

Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland

2nd September – 15th 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.



Captain Artur Iakovlev

and his international crew

of 45 including

1

Assist. Hotel Manager:

Head Chef:

Sous Chef:

Ship's Physician:

Expedition Leader: Assist. Expedition Leader:

Expedition Guide:

Expedition Guide:

Expedition Guide:

Expedition Guide:

Expedition Guide:

Expedition Guide:

Siegfried Penzenleitner Melanie Penzenleitner Heinz Hacker Ivan Ivanovic Moniek Mestrom

Philipp Schaudy Christian Engelke Tobias Brehm Daniels Karin Amby Andreas Alexander Ben Frederiks Johanne Skrefsrud Miriam Marquardt [Austria] [Austria] [Austria] [Serbia] [Netherlands]

[Austria] [Germany/Norway] [Germany/Switzerland] [Sweden] [Germany/Norway] [Netherlands] [Norway] [Germany/Norway]

Welcome you on board!

Day 1 – Monday 2nd September 2019 Departure from Longyearbyen, Svalbard

GPS Position at 8:00am: 78°13'N 015°36'E

Wind: ENE 4 Sea State: In Port Weather: Partly clouded Air Temp: +5°C Sea Temp: +7°C

Today's writer: Johanne

From the plane we got a first glimpse of Spitsbergen's impressive mountain peaks though the clouds. At first glans, this seemed like a wild and inhabitable place, but as we were about to learn it is home to a lot of life.

For many of us, Longyearbyen was our first stop, visiting the museum and the church or maybe shopping some extra warm clothes before leaving civilisation. We already needed our water proofs today and got a taste of the sea as we were shuttled in zodiacs to M/V *Plancius*, the ship that would be our home for the next 13 days. We got allocated our cabins where our luggage had already arrived. We were greeted by our expedition leader, Philipp, and hotel manager, Siggi, and showed to our cabins with our luggage already waiting for us.

Gathering in the observation lounge we were briefed about safety on board. The briefing was held by the Chief Officer who was talking about ship safety and how to prepare for the worst. A general alarm-drill (seven short blasts followed by one long blast) was made, and we all took the SOLAS orange life jackets and mustered in the lounge guided by crew and staff. We went out on deck to have a look at the lifeboats as Plancius was navigating out of Adventfjorden. In the lounge Philipp invited us for another briefing, now about life on board and introducing the expedition team ready to explore the wilderness with us. Siggi introduced us to the interiors of the ship, hotel operations and dining room where we would be served delicious food. Captain Artur joined us in the end for a welcoming toast of sparkling wine or juice before we headed down to the dining room for our first delightful dinner prepared by Head Chef Heinz and his kitchen team.

After dinner, the staff called us to get our rubber boots which we will use when disembarking from the Zodiacs during this voyage. We were now already out at sea and we could feel the swell and waves, a proper welcome to our adventure onboard Plancius.



Day 2 – Tuesday 3rd September 2019 Raudfjord, Northwest Svalbard

GPS Position at 8:00am: 79°55.7'N 011°30.4'E

Wind: ENE 6-7 Sea State: Rough Weather: Rain Air Temp: +1°C Sea Temp: +4°C

Today's writer: Tobias

It was the first morning of our expedition and Philipp's voice woke us up to start the day. We enjoyed our breakfast and prepared for the mandatory briefings that followed right after while sailing into Raudfjorden. Christian gave us information about the Association of Arctic Tour Operators (AECO), how to behave in Polar Bear country and how to get in and out of our zodiacs safely. With this wealth of new information, we had the tools at hand to enjoy a great expedition ahead of us!

Not long thereafter, we could demonstrate our newly gained knowledge when we embarked the zodiacs for our first landing at Buchananhalvøya, a peninsula at the southern end of Raudfjorden. It was a bumpy, wet and windy ride to shore where the expedition team was waiting for us. We received information about the different hiking groups and got the chance to choose one. The energetic and middle groups were making their way up the slopes straight away for a view, while the leisurely group initially remained on the beach for more information on drift wood, reindeer, plastic, kelp and many other things. It was our first Arctic tundra experience of the trip... and many more will follow!

Back on the ship, we were just in time for a delicious lunch prepared by the galley and hotel team. Cold weather makes hungry, so we enjoyed every bite of it! Hmmmm! Not long after lunch we got ready for our second activity of the day. As we were now very experienced with rough weather conditions, we had no problem with another bumpy ride ashore at Bruceneset south of Alicehamna on the eastern shoreline of Raudfjorden. After looking at the hut near the landing site and some more information on history by Christian, we split up in groups again and explored the area. Stone circles, whaler's graves, nice views and many more things were to be found along the way, while strong wind gusts and chilling temperatures kept us fully awake. After all, it is the Arctic not the Tropics! Who would expect warm temperatures here anyways!? ;)

Once again back on the ship, we took a warm shower, drank a cup of coffee or tea, or did all the above to get cozy and warm again and ready to listen to the expedition team at our daily recap. Philipp gave us the plans for the following days. Andreas explained the geology of the Old Red Sandstone that we saw ashore and Karin introduced us to Arctic flowers.

Thereafter we enjoyed a delicious dinner in still calm conditions before Plancius sailed out into the open ocean and with that into big waves, luckily coming from behind us. This way, we only experienced a short while of rolling and pitching before the mighty ship calmed down and sailed with the waves towards Greenland. Looked like we would be able to have a good night sleep with all the new impressions of the day!



Day 3 – Wednesday 4th September 2019 Crossing to Greenland

GPS Position at 8:00am: 78°15.1'N 002´°14.3'E

Wind: NNE 7 Sea State: Rough Weather: Overcast Air Temp: +1°C Sea Temp: +3°C

Today's writer: Ben

It was a rough night in between the bed sheets. The Greenland Sea showed itself far from its modest temper, making us all but steady sleepers. Surprisingly the breakfast table was visited by many and the atmosphere was great, because we were heading to the pack ice, while underway to Greenland! As we got used to the movement of the Plancius we all adapted to our new lives at sea. Since it was a full day at sea, we could enjoy some highly informational presentations from Andreas and Tobias about the geology of Svalbard. Normally a heavy topic that requires some sturdy grey matter, but these outdoor professionals were more than keen to explain the material in such a way that it could be understood (even in the morning). Interesting to know that this northern archipelago was once at the south pole!

Some say time flies on a ship, that is no different on Plancius. Before we knew it, it was time for lunch. After we had made the buffet disappear, it was time for something else: Karin would share her dogsledding adventures in the restaurant. Who knew it could be such a relaxing hobby, handling all those wild overly active animals? Around 4 p.m. Ben took over the restaurant with a story about the history of whaling on Svalbard back in the 1600. Apparently, the eager Europeans caught so many whales back then that we can still see the results of the extensive hunt today! After these interesting topics we had some time to enjoy the view of the waves again, which were still rocking the ship now and then. Luckily, we got more and more used to it, our sea legs were starting to form!

And then, it was already time for the evening program: After a thorough briefing by our expedition leader of where we were heading to, Johanne explained to us what type of waves are making our ship rock as if they were to make us seasick on purpose. How are these waves created and where do they originate from? It is odd to know that the hull of the Plancius is the only thing that separates us from the Greenland Sea, that stretches up to 4 kilometres in depth at some places. Would it be so wavy down there as it is up here? Andreas showed us some images that shocked us a bit: Even though no human being has been there, our trash lies around at these depths as if it was a landfill. Images made with a remotely operated vehicle clearly depicted plastic wrapping, bottles and fishing gear partly submerged in the sediments. With these interesting topics fresh in mind we headed downstairs for some much-needed dinner. A day at sea does not mean that the expedition team leaves its guests wandering around the ship, the day was filled with informational lectures and recaps. Basically, exercise on a psychological level!

After a tasty dinner in the restaurant the tension started to rise, the bridge and outer decks were starting to get crowded and all eyes searched the horizon. Philipp earlier informed that we might get a sight of the pack ice, as it was on our route towards Greenland. Luckily a bright sun was out and we could enjoy the sight of fulmars gently flying over the wave crests. And then it started: small bits and pieces of ice appeared, very few at first but steadily growing over time. Before we realized it, our captain had navigated the Plancius into the middle of a dense field of pancake ice. The sun, already low on the horizon, gave the whole scene a golden glow, what a spectacular sight! The noise of the ice crackling against the hull of the ship filled the air. Forming a serene, almost intimate silence that can only be experienced in the remotest of places. Cold and weary (we were still in the Arctic, it's cold!) we headed back to the lounge to enjoy a drink, review our freshly made photos and look back at a great day at sea. Wondering what tomorrow would bring.



