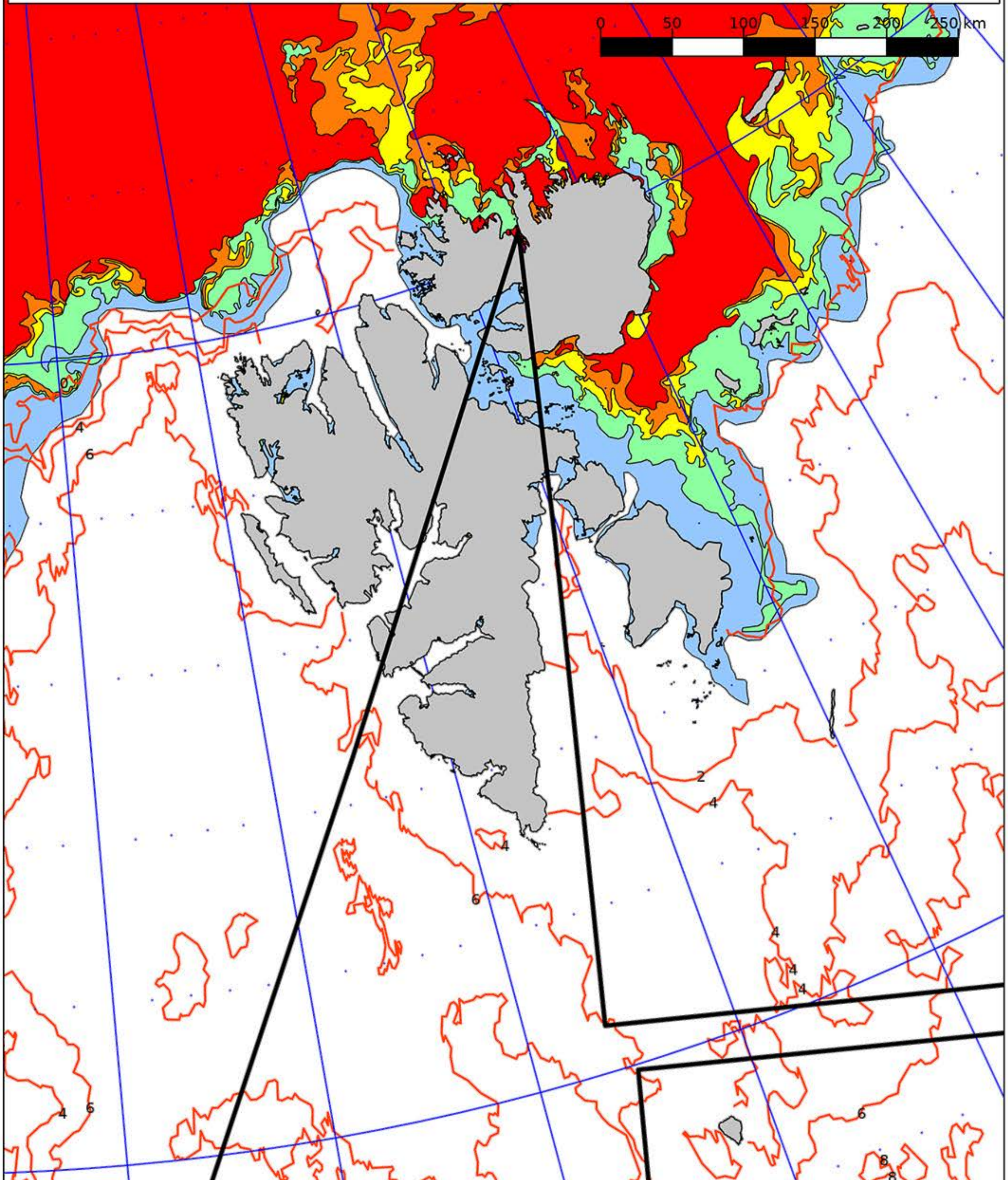
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Coastline Data: GSHHS version 2.2.0 (<http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/wessel/gshhs/>)



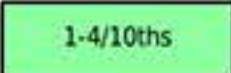
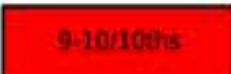
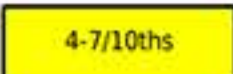
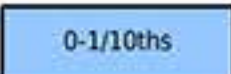


 Sentinel-1
 Radarsat-2

 Sea Surface Temperature



Ice Categories

 10/10ths	Fast Ice	 7-9/10ths	Close Drift Ice	 1-4/10ths	Very Open Drift Ice
 9-10/10ths	Very Close Drift Ice	 4-7/10ths	Open Drift Ice	 0-1/10ths	Open Water

