



OCEANWIDE EXPEDITIONS

“BASECAMP” ANTARCTIC PENINSULA on board *m/v Ortelius* 5th December - 16th December 2019



M/V *Ortelius* was named after the Dutch cartographer Abraham Ortelius (1527-1598) who published the first modern world atlas, the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (Theatre of the World) in 1570. MV *Ortelius* was built in 1989 in Gdynia, Poland, as a research vessel for the Russian Academy of Science and was named *Marina Svetaeva*. In 2011 she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions. The vessel was re-flagged and renamed *Ortelius*. Now the ship is sailing as a 125-passenger vessel. *Ortelius* is 91 m long, 17.6 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5.80 m, with an Ice Strength rating of UL1/1A, top speed of 12 knots and one diesel engine generating 3200 kW.



Captain Yury Marin and his international crew of 52

Including

First Officer:	Mikael Svedberg	[Sweden]
Second Officer:	Igor Nazarov	[Russia]
Third Officer:	Luis Oroceo	[Philippines]
Chief Engineer:	Guntis Dizbite	[Latvia]
Hotel Manager:	Siegfried Penzenleithner	[Austria]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	William Barnes	[Holland]
Head Chef:	Khabir Moraes	[India]
Ship's Physician:	Linda Steutel	[Holland]
Expedition Leader:	Claudia Holgate	[South Africa]
Asst. Expedition Leader:	Pippa Low	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Tyrone Mckendry	[South-Africa]
Expedition Guide:	Lucas Humbart	[France]
Kayaking Guide:	Zet Freiburghaus	[Sweden]
Expedition Guide:	Pierre Gallego	[Luxemburg]
Expedition Guide:	Koen Jongerling	[Holland]
Expedition Guide:	Christian Savigny	[Argentina]
Mountaineering Guide	Martin Doyle	[United Kingdom]
Mountaineering Guide	Richard Mansfield	[United Kingdom]
Photography guide	Werner Kruse	[South Africa]

Welcome you on board!

Day 1 – 5th December 2019

Embarkation, Ushuaia, Argentina

GPS position at 1400: 54°49'S 68°17'W

Air Temp: 13°C Wind: N3 Sea state: calm

It was late afternoon on a sunny and beautiful day in Ushuaia. The first passengers to arrive to Ortelius at 4pm were and all the expedition staff greeted the guests as they climbed the gangway for the first time and hotel manager Sigi quickly had all the guests assigned and shown to their cabins where they will be staying for our trip. After every passenger was onboard and had a cabin, we had



our mandatory safety drill, everyone seemed to enjoy wearing orange! We soon left the pier hoping that the conditions co-operate for us to have this fantastic adventure.

Before dinner all the guides introduced themselves and Claudia (Clouds), our EL gave us a little introduction about what we are hoping to do on our trip. Our ships doctor (Linda) had a 'patch and pills party' after dinner to try and keep everyone free from feeling too sea sick, the weather forecast looked reasonably good so hopefully not too many of us would feel motion sickness!





Day 2 – 6th December 2019

At Sea, Drake Passage towards Antarctica

GPS position at 0800: 56°37.7' S 65°31.8' W

Air Temp: 9°C Wind: N4/5 Sea state: Slight

As predicted by Clouds during what will become our daily “routine”, the daily recap and briefing at the end of the afternoon, this 1st night has maybe been a little bit rough for whom is not use to sail. For many of us, it has been the very first experience of life onboard an expedition ship. This morning, the restaurant is far from being crowded. Probably some of us have some difficulties to find their balance in this 1st part of the very famous Drake passage. Not so rough, but swelly and moving for the guests who are not used to sail. It was supposed to be a rough today and it is, and Clouds’ plans for today are completely adapted for the situation. The whole day will be organised with lectures in the lounge. Two lectures in the morning given by Clouds about southern Ocean seabirds and later given by Werner about the basics of photography. Later on, after lunch, Lucas gave us a lecture about the introduction of Antarctica, while Pippa at the end of the afternoon introduced the marine mammals of Antarctica. During the afternoon, the wind speed dropped and allowed us to breathe the fresh air from what is not for the moment Antarctica. The very 1st recap was the opportunity for Pippa to describe the different limits of Antarctica, and for Clouds to explain the busy program for tomorrow with many briefings about the IAATO regulations, the zodiaque operations and all the activities proposed during this base-camp. After dinner, as usual, we enjoyed a convivial and calm moment in the bar before going to bed. The second night will probably be more comfortable than the 1st one.