Day 4 – Thursday 5th September 2019 Crossing to Greenland

GPS Position at 8:00 am: 75°16.8'N 010°32'W

Wind: NNW 4 Sea State: Calm Weather: Partly cloudy Air Temp: -1°C Sea Temp: -1°C

Today's writer: Karin

As we woke up in the morning there were much smaller waves than the day before, and the ship was not rolling as much anymore. The weather was really nice with sunshine, but still quite a lot of wind. We could all enjoy the view of a free horizon, in all directions nothing else than water. Johanne gave a lecture about sea ice, how it is formed and why it is so important. After the lecture a fin whale was sighted close to the ship, and most of us went out on deck to see it. While we were waiting for the whale to surface again, a second fin whale was sighted further away on the other side of the ship. It was a magnificent experience to see the world's second largest animal so close by.

After lunch we went into an area with fog, and visibility was limited. Christian gave a lecture about Northeast Greenland's history, with special emphasis on the Sirius patrol. And in the Dining room the movie Paolos Wedding was shown, an old movie shot in Greenland. At the recap Philipp told us about the plans for our days in Greenland, Miriam talked about Fulmars and Ben told us about Fin-whales and their lives. Andreas told about a great underwater volcano on the seafloor. After the dinner many of us gathered in the launch to talk about the day or just enjoy the view of free horizons.



Day 5 – Friday 6th September 2019 Crossing to Greenland

GPS Position at 8:00am: 71°40'N 018°55.8'W

Wind: NNE3 Sea State: Slight Weather: Fog Air Temp: 0°C Sea Temp: +3°C

Today's writer: Karin

In the morning, before breakfast, Philipp invited us to the lounge to share very sad news with us. During the night there had been an emergency situation which required us to change course towards Iceland to bring the patient into a hospital. After the breakfast we were invited to watch a National Geographic movie about the Arctic and enjoyed the slight view through the fog onto the East Greenland coast that was possible to see in the distance. Also, some icebergs were drifting by here and there and a beautiful fogbow was seen on the horizon.

In the afternoon Ben gave a talk about his time at the research station in Ny Ålesund in Spitsbergen. He was stationed there for two months a few of years ago, working as a field assistant as part of a project on bioindicators and contamination concerning shellfish. He enjoyed his time there very much and told that there were 12 polar bears visiting Ny Ålesund and the surroundings in the time he was there. Later in the evening it was time for recap and Philipp talked about our plans for the next days and when we will reach Greenland. Andreas explained the fog and Karin introduced us to the biology of the kittiwake, and then it was time for dinner in the restaurant.



Day 6 – Saturday 7th September 2019 Crossing to Greenland

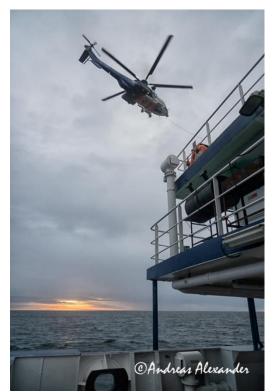
GPS Position at 8:00am: 67°18.5'N 019°19.9'W

Wind: E 5 Sea State: Slight Weather: Rain Air Temp: +7°C Sea Temp: +3°C

Today's writer: Andreas

Plancius was a bit outside the coast of Iceland when we finally received the releasing message: The rescue helicopter could fly towards Plancius and the weather conditions would permit an evacuation via helicopter winch. Shortly after six o'clock in the morning was the time we had all been waiting for. The sun had just risen and the helicopter reached our vessel. The winch went down on the outer deck and an air rescuer as well as a doctor rappelled down onto our vessel. The patient went up in the stretcher shortly after, followed by the air rescuer and the doctor and the helicopter flew away. A big relief settled in on the ship. Everything went well and the patient was on the way to the hospital. The captain changed the course and we went back again towards the north. Greenland awaited us. Finally!

The wind slowly picked up as we made our way into the lounge for an update. Philipp informed us about the further plans for our remaining voyage. First, we would go to Scoresby Sund and afterwards, if the weather conditions would permit, we would go north into Kong Oskar Fjord and Antarctic Sound. What pleasant news. During the remaining morning we could continue watching the ocean as well as another



Greenlandic movie. After lunch, there was a lecture about glaciers by Andreas and at the end of the talk the ship started rolling. The storm set in. Luckily Philipp informed us during Recap that the storm wouldn't last long. At least not for us. We would already arrive in the shelter of Scoresby Sund around midnight. What pleasant news!

Day 7 – Sunday 8th September 2019 Danmark Ø & Vikingebugt

GPS Position at 8:00am: 70°25.4'N 025°55.6'W

Wind: NNE 2 Sea State: Calm Weather: Rain Air Temp: +1°C Sea Temp: +3°C

Today's writer: Johanne

Finally, we had arrived in Greenland, and we now found ourselves in Scoresbysund, the longest fjord on earth. From the porthole in our cabin we got a first glimpse of these massive icebergs that Greenland is so famous for. We gathered by the gangway, eager to set foot on land after so many days at sea. Despite clouds and rain, we enjoyed our first landing in Greenland on Danmark \emptyset (Denmark Island), strolling across the tundra covered in vegetation with beautiful autumn colours. Impressive geological features could also be seen by the landing site. The scoured landscape and boulders transported with the glacier ice showed evidence of a time where all of this was covered in ice. The long hikers gained some elevation to get a view of the landscape. With the icebergs in the distance we could see why Greenland is famous for its spectacular landscape.



Back on the ship we could dry our clothes and fuel up on some delicious food before we once again got ready for another excursion outside. This time we needed to dress warmly as we were cruising icebergs with the zodiacs. A polar bear was already spotted on one of the icebergs and we quickly moved in the direction it was last seen. However, somehow it was now hiding or it had moved further away as we could not detect it anymore. So, we changed our focus towards the massive icebergs floating around us. This was really an eldorado for photography! Icebergs of different shapes and variations of blue and white colours were reflecting in the calm water. The crackling sound of melting ice surrounding us added to a special atmosphere of being in the Arctic. On the way back to the ship we cruised along some steep mountain cliffs with yellow vegetation and a very distinct snow-line. Suddenly it was announced on the radio that a polar bear was detected high up on the slope. Through our binoculars we could see a proud polar bear looking out over the fjord. The king of the Arctic, quite a special sight and end to a magnificent first day in Greenland.



Day 8 – Monday 9th September 2019 Strømbugt & Rypefjord

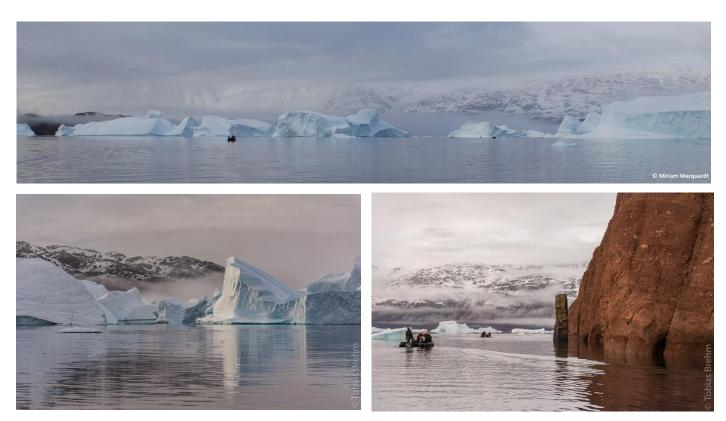
GPS Position at 8:00am: 70°28.8'N 028°06'W

Wind: S 1 Sea State: Calm Weather: Cloudy Air Temp: +2°C Sea Temp: +1°C

Today's writer: Tobias

For many of us the morning started early as we were sailing into Fønfjord. The fog had lifted during the night and Plancius was sailing quietly through flat calm waters with massive icebergs and sugar-coated mountains scattered throughout the magnificent landscape. By the time Philipp made the wake-up call, many of us were already on deck enjoying the scenic views. After breakfast, we jumped in the zodiacs for another zodiac cruise. This time, we explored the majestic icebergs grounded near Røde Ø in a so-called iceberg graveyard. They had all kind of shapes. Some were blocky, other rounded, and some even had arches and tunnels. Dense fog rolled in at the beginning of the cruise, but quickly lifted again causing an even more spectacular mood. We cruised the icebergs for about two hours before circumnavigating Røde Ø itself – a red island made of sandstones and conglomerates about 400 million years old. The yellow, green and red tundra vegetation was shining very bright on those rocks making it nicely colourful with a big contrast to the white icebergs.

As we came around the southern side of the island, we had the chance to see a basaltic dyke that had already been partly eroded out of the island and was hence sticking out of the water like a remnant wall of a far gone building. This gave us the chance to explore this basaltic feature from all sides. To round up the cruise, we landed all at once on the western coastline of the island to enjoy the iceberg graveyard from a higher vantage point overlooking the entire area. What a view!