Projection: Polar Stereographic, True Scale at 90°N, WGS84 Scale: 3,792,530

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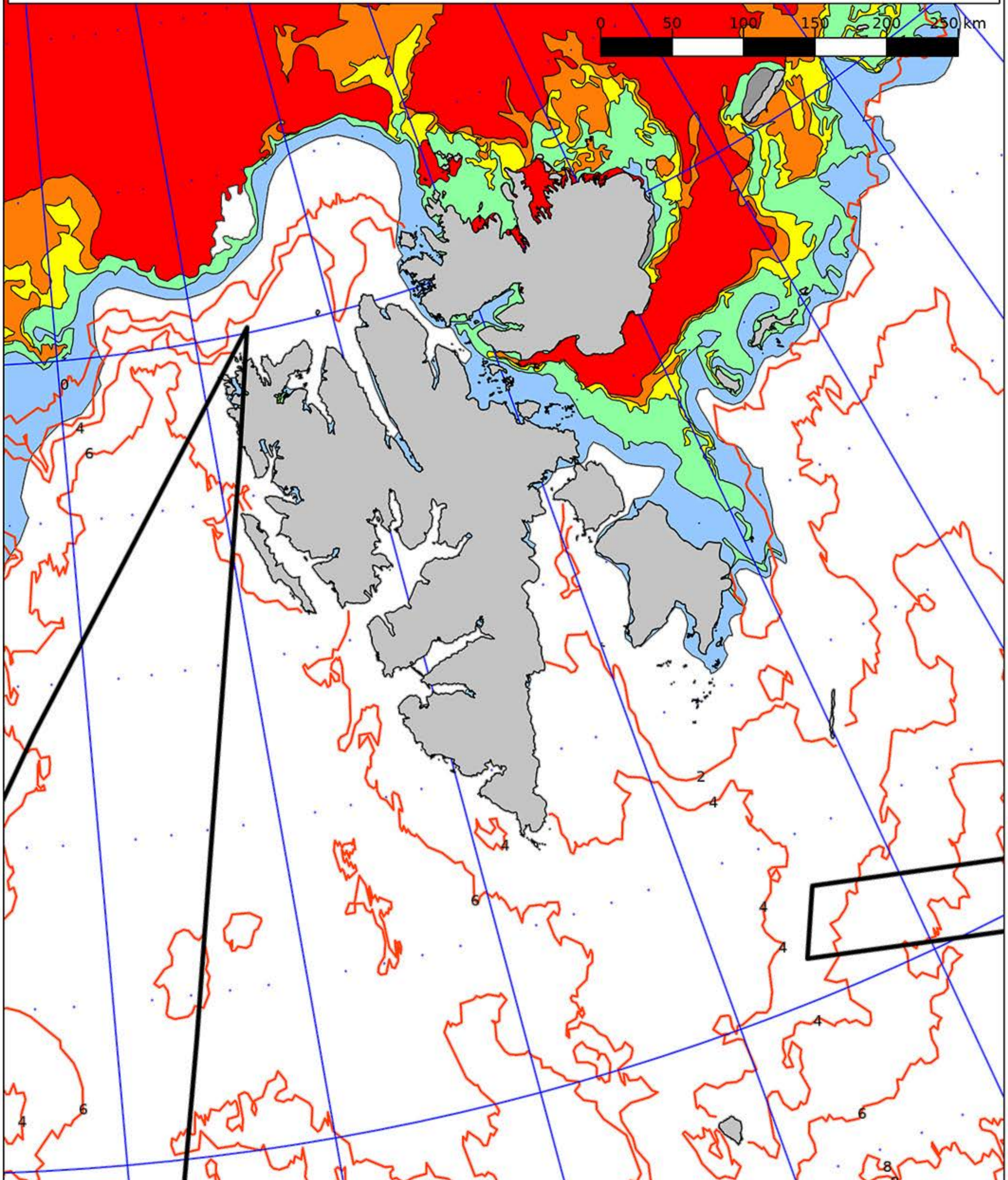
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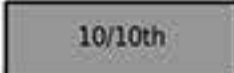

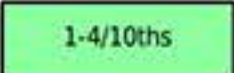
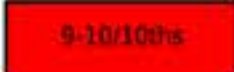
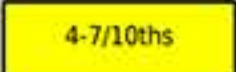
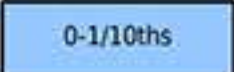


