



Scoresby Sund, *Aurora Borealis*

On Board

m/v *Hondius*

September 17th – September 25th 2019



The MV *Hondius* was built in 2019 in Brodosplit, Croatia, as an expedition vessel for Oceanwide Expeditions. *Hondius* is 107.60m long, 17,60m wide and has a maximum draught of 5.3m and has an exceptionally high Ice class of PC6, a top speed of 15 knots and 3 diesel generators. The *Hondius* sails on LSMGO. Now the ship is sailing as a 176-passenger vessel with 83 cabins. Our beautiful, modern vessel carries 369m³ of fresh water and has a water plant producing 70m³ per day. In many ways, the *Hondius* is the perfect vessel for a true polar adventure!

Captain Remmert Jan Koster

And his international crew of 72

First Officer:	Romanas Vicas	[Lithuania]
Staff Officer:	Yury Marin	[Russia]
Second Officer:	Igor Nazarov	[Russia]
Third Officer:	Kirill Buriachek	[Russia]
Chief Engineer:	Teunis Van't Verlaat	[Netherlands]
Hotel Manager:	Dejan Nikolic	[Serbia]
Ass. Hotel Manager:	Ana Sirbu Gomez	[Romania]
Ship's Physician:	Veronique Verhoeven	[Belgium]
	and	
Expedition Leader:	Adam Turner	[U.K.]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Claudia Holgate	[South Africa]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Sara Jenner	[U.K.]
Expedition Guide:	Jerry Zhao	[China]
Expedition Guide:	Pippa Low	[Scotland]
Expedition Guide:	Rosalie Steffen	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Laurence Dyke	[U.K.]
Expedition Guide:	Bill Smith	[Scotland]
Expedition Guide:	Alexis Bellezze	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Sandra Petrowitz	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Eduardo Rubio Herrera	[Guatemala]
Expedition Guide:	Szymon Niezabitowski	[Poland]
Expedition Guide:	Stephanie Liller	[Germany]
Dive Team Leader:	Henrik Enckell	[Sweden]
Dive Guide:	Catherine Buckland	[U.K.]
Kayak Guide:	Paul Donovan	[U.K.]

Welcome you on board!

Day 1: Akureyri, Iceland – Embarkation

8am Position: 65° 50.00 N 018° 09.00 W

Wind: Calm **Weather:** Cloudy **Sea state:** Calm

Air temp: +5°C **Water temp:** +10°C **Visibility:** Good

After a long drive north on the bus through North Iceland, we arrived in a bright and sunny Akureyri. The M/V Hondius was awaiting us at the port. After boarding and being shown to our cabins we met in the lounge for our mandatory safety briefing and abandon ship drill. We were briefed on ship safety and what to do in an emergency situation; including running through an abandon ship scenario, where we all donned our lifejackets and were shown out to the lifeboats.

Afterwards we set sail, heading north into the Danmark Strait. We were given an overview of the ship from hotel manager DJ, and a welcome by expedition leader Adam. Before dinner the Captain welcomed us onboard with a toast to the voyage.

After we headed to dinner for our first delicious meal onboard, prepared by the fantastic galley team. A relaxed drink in the bar topped off a fantastic start to our adventure to Greenland.

Soon, the gentle rock of the open ocean could be felt and most of us headed to bed to dream of our Greenland adventure.



Day 2: At Sea to Greenland

8am Position: 68° 19.10 N 020° 13.30 W

Wind: NE – 4 **Weather:** Overcast **Sea state:** Slight

Air temp: +2°C **Water temp:** +7°C **Visibility:** Good

After our departure from the port, we had a quiet and smooth night onboard.

The sea state was calm with a very gentle swell. The skies were cloudy and we could not see anything interesting besides banks of fog and thick clouds during our passage.

Despite this, during our first afternoon onboard we had the chance to spot a fin whale, swimming close to the ship. Hence, our officers maneuvered our vessel in such a way to reduce its speed and in order to increase our chances of having a better sight. Luck was on our side, and thanks to these actions, we managed to spot the whale a few times on the surface, facilitating the recognition of the characteristic fin, blow and jaw coloration. These kinds of whales have a whiter lower jaw, which in the correct circumstances identifies the animal unmistakable.

After this sight, we came back to our course, which aimed to the mouth of the Scoresby Sound in East Greenland. The crossing took us away from the Icelandic continental shelf which has depths up to 300 m, to the abyss of the Denmark Strait where the ocean's depth reaches up to 2300 m. During the crossing we could feel also how the weather changed, from the temperate temperatures off the coast of Iceland to the cooler temperatures around Greenland.

In the evening, we had the first sight of Greenland. It was magnificent. The sky was covered with different layers of high clouds and the greyish-blue sea was covered with patches of white, thick fog. However, in the distance, above the fog, it was possible to see a jagged mountain chain with innumerable peaks rising above 1000 m.