Back on the ship, we were quite happy to warm up and enjoy another fantastic meal prepared for us by the ship's crew. In the meantime, we started sailing north through Rødefjord towards our afternoon destination Rypefjord, where we arrived at about 16:30 after a fantastic ship's cruise with more icebergs and scenery. It was time to launch the zodiacs once again to go ashore at Rypenæs at the southwestern end of Rypefjord. We hoped to see some Musk Ox, which we had already spotted from the ship. Unfortunately, only the long hikers managed to see some distant

animals. Either way, the scenery was stunning as we hiked through thick orange-red-brown-yellow tundra and snowcovered mountains in the background. Even the sun managed to fight its way through the clouds creating a fantastic light spectacle at the glacier in the back of the bay. In the meantime, our company's other ship, the sailing vessel Rembrandt van Rijn came next to Plancius to take on provisions that we had brought for them as they spend several months in Greenland at once and hence have only limited access to supplies.

Eventually, we finished another eventful day with a delicious BBQ on the back deck in calm conditions and a nice view, while Plancius slowly started moving along.



Day 9 – Tuesday 10th September 2019 Jyttes Havn & Sydkap

GPS Position at 8:00am: 71°04.8'N 025°39.4'W

Wind: W 3 **Sea State**: Slight **Weather**: Partly cloudy **Air Temp**: +4°C **Sea Temp**: +4°C *Today's writer: Ben*



Today's wakeup-call at 06:30 came a bit sooner than expected, especially after the drinks we had during last night's barbeque. Philipp's velvet voice announced our arrival in the \emptyset Fjord. The first sunlight threw a spectacle that one can only see when standing on deck very early in the morning. Luckily it was wind still and we could all enjoy the beautiful steep mountains on both sides of the fjord getting lit by almost golden rays of sunlight under a bright blue sky. Little did we know that this beautiful weather would stay with us all day. As Plancius continued slowly through the iceberg filled fjord, we were invited to join the breakfast buffet. On the bright side: the restaurant has wide windows from which the view could still be spectated. After breakfast it was already time to stick our feet in our boots, the first landing of the day was a fact! We landed in Jyttes Havn. A beautiful area covered with rich vegetation, making it even



more interesting for the plant loving people on board. The fast hikers went on a trip over the flanking outcrops, reaching a stunning viewpoint at last. Then it was already time for lunch, time flies!

As the remnants of the exquisite lunch made way through our digestive systems, we found ourselves in the shuttle zodiacs again to be dropped off at Syd Kapp. A rocky outcrop with two large huts. On the beach we found an old-fashioned Inuit sled, piles of burned rubbish and rusty tools scattered around the barren landscape. The buildings were erected in 1952 for hunting purposes and are still in operation today. Evidence of hunting related activities could be found as well; smelly lumps of beluga blubber, carcasses and bones of a variety of animals lied around the area. Despite the horrific finds it was impossible to not see the beauty of the landsite as plants grew abundant and the horizon was filled with enormous icebergs bordered by blue skies. The fast hikers went all the way to the top of the nearest mountain, while the medium hikers had a further stroll inland. The fun group (leisurely group) took the time to explore the local surroundings, making one think of how the life of an Inuit hunter must have been. Since we were not really lnuit hunters, we could not enter the hut to warm ourselves. Luckily, we could soon return to the Plancius to warm our cold bodies. Before the call for dinner was given, Philipp presented the plans for tomorrow, exciting landings were ahead! Tobias and Andreas explained to us the ins and outs of basalt, the type of rock we had seen in such extraordinary ways for the last few days. Karin gave us a further insight into the type of plants we had encountered today. Exciting topics as we headed out to sea, slowly sailing past huge icebergs covered in a golden evening sun.





Day 10 – Wednesday 11th September 2019 Liverpool Land & Ittoqqortoormiit

GPS Position at 8:00am: 70°23.6'N 023°08'W

Wind: N 3 Sea State: Slight Weather: Partly cloudy Air Temp: +2°C Sea Temp: +3°C

Today's writer: Karin

In the morning we landed in Hurry inlet, already on the beach we could admire the beautiful stones in different colours, it was like being in a candy shop for geologists. We split up in our three groups to hike and explore the area. The land was moss tundra crossed by many rocky areas. There was a lot of mountain sorrel growing on the tundra and between the rocks. We hiked to a place where there were remains of an old Thule community. There were two very visible house remains where you could see the entrance area and the cold trap. Next to the house remains there were several round holes in the ground that probably were used for storing food close to the cold permafrost. As we returned to the beach there was time for one of the real highlights of the trip, the polar plunge! Quite many stayed on the safe side and went straight back to the ship. But others were brave and used the opportunity to swim in the Greenlandic water. A very refreshing experience. After the swim we returned to the ship and had a delicious lunch and preparing for our next landing.



In the afternoon we visited the village Ittoqqortoormiit where the tourist office and a small souvenir shop were open for us. Outside, it was also possible to taste muskox meat. At three o'clock one of the mushers in the village fed his sled dogs as a show for us. Some of us was lucky and managed to get a stamp in our passports from the police officer who came down to the jetty area in his police car. The museum was also open and we could go inside to learn more about this fascinating little village and the life there. As we came back to the zodiacs, we noticed that Ittoqqortoormiit had got a new playground. The floating zodiacs adventure playground. It was supervised by Andreas and Christian, offering activities jumping in and out of zodiacs, trying on lifejackets and hiding in the bow-box. We waved our new friends goodbye and returned to the ship. In the recap Philipp told us about the plans for the next days, Andreas talked about James bond and Icebergs and Karin told about a few of all the plants we have seen so far on Greenland. This day, full of experiences, ended with a beautiful sunset at sea. Heading north, ready for new adventures.



Day 11 – Thursday 12th September 2019

Segelsällskapet Fjord, Maria Ø & Antarctic Sund

GPS Position at 8:00am: 71°54'N 022°19.5'W

Wind: WNW 5 Sea State: Slight Weather: Partly cloudy Air Temp: +5°C Sea Temp: +2°C

Today's writer: Miriam

We had arrived to the National Park and were cruising into the Kong Oskar Fjord. After breakfast we went onshore at Segelsällskapet (swedish for "the Sailing club"). This beautiful spot on earth is a paradise for every geologist, and everyone who was not interested in rocks so far is changing their opinion at this place. These rock formations, shining in diverse colours and stripes, developed around 600-720 million years ago when Greenland was still around the subtropical latitude. This fantastic scenery developed by rising and lowering of the sea level and different sedimentation of minerals and biological material present at that time. After a good while walking over the coloured rock formations, we separated into the usual



hiking groups. The "mountain goats" and the medium hiking group tried to get some height to view the landscape from above, while the "fun-group" vied the rocks more in detail and made close-ups. Beside beautiful geology, there was also diverse autumn vegetation between the rocks for the hobby botanist and two muskoxen were spotted in the distance.

After lunch we landed at Maria \emptyset . This is an island that got its name by Eli Knudsen, a Danish trapper who used to live and hunt here before the second world war. He named the island after his daughter. Beautiful autumn vegetation covered the ground of Maria \emptyset and a muskox were grazing on the hillside in the far distance.

After the landing we were cruising into the Antarctic Sound and enjoyed the beautiful surroundings of the colourful mountains with a glass of hot white wine.

What a successful day!



Day 12 – Friday 13th September 2019 Holm Bugt

GPS Position at 8:00am: 72°07.5'N 023°07.7'W

Wind: SSW 1-2 **Sea State**: Calm **Weather**: Partly cloudy **Air Temp**: +4°C **Sea Temp**: +4°C *Today's writer: Andreas*

An early morning. Philipp woke us up at six o'clock. A short snack at the bar and off we went outside. The Plancius had gone back into the middle part of Kong Oscars Fjord overnight, where the island Trail Ø is located on the northern side of the fjord. The small bay called Holm Bugt, which is located at the southwestern part of the island, formed our morning and at the same time also our last landing site. The sun slowly rose while the Plancius team prepared for our landing, first a small pink mountain tip, then another one and another until the whole southern side of the fjord was gloaming in pink light. What a moving sight. A wonderful beach and a rolling tundra landscape awaited us ashore. We extensively explored the landing site and its surroundings in our three hiking groups. The old Norwegian trapper cabin, the gravel runway and the abundant vegetation. The fast hikers made a quick crossing over the vegetation up to a small ridge. The efforts were rewarded by a magnificent view over wide river valleys in the morning light. We could have spent a lot more time here. But, unfortunately, our time in Greenland came to an end. It was time to depart. Time to return to civilization.