 Sentinel-1
 Radarsat-2

 Sea Surface Temperature



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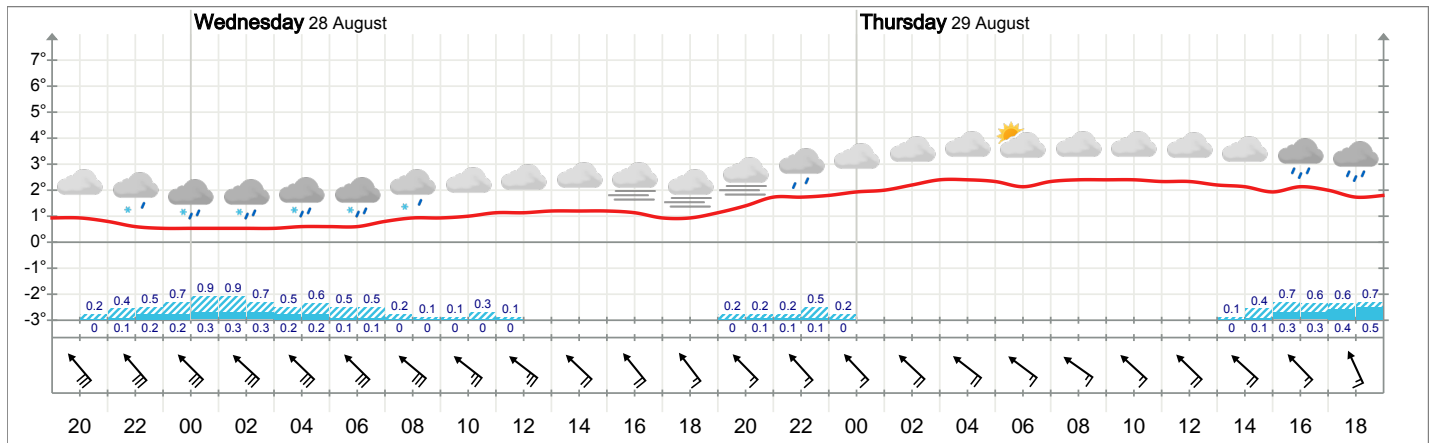
 Sentinel-1
 Radarsat-2

 Sea Surface
 Temperature

Weather forecast for Hinlopenstretet

Printed: 27/08/2019 18:00

Meteogram for Hinlopenstretet Tuesday 19:00 to Thursday 19:00



Long term forecast for Hinlopenstretet

Tomorrow 28/08/2019	Thursday 29/08/2019	Friday 30/08/2019	Saturday 31/08/2019	Sunday 01/09/2019	Monday 02/09/2019	Tuesday 03/09/2019	Wednesday 04/09/2019	Thursday 05/09/2019
1°	2°	3°	4°	3°	2°	2°	2°	1°
Fog. Strong breeze, 11 m/s from southeast. 0 mm precipitation.	Rain. Fresh breeze, 9 m/s from southeast. 1.6 mm precipitation.	Rain. Light breeze, 3 m/s from northwest. 1.5 mm precipitation.	Rain. Light breeze, 3 m/s from south-southeast. 2.1 mm precipitation.	Cloudy. Light breeze, 2 m/s from east-northeast. 0.1 mm precipitation.	Cloudy. Gentle breeze, 4 m/s from east-southeast. 0 mm precipitation.	Cloudy. Gentle breeze, 5 m/s from north-northwest. 0.2 mm precipitation.	Cloudy. Gentle breeze, 5 m/s from south-southeast. 0 mm precipitation.	Cloudy. Gentle breeze, 5 m/s from north-northwest. 0 mm precipitation.

The forecast shows the expected weather and precipitation for the afternoon hours. The temperature and wind forecast is for 12 noon. The forecasts are very accurate the first days, but become less reliable further into the period.

www.yr.no/place/Norway/Svalbard/Hinlopenstretet/



yr.no is a weather service from the Norwegian Meteorological Institute and the Norwegian Broadcasting Corp.