For our Passengers, the day onboard was busy. After a good night of sleep breakfast was served at 08:00 and later, at 09:30 the expedition staff was introduced and presented to our guests followed by a few mandatory briefings aiming to prepare our guests with the rules and procedures for their behaviour ashore, polar bear safety and zodiac operations.

After lunch, we started our program of lectures, starting with a comprehensive lecture about photography given by Sandra. This lecture was followed by another one made by Laurence, our geologist/glaciologist onboard, with the title "An Introduction to Greenland".



Also, during the afternoon, our teams of kayakers and divers were briefed individually so all of them were ready to commence activities the next day.

Our day ended our activities having our first recap in the lounge followed by a succulent dinner served at our restaurant.



Day 3: Vikingebugt & Danmark Ø

8am Position: 70° 81.90 N 025° 13.30 W

Wind: Calm **Weather:** Snowing **Sea state:** Slight

Air temp: +1°C **Water temp:** +6°C **Visibility:** Moderate

We finally start our first real day in East Greenland. After a quiet night in the sheltered fjords, we arrive early at Vikingebugt. The visibility is limited due to plenty of fog but we have almost no wind. We get prepared for our first Zodiac cruise, our first outdoor adventure to enjoy the coastline along the bay. We are fascinated by the formation of basalt rocks that are telling us the history of this beautiful area. We enjoy our 2 hour ride passing our first icebergs. We enjoy blue, white and clear colors. Additionally, we explore a beautiful waterfall that is fed by the fresh snow of the last days.

We return happy and hungry to the ship and take new energy with a tasty lunch in the restaurant.

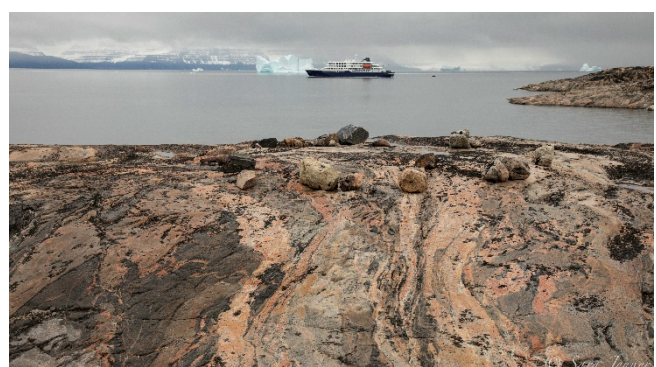
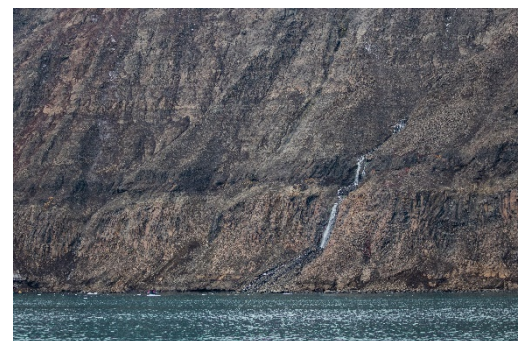
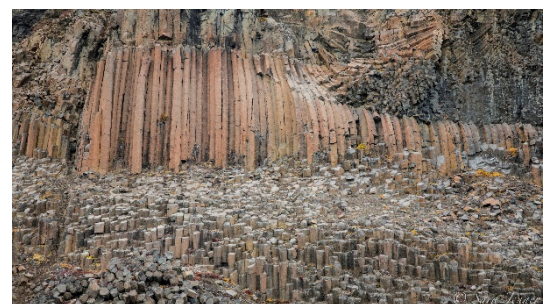
The Hondius, our new temporary home, is heading towards our afternoon landing on Danmark Island. The fog is clearing more and more, and we start to see the mountains around us. On the final approach we are passing a massive iceberg with a beautiful arch.

Everybody is excited about this fantastic formation of ice and we find plenty of people on the outside deck.

On Danmark island our group spreads out to do different activities. The divers, the photo workshop and the kayakers head out to their places of interest and the others get the chance to wander around on the beautiful island and explore the different autumn coloured plants. One group splits up and heads off for a “fast and furious” hike with Laurence and Steffi, entering the valley after the first ridgeline and enjoy fantastic views, colours and perspectives.

During our well deserved aperitif, Adam, our expedition leader, outlines the plans for the next day and Laurence tells us more about the origin of the basalt rocks, we saw earlier the day.

We enjoy dinner with our new friends in the restaurant, while we see a beautiful sunset and dream already of watching Aurora at night. Lothar and Eduardo feeding us with more information in a “dessert-lecture” to be prepared when the “miracle” is happening.



What a day, we cannot wait for the adventures in the next days.