Back on the ship, Plancius set sail towards south while we enjoyed our breakfast. We slowly made our way out of Kong Oscars Fjord. Until late in the afternoon we could admire icebergs, framed by a spectacular landscape. Definitely no one got bored. A special highlight of the afternoon was the lecture by our fellow traveler Julian Paren, who extensively explored the fjords of Northeastern Greenland during geological fieldwork fifty years before. He told us all about his problems with ice clogged fjords, which made Zodiac travel almost impossible, wild parties with the Sirius patrol and nightly visits of polar bears and musk ox, at that time during an entertaining presentation. Adventurous stories from a wilder time of Greenland. Ben told us about Louise Arne Boyd during the evening Recap. She was a rich American woman, who organized several expeditions to this corner of the world in the early 20th century. The story was about skeptical captains and the exact amount of wine bottles and cigarettes needed for such an expedition. Times have definitely changed. Or maybe they haven't?



Day 13 – Saturday 14th September 2019 Crossing to Iceland

GPS Position at 8:00am: 68°22.7'N 019°50.7'W

Wind: NE3 Sea State: Slight Weather: Partly cloudy Air Temp: +1°C Sea Temp: +3°C

Today's writer: Johanne

Yet again, we were out in open ocean. Water and waves as far as the eye could see. And what else could fit better than a day of ocean talks. Miriam started off in the morning with her talk on plankton, microscopical organisms that actually can be found out in the open water passively floating with ocean currents. Johanne later followed up with her talk about ocean circulation and currents and we learnt that the part of the ocean we were crossing this very moment is the place of oceanic processes important for the whole global circulation.



In the evening we were invited into the Lounge one last time for Captain's cocktail. Philipp summarized our voyage from Longyearbyen in Svalbard across the Greenland Sea and all our adventures in the sheltered fjords of Northeast Greenland. We were reminded of all the wonderful moments we'd had and impressions we will keep with us back home and how lucky we are who can experience this fragile place of beauty.

Day 14 – Sunday 15th September 2019 Akureyri, Iceland

GPS Position at 8:00am: 65°41.2'N 018°04.5'W

Wind: S 4 Sea State: In port Weather: Clear Air Temp: +4°C Sea Temp: +6°C

Today's writer: Johanne

We now found ourselves in the port of Akureyri in Iceland. The ship movement from yesterday's rough sea was a faint memory when we were woken up by Philipp's voice one last time. We got our luggage ready and placed it outside our cabins before enjoying one last breakfast in the restaurant. At 9 am the busses were ready on the pier to take us to the airport for our home journey or further travels. After such a long time onboard Plancius, it felt strange to leave, but our memories of the trip will stay with us.



Northern most position:

79° 55.7'N

011° 30.4'E

Total distance sailed on our voyage:

Nautical miles: 2591 nm

Kilometres: 4799 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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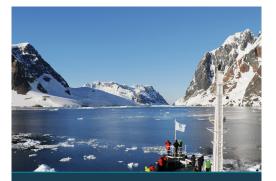
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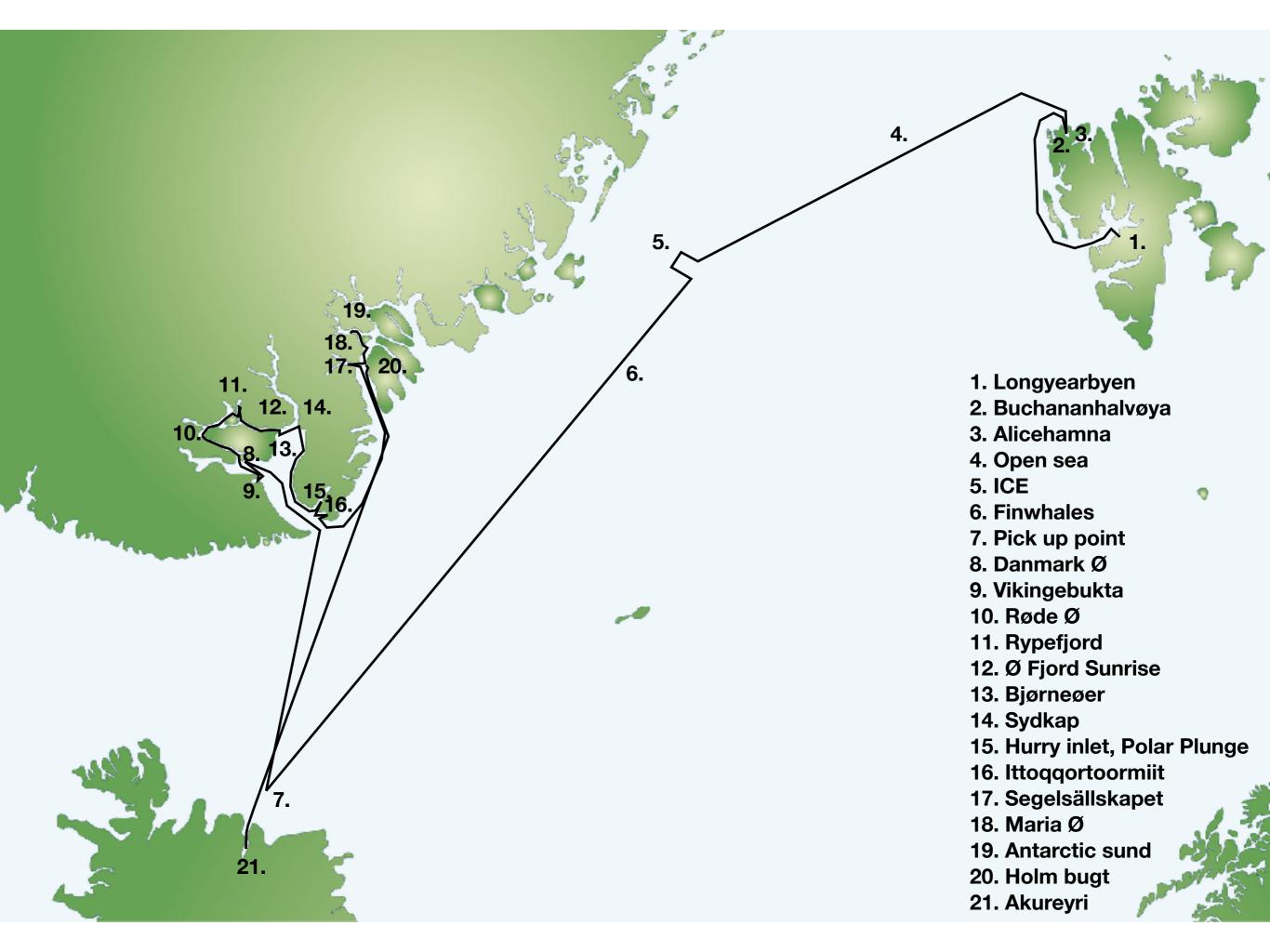
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Latin	English	Norwegian	German	French	Dutch	Seen		
Arenaria pseudofrigida			Wimper-Sandkraut	Sabline sp.				
Arnica angustifolia	Alpine Arnica	Fjellsolblom	Alpen-arnika	Arnica des Alpes				
Betula nana	Dwarf Birch	Dvergbjørk	Zwergbirke	Bouleau nain	Dwergberk	x		
Braya purpurascens	Purplish Braya	Purpurkarse	Purpurkresse	Braya purpurine	Dwergboterbloem			
Campanula uniflora	Alpine Hairbell	Høgfjellsklokke	Einblütige Campanule Glockenblume arctique ou uniflore					
Cardamine pratensis	Polar Cress	Polarkarse	Polar-schaumkraut	lar-schaumkraut Cardamine à feuilles étroites				
Carex maritima		Buestarr	Russ segge	Laîche à étamines	Zegge			
Carex nardina	Nard Sedge	Arktisk skjeggstarr		Carex sp.	Zegge			
Carex rupestris	Rock Sedge	Bergstarr		Laîche des rochers	Zegge			
Cassiope tetragona	Arctic Bell-heather	Kantlyng	Vierkantiges Heiderkraut	Cassiope trétragone	Vierkante lavendelheide/	x		
Cerastium arcticum	Arctic Mouse-ear	Tundraarve	Arktiches Hornkraut	Céraiste arctique		x		
Cochlearia officinalis	Polar Schurvygrass	Skjørbuksurt	Echtes Löffelkraut	Cranson offficinal	offficinal Echt Lepelblad			
Deschampsia alpina	Alpine Haigrass	Fjellbunke	Alpenschmiele	Canche sp.				
Draba lactea	Lapland Whitlow- grass	Lapprublom	Lappländisches felsenblümchen					
Draba sp.	Whitlow Grasses	Rublom	Felsenblümchen Drave sp. Hongerbloe		Hongerbloempje			
Dryas octopetala	Mountain Avens	Reinrose	Weiße Silberwurz	Dryade à huit pétales	Zilverwortel	x		
Erigeron humilis	Black Fleabane	Svartbakkestjerne	Schwarzes berufskraut	Erigéron sp.				
Eriophorum scheuchzeri	Polar White Cottongrass	Polarsnøull	Scheuchzers Wollgras	Linaigrette de Scheuchzer	Scheuchzers Wollegras			
Luzula arctica / nivalis	Arctic Wood-rush	Snøfrytle	Scneesimse	Luzule sp.				
Luzula confusa		Vardefrytle	Polarsimse	Luzule sp.	uzule sp.			
Lycopodium selago	Fir Club-moss			Lycopode sélagine		x		
Mertensia maritima	Oystersplant	Østersurt	Austernkraut	Mertensie maritime				
Minuartia rubella	Mountain Sandwort	Nålearve	Rötlichte miere	Minuartie rougeâtre				
Oxyria digyna	Mountain Sorrel	Fjellsyre	Alpen-Säuerling	Oxyria à deux carpelles	Bergzuring	x		
Papaver dahlianum	Svalbard Poppy	Polarvalmue	Svalbard-mohn	Pavot du Svalbard	Spitsbergen papaver			
Pedicularis dasyantha	Woolly Lousewort	Ullmyrklegg	Wolliges läusekraut	/olliges läusekraut Pédiculaire sp. Kartelblad				
Pedicularis hirsuta	Hairy Lousewort	Lodnemyrklegg	Behaartes läusekraut	Pédiculaire hirsute	Kartelblad			
Petasites frigidus	Arctic Butterbur	Fjellpestrot	Nördliche pestwurz	Pétasite sp.	Hoefblad			
Poa alpina	Alpine Meadow- grass	Fjellrapp	Alpen Rispengras	Pâturin des Alpes	Alpenbeemdgras			
Polemonium boreale	Boeral Jacob's- ladder	Polarflokk	Nördliche himmelsleiter	Polémoine boréale				