Meteorologisk institutt



28th August 2019

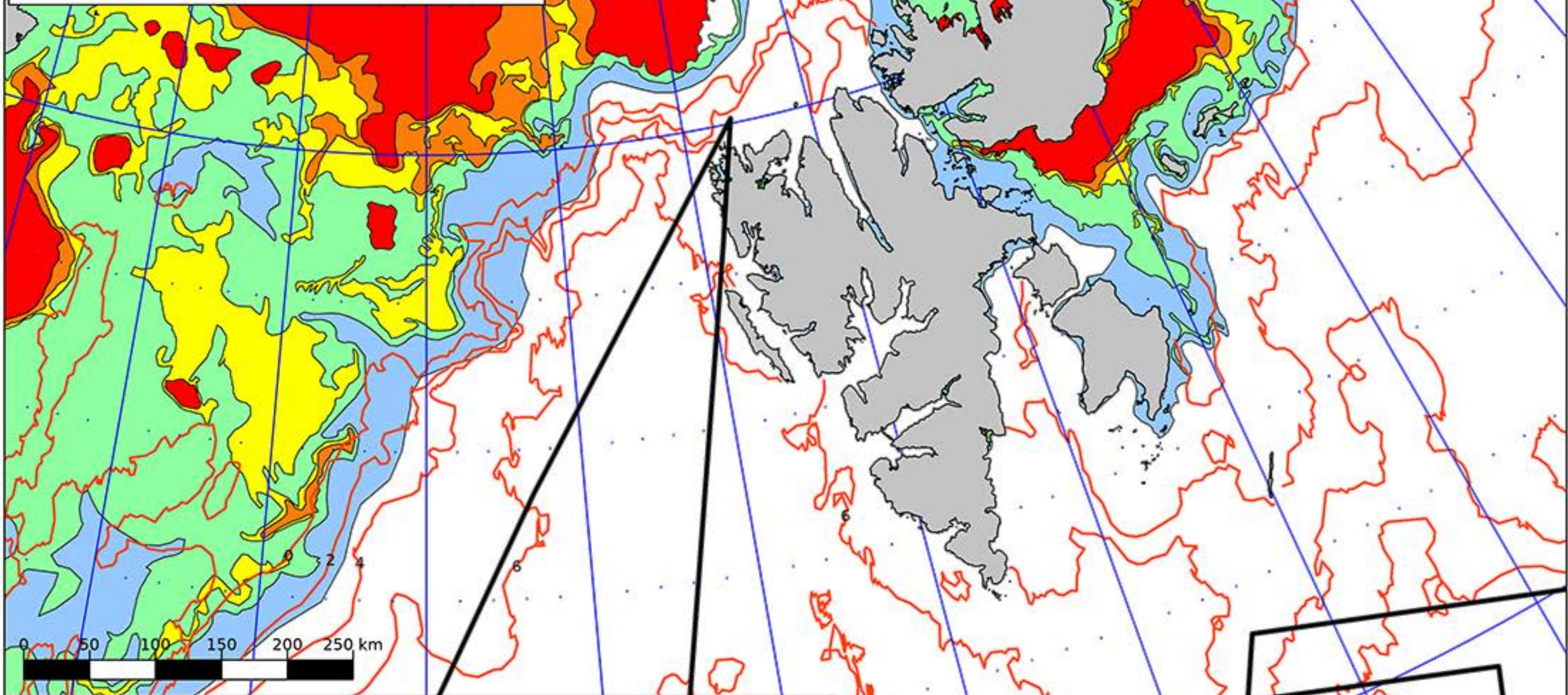
Valid 15:00 UTC

Ice Service

Forecasting Division for Northern Norway

N-9293 Tromsø, Norway

Tel: +47 90 47 20 48 E-mail: istjenesten@met.no Twitter: @istjenesten



Ice Categories

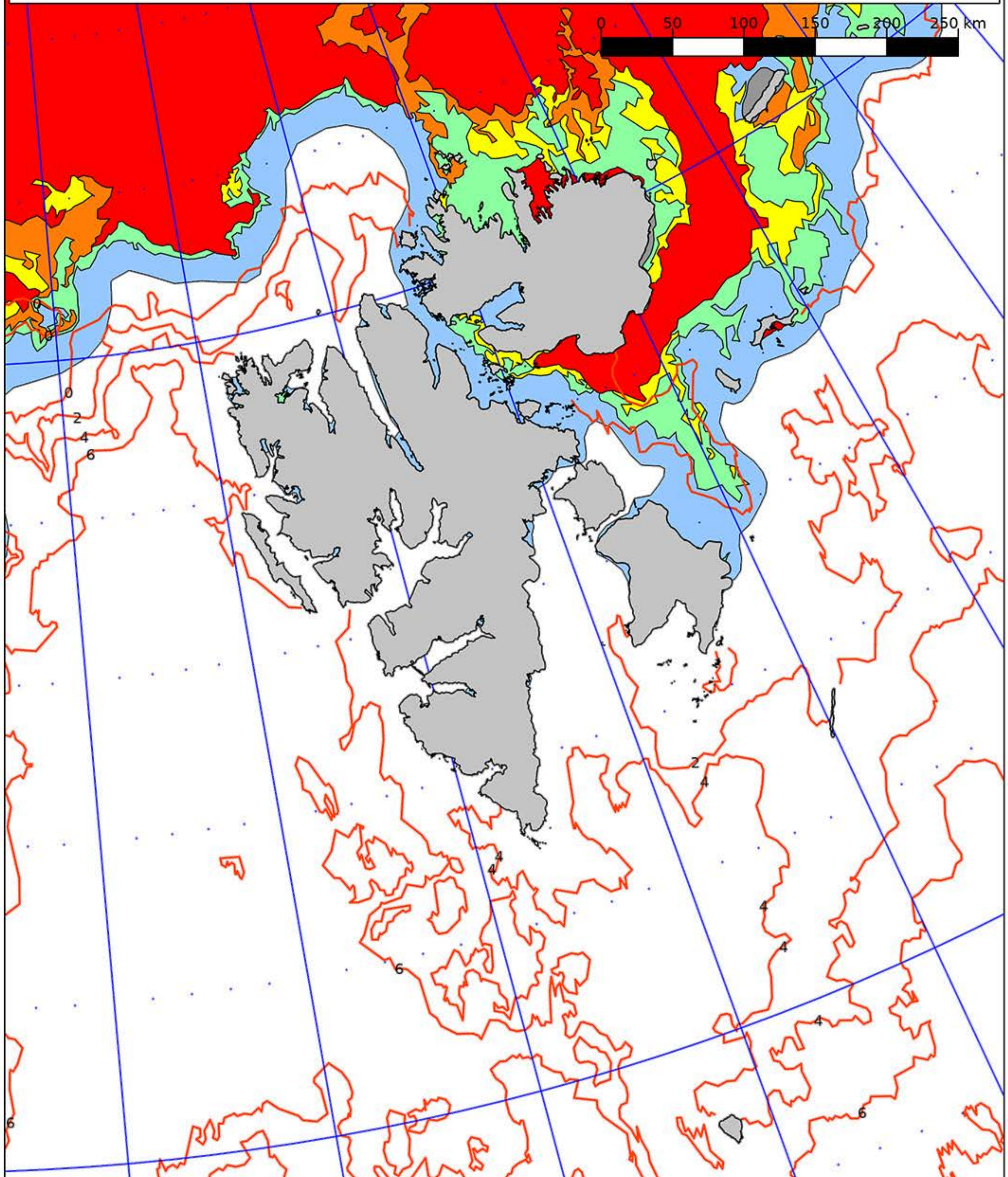
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8-10/10ths	Very Close Drift Ice	4-7/10ths	Open Drift Ice	0-1/10ths	Open Water

Projection: Polar Stereographic, True Scale at 90°N, WGS84 Scale: 4,361,969
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 Coastline Data: GSHHS version 2.2.0 (<http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/wessel/gshhs/>)

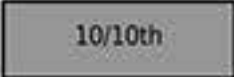

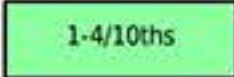
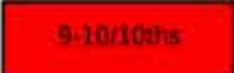
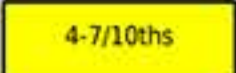
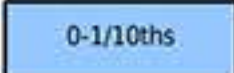


Sentinel-1
Radarsat-2

Sea Surface
Temperature



Ice Categories

 10/10ths	Fast Ice	 7-9/10ths	Close Drift Ice	 1-4/10ths	Very Open Drift Ice
 9-10/10ths	Very Close Drift Ice	 4-7/10ths	Open Drift Ice	 0-1/10ths	Open Water