Kayaking

10 of the kayakers met at the shell doors, eagerly awaiting their very first venture out in kayaks. Alexis met us at the doors with all kayaks in tow and we headed off to a quite location to get ourselves into the kayaks. After a quick chat and demonstration, one by one the kayakers entered their kayaks and headed off to get to grips with moving the kayak around. Their first challenge was to raft up, which after a little while, they all came together where we had a very short briefing before heading off in the direction of the snout of the glacier, hugging the shoreline. All managed to get to grips with keeping the kayaks heading in the right direction, although the snout of the glacier was just too far for us to reach on this occasion – time to call Alexis in, to get back on board our zodiac and head for the ship. A great first session.



Afternoon;

With only 4 kayakers, we departed the ship and headed for a safe entry point to the kayaks from the zodiac. Once in the kayaks we hugged the shoreline and utilized the gentle current to gain us some significant distance around the island. Not only did we have a helping current but we also had a metre swell at times, although it was difficult to see where that was generating from – it certainly added to the excitement of the afternoon. We finished the trip with a circumnavigation of two rather large icebergs, then jumped back in the zodiac and headed back to the ship. A very enjoyable afternoon was had by all!

Day 4: Røde Ø & Harefjord

8am Position: 70° 28.40 N 028° 04.80 W

Wind: NE - 2 **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Sea state:** Calm

Air temp: -2°C **Water temp:** +4°C **Visibility:** Good

Røde Ø is a small island with rich tundra and beautiful landscape surroundings, more importantly it is a graveyard of huge icebergs. One side of the island is very steep cliff, the other sides are smoothly raised. With this terrain and icebergs, a split activity between a perimeter landing and a zodiac cruise is perfect for this morning.



This morning the ship went into position and dropped anchor around 7:15, next to this small but amazing little island called Røde island. The expedition staff were ready to go out and scout at 8:00.



When the staff first came out, the sun is still low, but luckily there was no wind. As the time goes, when the passengers start disembarking Hondius, the sun rises, the light is shining on the huge icebergs, together with the glassy calm water, made this place even more beautiful and special.



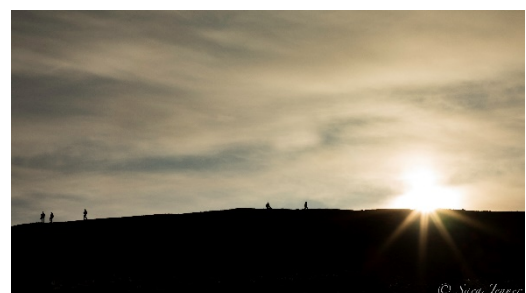
At the landing site, zodiac drivers pushed through the brash ice to get to a stable spot for the passengers, so they could enjoy their time on the tundra freely within the perimeter. There were 8 zodiacs in total cruising among the icebergs, seeing these monster sized naturally formed ice. Hotel and restaurant managers DJ and Raffa arranged hot chocolate in the zodiac for the cruising passengers which was a big surprise, even when some of the passengers over heard from the radio communications, they still could not believe it until they had cups of hot chocolate in their hands.

It is a very successful morning, with great weather, amazing scenery, and of course wonderful staff and passengers.



PM Harefjord

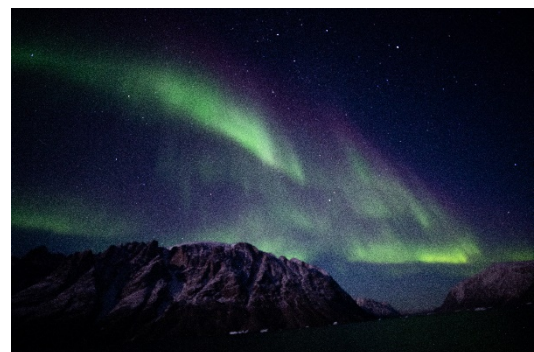
The plan was to make a landing in Harefjord, but we couldn't make it due to the heavy ice conditions, the ship cannot make the speed to get there in time, luckily the weather was in our favor. The ship moved slowly among the huge icebergs and brash ice, with red colored mountains as background, made a perfect afternoon ship cruise. During this time, some muskox was found on shore, a scope was set on deck six for the passengers to see these amazing creatures, even though they were far away from the ship. Glaciologist Laurence presented a lecture on Glaciers, so passengers had more information on the icebergs that we have seen. One of our lovely guests together with astronomer



Eduardo brought us a very interesting lecture on the Northern lights. As the lecture goes, we have received message from the expedition leader Adam to do a zodiac cruise, because the weather and the scenery is just too good to not get off the ship. The reflections of the icebergs and mountains made this place wonderland, and the seal playing in the water and the muskox on the hill gave life to this wonderland. Around 10:00 o'clock in the evening, aurora showed in the sky, which made today a perfect day.

Kayaking

The iceberg graveyard and the promise of sun was the draw for the kayakers this morning. We were not disappointed. Once on the water, we ventured between the icebergs, which certainly tested our manoeuvrability. As we made our way around the island, we were met by DJ and Raffa with some hot chocolate – a great boost for us. We continued, taking in the warmth of the sun and the spectacular scenery. Coming around the far end of the island, we came across some bird life hanging out on a number of ledges, a great arch that we all paddled through and a wonderful basalt extrusion. Time was now against us so we jumped into the zodiac and headed back to the ship – it doesn't get much better than that!