Polygonum viviparum	Alpine Bistort/ Viviparrous	Harerug	Knöllchen- Knöterich	Renouée vivipare	Levendbarende Duizendknoop	x
	Knotweed	-	Chamissos- Potentille de			
Potentilla chamissonis	Bluff Cinquefoil	Flogmure	Chamissos- fingerkraut	Chamisso	Vijfvingerkruit	
Potentilla hyparctica	Arctic Cinquefoil	Raggmure	Polar-fingerkraut	Potentille subarctique	Vijfvingerkruit	
Potentilla pulchella	Tufted Cinquefoil	Tuemure	Polster-fingerkraut Potentille jolie		Vijfvingerkruit	
Puccinellia phryganodes	Alkali grass	Teppesaltgras	Arktischer Salzschwaden	Puccinellie rampante		
Ranunculus hyperboreus	Tundra Buttercup	Tundrasoleie/ Sumpsoleie	Nordischer Renoncule Arctische hahnenfuss hyperboréale boterbloem			
Ranunculus Iapponicus	Lapland Buttercup	Lappsoleie	Lappländicher Hahnenfuss	Renoncule de Laponie.	Lapland boterbloem	
Ranunculus nivalis	Snow Buttercup	Snøsoleie	Scnee-hahnenfuss	Renoncule des neiges	Sneeuw boterbloem	
Ranunculus arcticus	Lobe-leafed Buttercup	Fliksoleie	Gelappter hanhnenfuss	Renoncule sp.		
Ranunculus pygmaeus	Pygmy Buttercup	Dvergsoleie	Zwerg Hahnenfuss	Renoncule naine	Dwerg boterbloem	
Ranunculus sulphureus	Sulphur-coloured Buttercup	Polarsoleie	Schwefelgelber hahnenfuss	Renoncule soufrée		
Salix polaris	Polar Willow	Polarvier	Polarweide	Saule nain	Poolwilg	x
Salix reticulata	Net-leaved Willow	Rynkevier	Netz-Weide	Saule réticulé		
Saxifraga aizoides	Yellow Mountain Saxifrage	Gulsildre	Fetthennen- Steinbrech	Saxifrage faux Aïzoon	Gele bergsteenbreek	x
Saxifraga cespitosa	Tufted Saxifrage	Tuesildre	Rasen-steinbrech	Saxifrage gazonnante	Steenbrekk	x
Saxifraga platysepala	Polar Stoloniferous Saxifrage	Trådsildre	Faden-steinbrech	Saxifrage à flagelles	Spinneplantje	
Saxifraga hieracifolia	Hawkweed Saxifrage	Stivsildre	Habichtskraut- Steinbrech Saxifrage à feuilles d'épervière			
Saxifraga hirculus	Yellow Marsh Saxifrage	Myrsildre	Moor-Steinbrech	Saxifrage oeil de bouc	Bokjes steenbreek	
Saxifraga nivalis	Alpine Saxifrage	Snøsildre	Schnee-steinbrech	Saxifrage des neiges.		
Saxifraga oppositifolia	Purple Saxifrage	Rødsildre	Roter Steinbrech	Saxifrage à feuilles opposées	Zuiltjes Steenbreek	x
Saxifraga rivularis	Highland Saxifrage	Bekkesildre	Bach-steinbrech	Saxifrage des ruisseaux.	Beek steenbreek	
Saxifraga cernua	Drooping Saxifrage	Knoppsildre	Nickender Steinbrech	Saxifrage penchée	Knikkende steenbreek	
Silene acaulis	Moss Campion	Fjellsmelle	Stengelloses Leimkraut	Silène acaule.	Stengelloze silene	x
Silene furcata	Arctic White Campion	Polarjonsokblom	Kleine Alpennelke	Silène sp.	Arctische silene	
Silene wahlbergella	Northern Campion	Blindurt	Nördliche Alpennelke	Silène de l'Oural	Knikkende silene	
Stellaria crassipes	Tundra Chickweed	Snøstjerneblom	Schnee-Sternmiere	Stellaire à longs pédicelles		
Stellaria humifusa	Arctic Chickweed	Ishavsstjerneblom	Artische- Sternmiere	Stellaire sp.		
Taraxacum arcticum	Arctic Dandelion	Arktisløvetann	Arktischer löwenzahn			
Taraxacum brachyceras	Polar Dandelion	Polarløvetann	Polar- löwenzahn	Pissenlit tuberculé	Arctische paardebloem	

EAST					
GREEN					
LAND					
Armeria maritima			Gemeine Grasnelke	Gazon d'Olympe	
Chamaenerion latifolium	Arctic Riverbeauty	Arktisk Geitrams		Épilobe à feuilles larges	x
Empetrum nigrum	Mountain Crowberry	Fjellkrekling	Schwarze Krähenbeere	Camarine noire	x
Equisetum arvense ssp. Alpestre	Common Horsetail	Polarsnelle		Prêle des champs	x
Honckenya peploides	Sea Sandwort	Strandarve	Strand-Salzmiere	Pourpier de mer	
Papaver radicatum	Arctic Poppy	Dovrevalmue	Gelber Mohn	Pavot arctique	
Pyrola grandiflora	Large-flowered Wintergreen		Rundblättriges Wintergrün	Pyrole à feuilles rondes	x
Salix glauca	Northern Willow			Saule glauque	x
Sedum rosea	Roseroot.	Rosenrot	Rosenwurz	Orpin rose	
Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry	Blåbær		Myrtille	
Vaccinium uliginosum	Polar Bilberry	Blokkebær	Rauschbeere	Airelle des marais	x
Vaccinium vitis- idaea	Rock Cranberry	Tyttbær	Preiselbeere	Airelle rouge	

Birds and Mammals seen during our voyage

English Name	Latin	German	02-Sep	03-Sep	04-Sep	05-Sep	06-Sep	07-Sep	08-Sep	09-Sep	10-Sep	11-Sep	12-Sep	13-Sep	14-Sep	15-Sep
Red-throated diver	Gavia stellata	Sterntaucher		X												
Northern Fulmar	Fulmarus glacialis	Eissturmvogel	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pink-footed Goose	Anser brachyrhynchus	Kurzschnabelgans										X				
Rock Ptarmigan	Lagopus mutus hyperboreus	Alpenschneehuhn		X												
Pomarine Skua	Stercorarius pomarinus	Spatelraubmöwe				X	X		X							
Arctic Skua	Stercorarius parasiticus	Schmarotzerraub-möwe		X			X	X								
Long-tailed Skua	Stercorarius longicaudus	Falkenraubmöwe		X												
Great Skua	Stercorarius skua	Skua								X						
Glaucous Gull	Larus hyperboreus	Eismöwe	X	X						X	X		X			
Kittiwake	Rissa tridactyla	Dreizehenmöwe	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	
Ivory Gull	Pagophila eburnea	Elfenbeinmöwe				X				X	X					
Arctic Tern	Sterna paradisaea	Küstenseeschwalbe	X	X	X					X						
Black Guillemot	Cepphus grylle	Gryllteiste					X		X							
Little Auk	Alle alle	Krabbentaucher				X	X									
Puffin	Fratercula arctica	Papageitaucher					X									
Snow Bunting	Plectrophenax nivalis	Schneeammer		X								X	X			
Raven	Covus corax	Kolkrabe								X	X	X	X			
Redpoll	Carduelis flammea	Birkenzeisig										X				
Arctic Redpoll	Carduelis hornemanni	Polarbirkenzeisig								X		X	X			
Hooded seal	Cystophora cristata	Klappmütze											X	X		
Common /Harbour seal	Phoca vitulina	Seehund							X							
Fin Whale	Balaenoptera physalus	Finnwal				X										
Humpback Whale	Megaptera novaeangliae	Buckelwal					X									
White-beaked Dolphin	Lagenorhynchus albirostris	Weissschnauzendelphin	X													
Polar Bear	Ursus maritimus	Eisbär							X							
Muskox	Ovibus moschatus	Moschusochse								X	X	X	X			

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!