Projection: Polar Stereographic, True Scale at 90°N, WGS84 Scale: 3,792,530

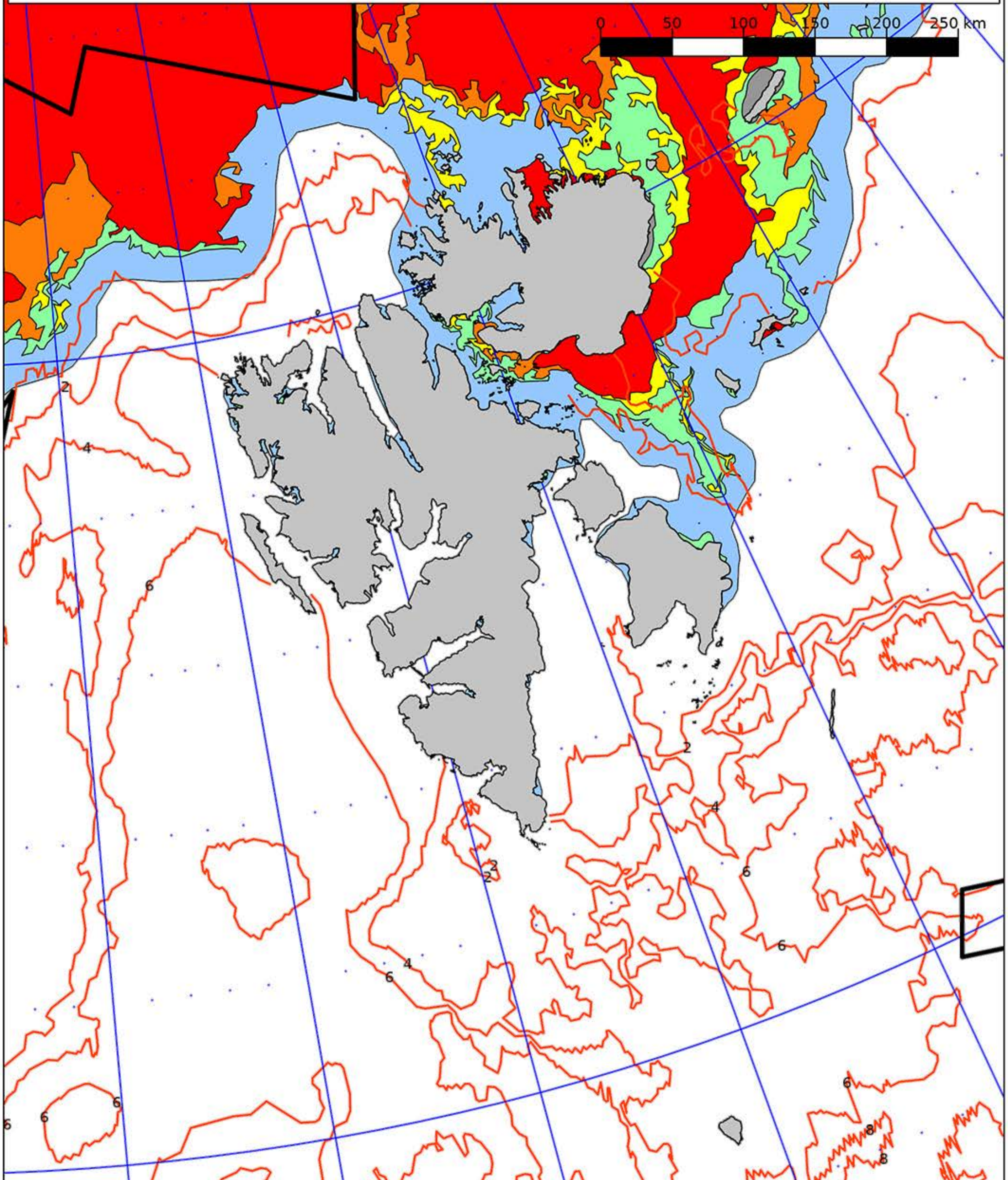
Map Corners:

UL = 82°59'26.367"N, 4°23'24.258"E UR = 80°15'44.998"N, 44°11'58.041"E
 LR = 72°32'49.391"N, 22°45'57.155"E LL = 73°52'48.561"N, 1°53'51.282"E
 Coastline Data: GSHHS version 2.2.0 (<http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/wessel/gshhs/>)



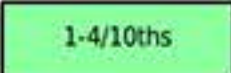
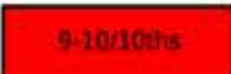
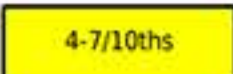
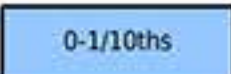


 Sentinel-1
 Radarsat-2

 Sea Surface Temperature



Ice Categories

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 Sentinel-1
 Radarsat-2

 Sea Surface
 Temperature



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Captain Artur Iakovlev

and his international crew

of 45

Including:

Hotel Manager:	Siegfried Penzenleitner	[Austria]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Melanie Penzenleitner	[Austria]
Head Chef:	Heinz Hacker	[Austria]
Sous Chef:	Ivan Ivanovic	[Serbia]
Ship's Physician:	Claudio D'Ambrosio	[Italy]
Expedition Leader:	Philipp Schaudy	[Austria]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Ali Liddle	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	Gerard Bodineau	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Daniels Karin Amby	[Sweden]
Expedition Guide:	Chloe Marechal	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Michelle van Dijk	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Johanne Skrefsrud	[Norway]
Expedition Guide:	Arjen Drost	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Benjamin Koster	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Andreas Alexander	[Bavaria!]

Welcome you on board!



DAILY PROGRAM

North Spitsbergen

26. August 2019

Welcome Aboard!

16.00 **Embarkation.** Once you have found your cabin, please feel free to explore the ship.

When all are on board

Welcome Aboard Briefing in the Lounge/Bar – on Deck 5.

thereafter **Cast off!** We are leaving the pier of Longyearbyen.

thereafter **Mandatory Safety and Lifeboat Drill.**

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

thereafter You will get your **rubber boots** in the boot-room (Deck 3). Listen to **announcements** – we will call you by deck.