Day 5: Hall Bredning & Sydkap

8am Position: 71° 07.10 N 025° 40.30 W

Wind: SE – 3 **Weather:** Clear **Sea state:** Smooth

Air temp: +2°C **Water temp:** +5°C **Visibility:** Good

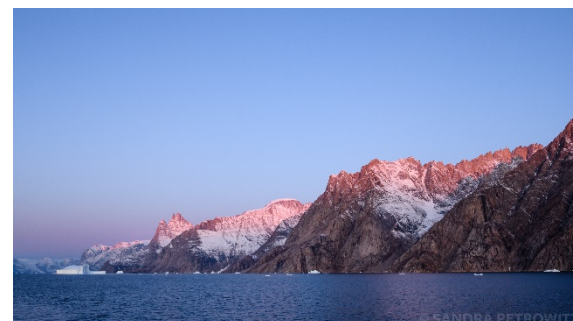
'Aim for the moon and if you fall, you land among the northern lights!'

Some of us woke up to a beautifully colored morning sky, hovering over the rugged Arctic landscape, tanning the surrounding icebergs and mountain peaks in magical shades of pink and orange.



Others stayed a little bit longer in green dreamland, where equally stunning conditions were experienced.

After a fantastic sunrise, our beloved captain sailed the Hondius from Jyttehavn towards the landing spot Sydkap, while we enjoyed our breakfast and gazed out the windows, wondering what today would bring.



After a lovely breakfast the expedition team and leader invited us into the lounge for an introduction to the plans of the day and a series of mini lectures.

Sara introduced us to the world of musk oxen. We met these rather random but incredible creatures the previous evening and were thereby highly excited to learn more about them.



Following Sara, Steffi gave a talk on the diverse adaptations by various Arctic animals to the harsh surrounding environmental conditions. It was interesting to gain an insight into the large variety of natural gortex and down clothing, however, it made us feel slightly unprotected and small. A few of us started to feel like the great nothingness, which Bill saw in us human beings from the very beginning.



The lecture series was finished with Clouds, talking about the weather and climate of the North Atlantic. The diverse coffee and tea selections offered onboard in the lounge brought us through the morning and a few biscuits were consumed throughout the lecture series, despite a delicious breakfast. The food

offerings onboard our beloved Hondius exceeded our expectations once again.

We enjoyed our time on the outer decks in warm, sparkling sunshine until lunch time. While several thoughts and laughter's were shared among new and old friends, other guests enjoyed some quiet time to themselves, reading a book or staring at the breathtaking Greenlandic scenery around us. The soft, reddish tundra covered the up 60 million years old, rugged rocks.

After an early lunch, we were driven to shore with our beloved fast, black rubber boots. At the landing sight, some of us were more furious than others and went on a guided, energetic hike with Laurence and Sara. During this 10km long scenic hike, some lucky ones even encountered the well desired snow bunny. Others joined Eduardo, Bill, Simon, Jerry, Rose and Pippa for a scenic walk over rich Greenlandic tundra dominated by permafrost. This was another case of 'don't believe everything you see'. It was much harder to walk over the fairly even ground than expected and our rubber boots were taken to the test.

We encountered Arctic foxes and raven, while strolling around hundreds of years old lichen and over the Arctic forest, made up of polar willow's and dwarf birches. This made even the oldest ones among us feel young.

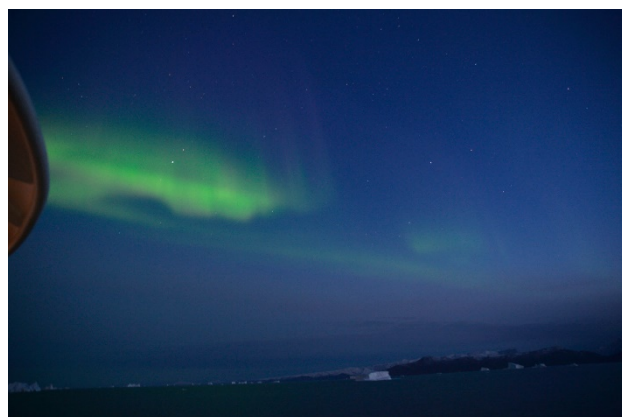
From the hillside we gained a wonderful view on the icebergs stranded in the bay, derived from the Daugard Jenseen glacier.

Sandra, Clouds and Steffi took some of us on a 'guided photo workshop' out and about in the wild nature of pristine Greenland.

Those, who were rather lacking an interest in photography, enjoyed the sunshine while lying and walking around the Arctic tundra.

Some of our scenic walkers became aware of the amount of plastic brought to this beautiful, pristine area and decided to start an effective 'Cleanup Greenland' project.