Christian Engelke - Assistant Expedition Leader



Since his first vacation to Norway in 1996, Christian has suffered severely under the quite widespread "Scandinavia-fever". He has been exploring both the mountains and coastal regions of Norway, Sweden and Greenland by feet, on skis and in his sea kayak.

2008, studying industrial engineering, Christian moved to Svalbard. Finally, after nearly three unforgettable years and experiences at 78 degrees North he moved "down South" to Tromsø in Northern Norway where he finished his Master's degree in "Technology and Safety in the High North". In the meantime, Christian has moved to the famous Lofoten islands.

Since 2009, Christian is working as a freelance

guide all year around. First around Svalbard and Greenland, and since 2014 also towards the Antarctic Peninsula and South Georgia. He loves both the minimalistic landscape and quietness, wildlife encounters, and especially the heroic history of the high latitudes.

When Christian is not in the very high latitudes, you probably find him playing around in his sea kayak off the Norwegian coast in wind and waves.

Seit seinem ersten Norwegenurlaub 1996 hat Christian das ansteckende "Skandinavien-Virus" nicht mehr losgelassen. Er hat dabei sowohl die Berge als auch die Küstenregionen Norwegens, Schwedens und Grönlands zu Fuß, auf Skiern und in seinem Kajak erkundet.

2008 zog Christian im Rahmen seines Ingenieurstudiums nach Spitzbergen. Nach drei unvergesslichen Jahren und Erfahrungen auf 78 Grad Nord ging der Weg dann aber wieder "gen Süden" nach Tromsø in Nordnorwegen, wo er sein Master-Studium abschloss. Inzwischen lebt er auf den berühmten Lofoten.

Seit 2009 arbeitet Christian ganzjährig als freiberuflicher Guide und Expeditionsleiter. Neben Spitzbergen und Grönland arbeitet er seit 2014 auch in der Antarktis und in Südgeorgien. Er liebt sowohl die minimalistische Landschaft und Ruhe, das Tierleben, als auch die heroische Geschichte der hohen Breiten.

Wenn Christian gerade nicht in den ganz hohen Breiten zu finden ist, findet man ihn wahrscheinlich in seinem Seekajak in Wind und Wellen entlang der norwegischen Inselgruppe Lofoten.

Tobias Brehm - Expedition guide



Tobias grew up in the Bavarian Alps spending as much time as possible out and about to observe and learn from and about Earth and Nature. He likes to share this passion with interested people and has facilities to explain these fascinating mechanisms and phenomena. With a B.Sc. in Geosciences and a M.Sc. in Economic Geology, Tobias' experience mainly originates from his work as an exploration geologist within the mining and metals industry. He has worked on projects in the US, Australia, Iceland, Greenland and all across Canada with a focus on remote, helicopter-based fieldwork within the Yukon Territory and northern British Columbia; in areas that not many people have a chance to see and enjoy. When telling about his work and experiences, Tobias realized numerous times that there are many misconceptions in regards to geology and that geologists are generally not trying well enough to reach out to the 'general public'. In addition, many people seem to be 'disconnected' from nature in some ways.

This led him to join the Oceanwide Expeditions team in 2014 to share his love and knowledge about Earth and Nature, especially of Polar Regions, with others. Throughout his geological career, Tobias has travelled all across the world experiencing many different cultures and environments. He has been to Alaska and the "Lower 48" (i.e. Yellowstone National Park), to nearly all of Canada, Australia & Tasmania, Peru, Iceland, to nearly all of Europe and to desert countries like the Sultanate of Oman. However, he feels most comfortable in rugged, mountainous terrain of Polar Regions. At home, he spends his time climbing mountains and exploring the mystical spheres of caves or abandoned mines.

Tobias verbringt möglichst viel Zeit in der Natur, um die Erde und Natur zu beobachten, von ihnen und über sie zu lernen. Er möchte diese Begeisterung gerne mit anderen teilen und ihnen diese faszinierenden Mechanismen und Phänomene näher bringen.Durch seinen B.Sc.-Abschluss in den Geowissenschaften und M.Sc.-Abschluss in der Rohstoffgeologie hat Tobias seine Erfahrung hauptsächlich aus seiner Arbeit als Explorationsgeologe in der Bergbau- und Rohstoffindustrie. Er hat an Projekten in den USA, Australien, Island, Grönland und ganz Kanada gearbeitet. Bei seiner Tätigkeit in Kanada lag der Fokus hauptsächlich auf hubschraubergestützter Geländearbeit in entlegenen Gegenden des Yukons und im nördlichen Teil British Columbias. Nicht viele Menschen bekommen die Gelegenheit, diese zu sehen und zu genießen. Wenn er von seiner Arbeit und seinen Erfahrungen erzählt, hat Tobias schon zahlreiche Male feststellen müssen, dass es viele Missverständnisse in Bezug auf die Geologie gibt und dass Geologen in der Regel nicht gut genug versuchen, die ,normale Bevölkerung' zu erreichen. Zudem scheint es, als wären viele Menschen in gewisser Weise von der Natur, distanziert'. Dies führte ihn 2014 zum Oceanwide Expeditions Team, wo er seine Liebe zur und sein Wissen über die Erde und die Natur, vor allem in den Polargebieten, mit anderen teilen kann. Während seiner geologischen Karriere ist Tobias durch die ganze Welt gereist und konnte zahlreiche verschiedene Kulturen und Gebiete kennen lernen. Er war schon in Alaska und in den "Lower 48" (z.B. Yellowstone Nationalpark), in fast ganz Kanada, Australien & Tasmanien, Peru, Island, in nahezu ganz Europa und dem Sultanat Oman in der Wüste. Am wohlsten fühlt er sich jedoch in den schroffen Gebirgslandschaften der Polarregionen. Wenn er zu Hause ist, klettert er auf Berge und erkundet die mystischen Sphären von Höhlen oder aufgelassenen Bergwerken.

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.

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 inmaterials 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 gerne über das Leben in der Polarforschung, Gletscher und Geologie referiert.

Ben Frederiks – Expedition Guide



2013 hat Ben Spitzbergen zum ersten Mal besucht, und für ihn wurde damit ein Traum wahr. Während seines Studiums der Meeresbiologie hat er mehrfach Feldarbeiten im nördlichtsen Dorf der Welt Ny-Ålesund durchgeführt. Seitdem kommt er regelmäβig nach Spitzbergen und freut sich darauf seine hocharktischen Erfahrungen mit Euch teilen.

Ben hat sich mit den verschiedenen Effekten des Schiffverkehrs auf die arktischen Regionen; inklusive des Problems der Ölverschmutzung beschäftigt. Er ist sehr interessiert an der

Biologie/Ökologie und Geschichte der Arktis. Für Ben ist Spitzbergen der perfekte Ort umzu arbeiten, denn hier gibt es all dies auf engstem Raum! Seit seinem ersten Besuch hat ihn der "Arktisvirus" nicht mehr losgelassen und er freut sich auf ein weiteres Abentuer in diesem arktischen Archipel

Discovering Spitsbergen in 2013 was like a dream coming true for Ben. During his studies in marine biology he conducted fieldwork which took him to the world's most Northern settlement: Ny-Ålesund. Here he fell in love with the Arctic archipelago, and he has been returning to the Arctic ever since.

In the past, Ben worked on different scientific topics: Arctic shipping and the effect of oil spills in Arctic Regions. Ben is very interested in the Arctic biology/ecology and history, which makes Spitsbergen a perfect place for him to work, because it is filled with all of this! Since his first visit to Spitsbergen he has caught the "Arctic virus" and is always looking forward to another adventure in the Arctic Archipelago!

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.

Dr. Miriam Marquardt – Expedition Guide



Miriam has a PhD degree in Marine Biologist lived and worked in Longyearbyen from 2012-2018. After 7 years on Spitsbergen she decided to move to the "South" for a job at the University of Tromsø (Northern Norway). Miriam is originally from northern Germany, but there it was too flat for her so she already in 2006 went to study abroad in northern Norway. She loves the Great North and is fascinated of its nature.