DAILY PROGRAM

North - Spitsbergen

27th August 2019

- 07.00** Wake up call.
- 07.30** Breakfast buffet for **one hour** in the Dining Room.
- 08.30** For all German speakers: **Mandatory** briefing in the lounge.
- thereafter** For all English speakers: **Mandatory** briefing in the lounge on **how to behave in Polar Bear country and on Zodiac operations.**
- thereafter** **Zodiac Cruise: Svidjodbreen.** Today's morning we are planning a Zodiac cruise in Fuglefjord. On our way into the fjord we pass small rocky islands and will finally reach Svidjodbreen, a massive glacier spilling into the sea. The Landscape is jagged and beautiful. Dress warm, we are not getting ashore!
- 13.00** **Lunch-Buffer** for one hour in the Dining Room.
- 15.30** **Landgang: Alicehamna, Raudfjord.** During lunch we are sailing into Raudfjord and plan a landing on the eastern side of the fjord at Alicehamna (close to Raudfjordhytta). In three different hiking groups we will explore the harsh country. Hiking is partly difficult.
- 19.00** **Recap** of today and briefing for tomorrow in the lounge.
- 19.30** **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy!

*something feels so cold against my skin
the coldness goes so well with the state i'm in
barefoot in the snow
what do you do where do you go barefoot in the snow*

*part of a song by Susi Varming
(Norwegian artist, grew up in Longyearbyen)*



DAILY PROGRAM

North - Spitsbergen

28. August 2019

07.00 **Get up**, stand up. Wakeup call.

07.30 **Breakfast buffet** for one hour.

09.00 **Landing: Palanderbukta.** We plan to spend today's morning on Svalbard's second largest island (14.443 km²). The bareness and stunning landscapes of Nordaustland are fascinating. We have arrived in the polar desert. Nevertheless, some plants like the Svalbard Poppy and Purple Saxifrage are found on this desert like island. The landscape attracts with gentle sloped and massive icecaps are covering most of the island. Walking is easy.

13.00 **Lunch buffet** for one hour.

Afternoon **Hinlopenstrait.** During lunchtime and the afternoon, we will make our way towards the southern end of Hinlopenstrait, where we will encounter the polar pack ice. The ice and the animal life will determine our afternoon. We hope to find walrus on the ice.

If we have the luck to encounter wildlife, please **keep noise levels low** (voices down; close doors gently) for the best opportunities of finding and remaining with the animals.

19.00 **Today & tomorrow.** Recap & briefing in the lounge.

19.30 Enjoy our **dinner**.

I seemed to vow to myself that some day I would go to the region of ice and snow and go on and on till I came to one of the poles of the earth, the end of the axis upon which this great round ball turns.

Ernest Shackleton (1874 - 1922)



DAILY PROGRAM

North Spitsbergen

28th August 2019

Expedition day in the pack ice! North of Spitzbergen we will encounter the pack ice, a spectacular Arctic Wonderland. Please join us on deck in the search of wildlife – it is a brilliant experience unto itself to navigate in the pack ice.

If we have the luck to encounter polar bears, please **keep noise levels low** (voices down; close doors gently) for the best opportunities of finding and remaining with the wildlife.

- 07.30** **Sleep in** 😊. Philipp's voice will stop our sleep.
- 08.00** **Breakfast** buffet for **one hour** in the Dining Room.
- 13.00** The **lunch-buffet** is waiting for us in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal.
- 19.00** **Recap** of today and **Briefing** for tomorrow in the library.
- 19.30** **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room.

*"One does not discover new parts of the world,
without the courage
of leaving all coastlines behind.*

André Gide



DAILY PROGRAM

North - Spitsbergen

30th August 2019

- 07.00 Good morning! **Wake up call.**
- 07.30 **Breakfast** buffet for **one hour** in the Dining Room.
- 09.00** **Landing: Texas Bar, Liefdefjorden.** This morning we want to get ashore on the northern side of Liefdefjorden, at a small trapper's cabin called "Texas Bar". We will split into groups and explore the tundra in different walking speeds. Except for the strenuous hike, walking here is easy.
- 12.30 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal.
- 14.30** **Zodiac-Cruise: Monaccobreen.** Today's afternoon we will spend in the innermost part of Liefdefjord. We plan a Zodiac-Cruise along the impressive glacier-front of Monaccobreen, a very active glacier in the north of Spitsbergen. Please dress warmly, we are not getting ashore.
- 18.30** **Recap** of today and **Briefing** for tomorrow in the Lecture Room.
- 19.00 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon Appetite!

What is the secret of the Arctic?

You must live through the long night, the storms, and the destruction of human pride.

You must have gazed on the deadness of all things to grasp their livingness.

*In the return of the light, in the magic of the ice, in the life-truths of animals observed in
the wilderness...*

lies the secret of the Arctic and the overpowering beauty of its lands.