The evening ended with a special Arctic dinner on the outer decks, followed by a party with lots of mulled wine. Even though it felt bizarre to some of us, to listen to the Spanish sounds in this panoramic environment, most of us moved to the grooves, sooner or later. The red faces were not all related to the lovely selection of beverages, but more likely to a lack of applied sun protection earlier on. The Arctic weather surprised us once again. As if this day was not beautiful enough, the



northern lights joined our party and were dancing above us in the sky. They performed exceptionally rhythmic moves in different shades of green and purple up in the sky.

What an incredibly beautiful day in the Arctic!

Kayaking

With the sun low in the sky, the challenge was on to keep ourselves in its warm as we circumnavigated the island of Ingmikertilkajik. Initially we had a bit of current to fight against until we turned west and headed directly into the sun. The waters were fairly calm and the light was just great. A collapse of an iceberg heightened our senses as we watch the small resulting wave coming towards us – time to continue on. We kept close to the shoreline on the backside of the island, benefiting from the currents as they pushed us on. The shoreline provided us with an interesting paddle, in and out of small and large coves. Once back into the main channel, we headed towards the ship, only to be confronted by a current wanting to push us all over the place. The workout was over and it was time to get back in the zodiac and head for the ship. Another great day in the office!



Day 6: Hurry Fjord & Ittoqqortoormiit

8am Position: 70° 37.40 N 002° 27.90 W

Wind: N-5 **Weather:** Overcast **Sea state:** Moderate

Air temp: +1°C **Water temp:** +5°C **Visibility:** Good

First thing in the morning the wind was gusting 20 knots which is the Oceanwide operational margin. This resulted in the landing being delayed 1 hour to see if conditions moderated.

The day was dull and overcast in comparison to the magnificent sunny weather experienced the previous week. Hurry Fjord has an interesting historical connection in that William Scoresby Junior one of the foremost of all polar explorers, had investigated the fjord in 1823 in his ship 'Baffin'. The day he entered the fjord he found that his whale ship captain father in the vessel 'Fame' had entered the fjord the day before. William named the huge 160 km fjord system Scoresby Sund in honour of his father.

Wind swiftly increased to over 30 knots and plan B was put into effect...

At 10 am, assistant expedition leader Claudia Holgate delivered a thought provoking [rather depressing] lecture on Climate Change. Scientific papers and statistical analysis of data from research organisations all over the world illustrated clearly the crisis facing the planet in the next few years.

At 11.00 Bill Smith continued his 'engage brain' educational series on the Oceanwide Expeditions experience... Looking, Seeing, Thinking, this time with a lecture 'Paintings of the Sea'. The presentation provided a detailed explanation of the 'meaning of the sea in specific paintings' looking at a range of artworks from 1100's to the present day.

Outside the wind continued to gust over 30 knots.

After lunch Hondius anchored off the isolated community of Ittoqqortoormiit. 350 people living in blasted by the weather coloured wooden cabins scattered over a rocky hillside. Staff Zodiacs were launched into the heaving sea to assess the landing possibilities. Landing at this village was normally alongside the floating jetty but in the rather heavy swell this was deemed to be unsafe. Staff considered the possibility of a beach landing but again consideration of this possibility was abandoned due to the surging surf.



Staff return to Hondius and to entertain passengers, Sandra offered a second photography skills session in the lecture theatre. Eventually the seas moderated and all passengers were transported safely to shore. The main store was closed however so the tourist shop did a roaring trade in souvenirs. The major entertainment on shore was provided by the much photographed friendly young sledge dogs.

Everyone was back on board by 7.15...another excellent Oceanwide Expeditions day due to the flexibility and good humour of our excellent staff.



Day 7: Turner Sund and at sea towards Iceland

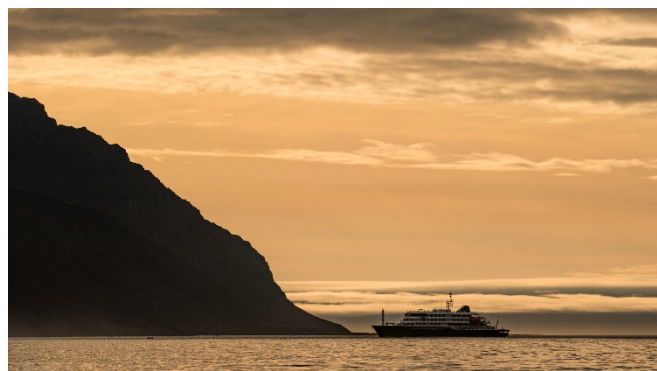
8am Position: 63° 41.10N 023° 35.20W

Wind: SE – 4 **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Sea state:** Moderate
Air temp: +4°C **Water temp:** +5°C **Visibility:** Good

Overnight the bridge team had navigated Hondius out past Kap Brewster, marking the southern limit of Scoresby Sund, and into the open sea bound southwards along the Blossville Kyst to Rømer Fjord. As we left the fjord we got a blast of Autumnal weather, with wind speeds in excess of 40 knots, a reminder that we have been exceptionally lucky with the weather thus far. We woke early in the morning as we made our way into Rømer Fjord, bound for Turner Sund. The high mountains were cloaked in mist and a heavy rain pounded on the decks – perhaps not the most inspiring start to a day.