As a Marine Biologists she is working with "small things" (zooplankton and microalgae) in the ocean and as well with flora and fauna of the sea ice. She loves all kinds of outdoor activities and enjoys hiking, swimming, diving and kayaking and is an active member in the Red Cross.

Miriam has two Alaskan huskies and participated already five times in the northernmost dogsled race in the world ("Trappers Trail", every April on Spitsbergen). She loves to go out hiking, skiing or sledding with her dogs into the

Arctic nature: "It's the best way to travel", she says. Miriam is working as a freelance guide in Northern Norway and Longyearbyen since 2007, since 2016 she is working for Oceanwide Expedition mainly in Spitsbergen but sometimes as well in Greenland/ Antarctica/ South Georgia/ Falkland Islands.

Deutsch

Miriam hat einen Doktortitel in Meeresbiologin und lebte und arbeitete von 2012 bis 2018 in Longyearbyen. Nach 7 Jahren auf Spitzbergen entschlos sie sich in den "Süden" zu ziehen und bekam einen Job an der Universität in Tromsø (Nordnorwegen). Ursprünglich kommt sie aus Norddeutschland, dort war es ihr aber zu flach, so dass sie bereits 2006 für das Studium nach Nordnorwegen ging. Sie liebt den hohen Norden und ist fasziniert von dessen Natur.

Als Meeresbiologin arbeitet sie hauptsächlich mit "kleinem Zeug" (Zooplankton und Mikroalgen) im Meer als auch mit Flora und Fauna des Meereises. Sie liebt alle möglichen Outdooraktivitäten, speziell verbunden mit Wasser, und ihre Hobbies sind Wandern, Schwimmen, Tauchen und Kajak fahren und sie ist aktiv im Roten Kreuz. Miriam hat zwei Alaska Huskies und hat bereits fünfmal am nördlichsten Hundeschlittenrennen der Welt teilgenommen ("Trappers Trail, jeden April auf Spitzbergen). Sie liebt es mit ihren Hunden zu wandern, Ski oder Schlitten zu fahren durch die arktische Natur: "Es ist die beste Art zu reisen", erzählt sie. Miriam arbeitet seit 2007 als freiberuflicher Guide in Nordnorwegen und Longyearbyen, seit 2016 arbeitet sie für Oceanwide Expedition hauptsächlich in Spitzbergen, aber auch ab und an in Grönland/Antarktis/Südgeorgien/ Falkland Inseln.



Captain Artur Iakovlev

and his international crew

of 45 including

Siegfried Penzenleitner

Hotel Manager: Assist. Hotel Manager: Head Chef: Sous Chef: Ship's Physician: Expedition Leader: Assist. Expedition Leader: Expedition Guide: Expedition Guide: Expedition Guide:

> Expedition Guide: Expedition Guide:

Melanie Penzenleitner Heinz Hacker Ivan Ivanovic Moniek Mestrom Philipp Schaudy Christian Engelke Tobias Brehm Daniels Karin Amby Andreas Alexander Ben Frederiks Johanne Skrefsrud Miriam Marquardt [Austria] [Austria] [Austria] [Serbia] [Netherlands]

[Austria] [Germany/Norway] [Germany/Switzerland] [Sweden] [Germany/Norway] [Netherlands] [Norway] [Germany/Norway]

Welcome you on board!



Spitsbergen – Northeast-Greenland – Iceland 02nd September 2019

Welcome Aboard!

16.00	Embarkation . Once you have found your cabin, please feel free to explore the ship.	
When all are on board First meeting in the Lounge/Bar – on Deck 5. Introduction to the ship and mandatory Safety and Lifeboat Drill.		
	Anchor up! We are leaving Longyearbyen.	
thereafter	First meeting in the Lounge/Bar – on Deck 5. Get to know your Expedition Team and have a toast on our journey with Captain Artur .	
19.30	Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal.	
thereafter	You will get your rubber boots in the boot-room (forward Deck 3). Listen to announcements – we will call you by deck.	
	Let us probe the silent places, let us seek what luck betide us;	

Let us journey to a lonely land I know. There's a whisper on the night-wind, there's a star agleam to guide us, And the Wild is calling, calling...let us go.

Robert Service, The Call Of The Wild



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland - Iceland 03rd September 2019

Expedition day Raudfjord, Northwest-Spitsbergen: Today we will be in Spitsbergens northwestern corner. Since our weather forecast is not too good, we do not yet want to (and also can't) decide one or the other landing site. Depending on the conditions we will go ashore and plan to explore the landscape hiking. A Zodiac-cruise in beautiful Hamiltonbukta would also be an option.

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	Morning activity. More to that when we met at our briefing after breakfast.
13.00	Lunch-Buffet for one hour in the Dining Room.
15.00	Afternoon activity. Please listen to announcements.
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 Susí Varming (Norwegian artist, grew up in Longyearbyen)



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 04th September 2019

We are generally moving westwards and change time. Please put **YOUR WATCH ONE HOUR BACK**!

We are sailing in open water. **Be prepared for movements of the ship.** Take precautions for **seasickness** and also put your camera equipment, laptops, etc. in a **safe place** (inside drawers, on the floor), so they don't fall off the tables...

08.00 (new time)	Sleep in 🙂! Wake up call.
Uo.UU (new time)	Sieep in \otimes : wake up can

- 08.30 **Breakfast** is available for one hour in the dining room.
- 13.00 **Lunch** is available for one hour in the dining room.
- 19.00 **Dinner time!** Enjoy your meal.

Possible lectures and recap are dependent on the movement of the vessel and the wellbeing of the passengers.

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

André Gíde



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 05th September 2019

We continue moving westwards and change the time, once more. Please put **YOUR WATCH ONE HOUR BACK**!

08.00 (very new time)	Sleep in 😳! Wake up call .
08.30	Breakfast is available for one hour in the dining room.
13.00	Lunch is available for one hour in the dining room.
19.00	Dinner time! Enjoy your meal.

Possible lectures and recap are dependent on the movement of the vessel and the wellbeing of the passengers.

We are sailing in open water. **Be prepared for movements of the ship.** Take precautions for **seasickness** and also put your camera equipment, laptops, etc. in a **safe place** (inside drawers, on the floor), so they don't fall off the tables...

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



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 06th September 2019

- 07.00 We had enough extra sleep! Wake-up call. Good morning!
- 07.30 **Breakfast** is waiting for you in the Dining Room.
- **09.00 Landing: Myggbukten**. We aim to do our first landing in Greenland close to a hut at "Mosquito Bay". Built in the early 1920s, the hut has an interesting history, serving as the first Greenlandic weather and telegraph station. This is also the place where Norway claimed Northeast Greenland. Today the hut is used and maintained by the Sirius Patrol, the Danish Special Forces, specialized in dogsledding. We will explore the open and wide tundra in the usual groups. It is fairly easy to walk for all groups.
- 12.30 The **Lunch buffet** is waiting for hungry explorers.
- **afternoon Ships-Cruise: Kejser Franz Joseph Fjord.** In the afternoon we will continue deep inside the spectacular Kejser Franz Joseph Fjord with its great landscape and fantastic geology. Enjoy the views from the outside decks or from the Lounge. We will see our first massive icebergs, and the scenery is getting more and more beautiful.
- **18.30** Recap for today and plans for tomorrow!
- 19.00 **Dinner** is served bon appétit!

"We need the tonic of wildness... At the same time that we are earnest to explore and learn all things, we require that all things be mysterious and unexplorable, that land and sea be indefinitely wild, unsurveyed and unfathomed by us because unfathomable. We can never have enough of nature."

Henry David Thoreau (Walden: Or, Life in the Woods)



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 07th September 2019

08.00	Sleep in! Wake-up call.
08.30	Breakfast is available for one hour in the dining room.
13.00	Lunch is available for one hour in the dining room.
19.00	Dinner time! Enjoy your meal.

Possible lectures and recap are dependent on the movement of the vessel and the wellbeing of the passengers.

We are sailing in open water. **Be prepared for movements of the ship.** Take precautions for **seasickness** and also put your camera equipment, laptops, etc. in a **safe place** (inside drawers, on the floor), so they don't fall off the tables...

This grand show is eternal. It is always sunrise somewhere. The dew is never all dried at once. A shower is forever falling. Vapor is ever rising. Eternal sunrise, eternal sunset. Eternal dawn and glowing, on sea and continents and islands, each in its turn as the earth rolls. And for this I am forever grateful to be alive.