Christiane Ritter (1898-2000). A Woman in the Polar Night



DAILY PROGRAM

North - Spitsbergen

31st August 2019

- 07.00** **Wake up call.**
- 07:30 **Breakfast** is available for one hour
- 09.00** **Landing: Ny Ålesund.** One of the most northerly settlements in the world (78°55'N) was run by a Norwegian coal company until a series of tragic mining accidents shut operations down in 1962. Today, Ny Ålesund is a centre for Arctic research and a famous historical site. It was from here that the North Pole was finally attained in 1926, when Amundsen, Nobile and Ellsworth flew over 90°N in the dirigible *Norge*. The anchoring mast still stands as a memorial to that famous event.
- Please follow the rules.** Stay on the gravel roads *at all times* or we might disturb sensitive (often hidden) scientific equipment and destroy the vegetation. **Mobile phones are not working here and have to be used in flight-mode only.** Do not leave the settlement this is polar bear country!
- The northern-most post office (not manned) in the world is here, as is the northern-most souvenir shop (open for is from 10.00 to 11.00). Bring cash (\$, €, NOK) or credit card.
- 10.30** The **English-speakers** meet at the **bust of Roald Amundsen** to walk to the anchoring mast of the *Norge* and to hear some more of the story behind it.
- 11.00** The **German-speakers** meet at the **bust of Roald Amundsen.**
- from 11.00** **Zodiac shuttle** back to the vessel. **Last Zodiac leaves at 12.00!**
- 12.30 **Lunch-Bufferet** for one hour in the Dining Room.
- 15.00** **Landing: Krossfjord, Signehamna.** After lunch, we intend to land at Signehamna on the west side of the fjord. In our two hiking groups we invite you to explore the landscape. A bit inland – and at this time of the year usually covered by snow – are the remains of the German weather station “Knospe”, which was used in the years 1941 and 42. The topography is undulating but generally easy.
- 19.00** **Recap** of today and briefing for tomorrow in the lounge.
- 19.30 Summer in the Arctic, we eat outside! It's **BBQ** tonight!

“Where does the white go when the snow melts?”

Author unknown



DAILY PROGRAM

North - Spitzbergen

01. September 2019

- 07.00** **Rise and shine.** Wake up call.
- 07.30** Let's get a bite. **Breakfast.**
- 09.00** **Landing: Poolepynten.** This is a place where we often find walrus resting on the beach. If our friends are at home and conditions in our favour, then we will visit the animals in two groups. **Both groups will get the same amount of time with the walrus.**
- The first 5 boats:** We are **going for a short hike first.** After that we visit the walrus.
- The second 5 boats:** We are **going to the walrus first.** After that we go for a short hike. If you are in this group there will be the possibility **to get back to the ship** right after the walrus-visit.
- 12.00** **Lunch** is waiting for us.
- 15:00** **Landing: Alkhornet, Isfjorden.** For our last landing we will get ashore at the northern entrance of Isfjorden, in order to walk on very lush tundra. This spot really offers plenty of greenery, a kittiwake colony high up in the rock wall and there are chances to see reindeer. It is a beautiful place to say goodbye to Spitsbergen ...
- Bring your swimsuit.** At the end of our landing we offer, for those who ever wanted to dip in the Arctic-ocean, to do exactly that. Towels will be on shore for you. Enjoy!
- 18.30** **Farewell Cocktail with Captain & last official meeting.** Please join us for a toast on our voyage!
- 19.30** **The Last Supper.** Bon Appetite!

*A journey is a person in itself; no two are alike.
And all plans, safeguards, policies and coercion are fruitless. We find after years of
struggle that we do not take a trip;
a trip takes us.*

John Steinbeck (1902 - 1968)



DAILY PROGRAM

North Spitsbergen

02nd September 2019

Important: Please put your check-in **luggage** into the corridors latest at **08:00**, so that the crew can bring it on shore.

- 07.30** **Sleep-in!** For a last time: **A wonderful good morning.**
- 08.00** **Breakfast** in the restaurant.
- 09.00** **Last landing: Longyearbyen.** The bus from pier to town is leaving.
- 11.00** For all booked on **flight DY397:** The bus is leaving from town to the airport. (From exactly where he has dropped you before. Please be on time.)
- 13.00** For all booked on **flight SK3425:** The bus is leaving from town to the airport. (From exactly where he has dropped you before. Please be on time.)

*"And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time."*

T.S. Eliot

Safe journey home!



DAILY PROGRAM

North Spitsbergen

02nd September 2019

Important: Please put your check-in **luggage** into the corridors latest at **08:00**, so that the crew can bring it on shore.

- 07.00** For a last time: **A wonderful good morning.**
- 07.30** **Breakfast** in the restaurant.
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Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time."*

T.S. Eliot

Safe journey home!