As we breakfasted the clouds began to lift, and as we readied ourselves to board the zodiacs, the first rays of morning sun appeared in a small window of clear sky out to the east. By 09:30 we had boarded zodiacs and headed off to explore the atmospheric fjord system. As we ventured deeper the wind died completely, the only movement in the dark waters of the fjord was the gentle undulation of the remnants of open ocean swell. Most of us headed into Rømer Fjord, the fjord is named after the prominent Danish physicist and astronomer Ole Rømer who made the first measurements of the speed of light. A couple of zodiacs headed into Turner Sund. Both fjords are bound by steep mountain walls of Basalt. The basalt is part of the same sequence we had seen on our first day, along Volquart Boons Kyst – it is around 60 million years old and was formed during the rifting of the Atlantic as Greenland was torn away from Norway and Scotland. The layered dark rocks are almost exclusively flood basalts, formed by mafic lava which spewed from large volcanic fissures. We could also see some large volcanic dykes cross-cutting the walls of the fjord; these secondary volcanic structures were formed after the initial eruption, probably by torsional forces as the tectonic plate were compressed and bent.

As we penetrated deeper into the fjord we encountered some wildlife; we spotted a raven on a large relict delta and in the water close the shore we saw several Eider ducks and a few Black Guillemots, looking a little drab in their winter plumage already. We also briefly encountered a herd of Harp seals who eyed us suspiciously from a distance before disappearing beneath the waves. The landscape became even more impressive; huge waterfalls, fed by large cirque glaciers, cascaded down the cliffs and poured into the sea in gushing torrents of brown water. The brown colour originates from suspended particles of basalt



that have been eroded by the glacier as it grinds its way inexorably forwards over the landscape. In Turner Sund, the other branch of the fjord, the other zodiacs from our party got incredibly lucky with a fleeting sight of a Polar Bear mother with her cub. Unfortunately, Polar Bears are still hunted in Greenland and even the distant noise of two zodiacs was enough to cause the bears to retreat into a valley and out of sight.

After several glorious hours of exploring a few small gusts of wind ruffled the calm waters of the fjord. Over the space of ten minutes the wind increased dramatically, drawing whitecaps and a small steep chop; we retreated back to Hondius in case conditions deteriorated any further and after a bumpy, exhilarating ride back the ship we were safely back on board and sipping a restorative cup of coffee.

As lunch was served Hondius headed slowly out of Rømer Fjord and into the open sea, bound for Iceland. During the afternoon we had a series of lectures. First up was Steffi with a lecture about sea birds, she focused especially on the adaptations they have developed to be able to live most of their lives on the open ocean without the need to touch land. Sara followed with a lecture on the plants of Greenland, she introduced many of the species we had encountered over the previous days, explaining how they cope with the extreme conditions of East Greenland, and also introducing how the local people use the plants. A little while later, just as afternoon tea was being served we spotted the tell-tale blows of whales, over the course of twenty minutes we saw around 40 Humpback Whales some quite acrobatic with excellent views of their tails, fins and pectoral fins.

Shortly after we had left the whales Eduardo gave a lecture on the Battle of Denmark Strait; the Second World War sea battle which took place in the very waters we were crossing. The battle was one of the largest mobilisations of naval ships in history and cost the lives of thousands of seamen from the German Kriegsmarine and the British Royal Navy.

The day drew to a close with recap and another sumptuous dinner in the dining room. A few made it to the bar after dinner, but most of us chose to relax in our cabins unwinding after a busy week of exploration in the most beautiful corners of Greenland.



Kayaking

With the wind dropped to 5 knots, we had our last chance to head out kayaking. With 8 kayakers in tow, we headed off in the zodiac to find some shelter before getting into our kayaks. With a low cloud base, the wind on our backs and waves breaking on the shoreline, we kept our distance and made our way towards a solitary iceberg. As the swell increased and reports from the ship of gusts of 30 knots of wind, it was time to get ourselves back into the zodiac and return to the ship. Despite only being on the water for 1 hour, it was very surprising just how far we had paddled – a truly atmospheric kayaking experience to end our kayaking adventures in Greenland!



Day 8: At Sea Towards Iceland

8am Position: 67° 19.30N 019° 35.80W

Wind: SSW -2 Weather: Sunny Sea state: Moderate Air temp: +16°C Water temp: +10°C Visibility: Good

At 7:45 gentle wake up call made by Sara and her delicate and soft voice. With first glance through the windows we could see beautiful weather almost clear skies only few high clouds on the skies, gentle breeze but unfortunately the sea state gave us little bit of experience how challenging and rough the sea can be. From time to time waves reached 4m in height, but Hondius and the length and stability of the ship eased rolling and pitching almost to the minimum.