John Muír



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 08th September 2019

- 07.30 Good morning! We are in Greenland!
- 08.00 Enjoy your **breakfast**.
- **09.30 Landing: Danmark Ø.** We plan our first landing in Greenland on the southern tip of Danmark Ø. Beside a crooked cabin close to our landing site, we find some house foundations from the Thule culture. On our hikes (in three hiking groups) we walk across striated and gently rounded rock. On higher ground small, picturesque lakes are found.
- 13.00 Lunch is ready!
- 2odiac Cruise: Vikingebugt. Vikingebugt is a wide open bay in southern Scoresbysund. Besides the pretty landscape especially the geology will strike our eyes. Beautiful column-basalt can be seen in the steep cliffs. We plan a Zodiac cruise along those magnificent formations.
 Please dress warmly, we are not getting ashore and will stay in the Zodiacs for at least two hours.
- **19.00 Recap** of today **and Briefing** for tomorrow in the lounge.
- 19.30 **Dinner** is served. Enjoy!

"I am prepared to go anywhere, provided it be forward."

David Livingstone (1813-1873)



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 09th September 2019

SUNRISE 🔆 ~06:30

07.00 Rise and shine!

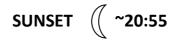
We are cruising through beautiful **Føhnfjord.** Come out on deck and enjoy the morning scenery!

- 07:30 **Breakfast** for one hour in the restaurant.
- **09.00 Zodiac Cruise: Strømbugt.** This morning we intend to do a zodiac cruise close to Røde Ø (= Red Island) in Strømbugt. This bay is famous for the many XXL-icebergs that get stranded here. If wind and weather permits, we would like to cruise with our rubber boats in this amazing labyrinth of icebergs in all shapes. Dress very warm! We might also get ashore at Røde Ø to get another view on Strømbugt and the icebergs.

13.00 Time for **lunch!**

During and after lunch we will sail through amazing **Røde Fjord** that sometimes is almost blocked by icebergs – enjoy the scenery!

- **thereafter** Landing: Rypefjord. Depending on how much time it takes us to get through Røde Fjord, we will go on shore in beautiful Rypefjord. Here we find tundra vegetation, as lush as it gets in Northeast Greenland, and glacially overridden basement rock. As usual, we would like to split into three hiking groups to explore the cp;ountry. Our landing will not be before 16:00.
- **19.00 Past and future -** Recap of today and briefing for tomorrow in the lounge.
- 19.30 Still summer in the Arctic, we eat outside! It's **BBQ** tonight!



"Where does the white go when the snow melts?"



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland

10th September 2019

SUNRISE 🔆 06:35

We are cruising in beautiful Ø Fjord. Come out on deck and enjoy the early morning!

- 07.30 Wake up! ...and Good Morning 😊
- 08.00 Breakfast for one hour in the restaurant.
- **09.30 Landing: Jyttes Havn, Bjørneøer.** Today's morning landing will be on one of the islands of the Bjørnøer-group. The rough looking islands seems to be quite barren, nevertheless we find some vegetation. In our hiking groups we plan to check out the hills and get a good view of the steep rockwalls and high mountainpeaks of mainland Geenland and the island Milne Land.
- 13.00 **Lunch buffet** for **one hour**.
- **15.00 Landing: Sydkap.** We will go on shore at the entrance of beautiful Nordvestfjord. At Sydkap we find very lush tundra vegetation and a hunter's cabin still in use by people from Ittoqqortoormiit. It is a perfect spot to go for some hikes in the area. We will split into different groups and explore the area.
- **19.00** What was today? What will be tomorrow? Recap of today and Briefing for tomorrow in the lounge.
- 19.30 Kai-fa-la! Bon Appetite!

SUNSET ((20:50

"We need the tonic of wildness...

At the same time that we are earnest to explore and learn all things, we require that all things be mysterious and unexplorable, that land and sea be indefinitely wild, unsurveyed and unfathomed by us because unfathomable. We can never have enough of nature."

Henry David Thoreau (Walden: Or, Life in the Woods)



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 11th September 2019



- 07.00 Philipp says: A wonderful good morning.
- 07.30 Breakfast buffet until 08.30 in the restaurant.
- **09.00 Landing: Liverpool Land.** We will go ashore at the east side of Hurry Fjord to explore the land in hiking groups. The beach is easy to land, so is the area to walk. We find lush tundra vegetation, small picturesque lakes and we can climb up on higher ground (easy terrain) to gain some nice views of the area.

Polar Plunge. Towards the end of our landing we are inviting the brave swimmers into the sea. We are providing the towels; you are bringing the joy!

- 12.30 Lunch buffet for one hour.
- 14.30 Landing: Ittoqqortoormiit. We will visit the only town in Scoresbysund, where about 450 Greenlandic people live. The village was founded in 1925 by people coming from Ammassalik due to good hunting grounds in the area. Until today, Ittoqqortoormiit remains to be one of the smallest towns in East-Greenland. Anyway, there is plenty to see and do, for example to check out the little museum and the church, get your passport stamped in the village, and of course there is also a souvenir shop.
 You will get a town map and a visitors-program from the local tourist office once we step ashore at the beach. It is a wet landing, wear rubber boots and watertight clothes.

Important: Don't get too close to any dogs (on chain or running loose), they are working dogs and might react aggressive. This is a hunter's village – please respect the traditions of the society. Ask people before taking a picture of them.

- from 16.00 Zodiac shuttle back to our vessel. Last Zodiac at 17.00.
- **18.30** Recap of today and Briefing for tomorrow in the lounge.
- 19.00 Dinner is ready. Enjoy!

SUNRISE ((20:45

We are sailing in open water during the night. Be prepared for movements of the ship. Take precautions for seasickness and also put your camera equipment, laptops, etc. in a safe place (inside drawers, on the floor), so they don't fall off the tables.

what is the urge to travel? I think it comes from the desire to see what is behind the next hill; a sense of adventure and restlessness.

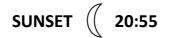
Peter Schmidt Mikkelsen, Síríus man 1977 - 1979



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 12th September 2019

SUNRISE 🔆 06:28

- 07.00 A good morning starts...
- 07.30 ...with a good **breakfast**.
- 09.00 **Landing: Segelsällskapet Fjord.** This morning we plan to get ashore on a very special place, often described with superlatives. Here, the colourful, usually horizontal sediment layers are tilted and will be literally to our feet.
- 12.30 **Lunch** is waiting for us!
- **15.00** Landing: Maria Ø. This afternoon we intend to land on the small island Maria Ø, situated in waters where Kong Oscar Fjord meets the Antarctic Sund. Again, the geology on this little island is extremely beautiful.
- **thereafter** Ship's cruise: Antarctic Sund. This is Northeast Greenland as beautiful as it gets. The steep rockwalls of this narrow passage consist of colourful Eleonora Bay Sediments and Vendian Tillites. Get out on deck and enjoy the stunning scenery!
- 19.45 Kai-fa-la!



I am prepared to go anywhere, provided it be forward.

David Livingstone (1813-1873)



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 13th September 2019

SUNRISE 🔆 06:32

- **06.00** Wake-up call! A **good** early **morning.** Small **Snacks** are available in the lounge.
- **06.45 Landing: Holm Bugt.** Our last (and earliest) landing in Greenland will be on Traill island in Holm Bugt. While the sun will slowly rise higher and lighten up Kong Oscars Fjord, we intend to walk across Greenlands beautiful landscape for a last time.
- from 08.30 **Breakfast** is available in the restaurant. We will start heading towards **Iceland.**
- 13.00 Lunch buffet for one hour.
- 19.00 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7! **Dinner is ready**. Enjoy!

Possible **lectures** and **recap** are dependent on the movement of the vessel and the wellbeing of the passengers.

We are sailing in open water. **Be prepared for movements of the ship.** Take precautions for **seasickness** and also put your camera equipment, laptops, etc. in a **safe place** (inside drawers, on the floor), so they don't fall off the tables...

SUNSET ((20:31

BE A SEAGULL Take the breath Of the wings of morning Lift your eyes To the canyons Of the skies And fly!

Ríchard Bach, 1970, Jonathan Lívíngston Seagull



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 14th September 2019

07.30	Sleep in 🙂! Wake up call.
08.00	Breakfast is available for one hour in the dining room.
12.30	Lunch is available for one hour in the dining room.
19.00	Dinner time! Enjoy your meal.

Possible **lectures** and **recap** are dependent on the movement of the vessel and the wellbeing of the passengers.

We are sailing in open water. Be prepared for movements of the ship. Take precautions for seasickness and also put your camera equipment, laptops, etc. in a safe place (inside drawers, on the floor), so they don't fall off the tables...

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 Susí Varming (Norwegian artist, grew up in Longyearbyen)



Spitsbergen – Northeast Greenland – Iceland 15th September 2019

Important: Please put your check-in **luggage** into the corridors before you are going for breakfast; at the latest at **08:00**, so that the crew can bring it on shore. On shore, please identify your luggage, so you are certain that it is off the ship and bring it to the bus.

- 07.00 For a very last time: A wonderful good morning.
- 07.30 **Breakfast** in the restaurant.
- **09.00** Last landing: Akureyri. The bus to Reykjavik is leaving.

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

T.S. Elíot

Safe journey home!