After tasty breakfast we could listen to amazing lectures given by Pippa about whales in the North Atlantic, a lecture filled with lots of information and details about those magnificent creatures. Later during the day, we could listen to Rosalie and learn what we can find below the surface of the Arctic Ocean.

In the afternoon, closer to Iceland the sea state started to settle, we could only feel gentle and pleasant rolling. Catherine our dive guide shows us all the information and highlight moments during diving excursion on this trip. Just after Catherine talk Alexis presented his lecture about Kayaking in the Arctic. Amazing history lesson with lots of interesting information. After break for a coffee and carrot cake we could participate for a quiz made by Sara and expedition team, we had lots of fun trying to answer all these sometimes hard but also funny questions.

The sea completely calms down as we enter the fjord and the expedition team invited all of us for captain's cocktails, Remmert and the Expedition team celebrate with us, the end of an astonishing trip as we enjoy breath-taking views of the Icelandic coast.

Disembarkation: Akureyri

8am Position: 65° 41.00N 018° 08.60W

Wind: S-3 **Weather:** Clouds **Sea state:** Calm

Air temp: +10°C **Water temp:** +10°C **Visibility:** Good

Our amazing journey of exploration was over, but certainly some memories had been made for a lifetime. The arctic had certainly given us a great trip despite at times making us work hard for the experience! A truly unforgettable experience.

Safe travels and we hope to see you back onboard soon!



Total distance sailed on our voyage: 1092 NM

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Remmert Jan Koster, Expedition Leader Adam Turner, Hotel Manager Dejan Nikolic and all the crew and staff, it has been a pleasure travelling with you.



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

Hondius 17th – 25th September 2019 **Scoresby Sund, Greenland Arctic**

Dive Team: Leader- Henrik Enckell, Dive Guide – Catherine Buckland

Divers: Eugeniusz Buchczyk, Dorota Cymerys, Peter Habermann, Lynn Miner, Catherine De-Lara, John De-Lara, Daniel Moreira

After an easy crossing across the Denmark Strait, the divers were up early the first morning to prepare their equipment and get ready for their first dive in Greenland!

Dive One 19th September 2019 – Vikingebugt **N 70° 21'37** **W 25° 15'50**

It was a snowy and overcast morning for our first dive which we did at a place called Vikingebugt. This was to make sure our weights were correct and all equipment had survived the journey. There was around 5-6 metres visibility with a reasonably obvious halocline where the fresh water from the nearby glacier was mixing with the salt water. Lots of brittle stars, tunicates and queen scallops accompanied us for our dive. Afterwards some of the divers had a short zodiac cruise to admire the scenery including the interesting basalt columns rising from the sea to form majestic pillars.



Dive Two 19th September 2019 PM – Danmark Ø
N 70° 27'14.59
W 26° 17'58.55

After a warming lunch we made our way to Danmark Ø, while the other guests made their way onto land for a walk Henrik was choosing a dive site. This site has been dived before but sometimes it is guess work as to what the dive will be like this time! It turns out he had picked a great site, the wall that was dived was covered in lots of colourful tunicates, stalked jellyfish and an abundance of life compared to what was on the wall above it in the air. Good visibility of an easy 10 m gave the divers a lovely drift dive in the cold water.



Photo: John & Catherine De Lara

Dive three 20th September 2019 Røde Ø
N 70° 28'25
W 28° 4'27

Our dive for the day was on ice. This was the first experience of icebergs for some and certainly didn't disappoint. The colours and different textures of the ice were amazing to see. The water was definitely Arctic being 1 degree by the ice. It was also our first experience of the changes



in buoyancy that come from being near the melting freshwater ice. The weather was really being kind and on the surface the sun was shining brilliantly on the red coloured mountains, contrasting well with the white and blue ice.

Photo: Dan Moreira

Dive Four 21st September 2019 Sydkap

N 71° 17'30

W 25° 2'20

In the afternoon the dive team split and one half dived a rocky wall and the other went in search for some more ice. We were lucky enough to find another stunning piece of ice suitable for diving on in this attractive fjord. The visibility was again fantastic and we saw many shrimps moving around on the ice as well as various planktonic life in the water column. Now we were experienced around ice we could enjoy ourselves playing in this strange but beautiful environment. The divers who chose rock enjoyed seeing an arctic fox just before their dive! Once back at the ship we enjoyed a wonderful BBQ on the back deck of the Hondius, watching our dive site disappear into the sunset.



Photo: Catherine De Lara



Photo: Dan Moriera

Dive Five 22nd September 2019 Turner Sund

N 69° 42'52

W 23° 37'23

For our last dive on the trip we made our way into Turner Sund, this is mostly uncharted with very little information on it. Most of the expedition team including the dive team had never been here before, so a truly expedition style end to our diving. Henrik checked the bottom topography and the divers were dropped in around 10 m, it seemed to slope down



Photo: Catherine & John De Lara

gently in some places and then very steeply in others. The visibility was quite milky which was surprising as there was no glacier nearby, the bottom had quite a lot of kelp on it until around 20m when it then turned to a rocky bottom. Lots of small critters accompanied the divers for their last dive in this varied seascape.

Thank you for diving with the team and with Oceanwide Expeditions. Safe diving for the future!





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1. Day 3 AM Vikingebugt
2. Day 3 PM Danmark Ø
3. Day 4 AM Rode Ø
4. Day 4 PM Harefjord
5. Day 5 AM Jyttehavn
6. Day 5 PM Sydkap
7. Day 6 Hurry Fjord – Nokkedal
8. Day 6 Ittoqqortoormiit
9. Day 7 Turner Sund



Birds and Mammals Sightings 17th - 25th September 2019											
English Name	Latin	German	中文	Dutch	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Eistaucher	白嘴潜鸟	Ijsduiker							
Red-throated diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Sternaucher	红喉潜鸟	Roodkeelduiker							
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Eissturmvogel	北方暴风鹱	Noordse stormvogel	X	X				X	X
Bean Goose	<i>Anser fabalis</i>	Saatgans	豆雁	Taigarietgans							
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Kurzschnebelgans	粉脚雁	Kleine netgans							
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	Weisswangengans	白颊黑雁	Brandgans						X	
Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Ringelgans	黑雁	Rotgans							
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Stockente	绿头野鸭	Wilde eend							
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Eiderente	欧绒鸭	Eidereend				X		X	
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	Prachteiderente	王绒鸭	Konings eider							
Steller's Eider	<i>Polysticta stelleri</i>	Scheckente	小绒鸭	Stellers eider							
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Eisente	长尾野鸭	Ilseend							
Rock Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus</i>	Alpenschneeuhn	岩雷鸟	Alpensneeuwioen							
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Sandregenpfeifer	剑鸻	Bontbekplevier							
European Golden Plover	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>	Goldregenpfeifer	欧洲黄金鸭	Goudplevier					X		
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Sanderling	三趾鹬	Drieteenstrandloper							
Pectoral Sandpiper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>	Graubruststrandla	斑胸滨鹬	Gestreepte strandloper							
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Meerstrandläufer	紫滨鹬	Paarse strandloper					X		
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Knutt	红腹滨鹬	Kanoestrandloper							
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Alpenstrandläufer	滨鹬	Bonte strandloper							
Wimmerer	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	Regenottervogel	中杓鹬	Regenwulp							
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	Rotschenkel	红脚鹬	Tureluur							
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Steinwälzer	红翻石鹬	Steenloper							
Grey Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	Thorsühnchen	灰瓣蹼鹬	Rosse franjepoot							
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	Odinshühnchen	红颈瓣足鹬	Grauwe franjepoot							
Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	Spatelraubmöwe	中贼鸥	Middelste jager	X				X		
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Schmarotzerraub-möwe	短尾贼鸥	Kleine jager					X		
Long-tailed Skua	<i>Stercorarius</i>	Falkenraubmöwe	长尾贼鸥	Kleinste jager							
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	Skua	大贼鸥	Grote jager	X						
Sabine's Gull	<i>Xema sabini</i>	Schwalbenmöwe	萨宾氏鸥	Vorkstaartmeeuw							
Black-headed Gull	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Lachmöwe	红嘴鸥	Kokmeeuw							
Common/Mew Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	Sturmmöwe	海鸥	Stormmeeuw							
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Eismöwe	北极鸥	Grote Burgemeester		X	X	X	X	X	X
Iceland gull	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>	Polarmöwe	冰岛鸥	Kleine burgemeester							
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Silbermöwe	银鸥	Zilvermeeuw							
Lesser black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Heringsmöwe	小黑头鸥	Kleine mantelmeeuw							
Great black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Mantelmöwe	大黑头鸥	Grote mantelmeeuw							
Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Dreizehenmöwe	三趾鸥	Drieteenmeeuw	X					X	X
Ross' Gull	<i>Rhodostethia rosea</i>	Rosenmöwe	楔尾鸥	Rossmeeuw							
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	Elfenbeinmöwe	象牙鸥	Ivoormeeuw							
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Küstenseeschwalb	北极燕鸥	Noordse stern							
Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	Trottelumme	崖海鸦	Zeekoet							
Brunnich's Guillemot	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Dickschnabellumme	厚嘴海鸦	Dikbekzeekoet							
Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	Gryllteiste	白翅斑海鸦/黑	Zwarte zeekoet						X	
Little Auk	<i>Alle alle</i>	Krabbentaucher	小海雀	Kleine alk	X					X	
Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Papageltaucher	海鹦	Papegaaiduiker						X	
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Schneeammer	雪鹀	Sneeuwgoris							
Redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>	Birkenzeisig	金翅鸟	Barmsijs							
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Korkrabe	渡鸦	Raar		X	X	X	X	X	
Northern Gannet		Toelpeel									X
Lapland Longspur	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>	Spornammer	铁爪鹀	Ijsgors							