Day 3 – 7th December 2019

Drake Passage on route to Antarctica

GPS position at 0800: 61°19.8' S 62°51.9" W

Air Temp: 9°C Wind: ESE4 Sea state: Slight

This second day onboard begin much better than the previous one. The weather forecast was good, and we experienced a calm and peaceful night. Today will be a very busy day with a lot of briefings. This morning after breakfast, the guests are spread into 3 groups. By deck, we either assist first to the mandatory IAATO briefing given by Clouds in the lounge, either we do the biosecurity process in the lecture room,



vacuuming our Clothes, picking up our rubber boots and our zodiaque life jackets, then we swap... Busy but mandatory morning due to the rules set up by the IAATO association and which Oceanwide is part. Zet and Lucas then present their kayaking and snowshoeing



activities in the lounge. The briefings were not finished for today and, after Koen's camping briefing we heard the announcement for our first observation of the trip, and what an announcement! Killer whales were spotted in front of the ship. Everybody rushed on the outside deck to see and enjoy this very first encounter with one of the mythical species of Antarctica! But it was not the only observation that we would do this

afternoon! After the mountaineering briefing started, a second announcement for many fin whales feeding at 3 o'clock from the ship. For this occasion, the captain decided to slow down and try to approach them and we did! During twenty minutes, we could observe these 4 or 5 fin whales and their tails feeding with the horizon line in the background... An amazing sighting!

Last but not least, while we were signing up the list for all the activities that necessitates it, a new announcement from Lucas for a humpback whale quite close to the ship. Some of us were fast enough to see it, others didn't have this opportunity... This is the third species of the day! Here we are in Antarctica, with the south Shetland islands coming. Here the Drake passage is over, here we enter Antarctica. At the end of the afternoon, it was time for Clouds' briefing and the plans for the next day. Tomorrow will be our first genuine basecamp day and we are all excited to discover all the activities!

Day 4 – 8th December 2019

Orne Harbour and Danco Island (Kerr Point, Camping)

GPS position at 0800: 64°37.6' S 62°32.6' W

Air Temp: 10°C Wind: SW-2 Sea state: Calm Sea Temp: 0°C

This morning we awoke to a beautifully calm sea and clear sky above the staggering view of Orne Harbour. We had made it through the Drake Passage safely aboard the *Ortelius* and today we could begin to explore the Antarctic Peninsula for the first time! Standing on deck we could see the steep climb to the top of Spigot Peak where the mountaineers would be slowly trekking towards the summit within a few hours.

After breakfast the zodiacs were lowered to the water and we began loading the first groups to go to shore. The water was incredibly smooth which made for a nice quick run from ship to the landing site. The first groups to land on shore were the mountaineers and without wasting time they began their steep ascent. The rest of the groups ashore tackled less strenuous hikes but still managed to climb up to some incredible viewpoints and see the amazing Chinstrap Penguin rookery. While some guests explored the snow-covered landing, several boats headed out on the first zodiac cruise of the trip.

The zodiac cruise began near the glacier where we searched for seals and whales while enjoying the epic landscape and several large icebergs drifting slowly through the bay. Before long we heard the call of 'whales!' over the radio and immediately responded by zooming across the bay to where they had been sighted. Several minutes later we were greeted by spectacular views of several adult Humpback Whales blowing and fluking nearby. What an exhilarating experience and fantastic start to our Antarctic expedition.

After lunch we repositioned the ship and headed to our second landing of the day, Danco Island. Conditions were still immaculate and many of us were standing around in short sleeve shirts, soaking up the warm sun. The hike up to the Gentoo Penguin rookery was steep but fortunately the snowshoes made the climb a little easier and those willing to make the climb, were able to enjoy close-up views of the charismatic little penguins calling out, collecting pebbles, chasing off Brown Skuas and waddling up and down the hill after the next meal. Around the corner the most adventurous of the group attempted a challenging ice climb with our experienced mountain climbers Richard and Martin.

All too soon it was time to head back to the ship for a short recap and briefing with Clouds and some of the expedition staff before dinner. For a couple of us, the day was not yet over and after dinner we headed out for our first night of camping on Kerr Point. The perfect conditions prevailed as we dug our ice graves to protect us from the wind. We all

enjoyed a beautiful sunset over the bay before snuggling into our double layered sleeping bags to catch a few hours of rest before another incredible day in Antarctica. We could not have imagined a more perfect start to our Antarctic expedition.







Mountaineering

Morning - Spigot Peak from Orne Harbour. 8 Guests, 2 Guides

Cruising overnight to the Antarctic Peninsula MV Ortelius arrived early morning into Orne Harbour. The sea was flat calm and the sky was clear. Our first view from the ship was the imposing landmark of Spigot Peak. A short Zodiac ride took us to our first continental landing. Conditions were mild but as the snow was firm, we were able to proceed in boots and crampons to the col on the ridge and fine views out into the Gerlache Strait. The warm clothes were packed away before heading north onto the ridge and the climb to the summit. Chinstrap penguins were busy on their nests and occasionally revealed their egg when swapping duties with their mate. There are good snow conditions on the ridge at the moment. We ascended the steeper final section to the small summit at 10.30. We were treated to sunshine and blue skies and magnificent views. A careful descent took us to the shore in an hour.

Afternoon - Danco Island 13 Guests, 2 Guides

ICE CLIMBING: Zodiacs dropped the group close to the ice cliff rising up above the shore. Three anchors were placed at the top of the cliff and three top ropes were set. Working in groups everyone climbed one or two routes using ice climbing axes and crampons. The glacier ice surface was melting in the warmth of the day providing good placements for the tools and a regular shower of crystals on the belayers below. Afterwards everyone went to cool off in the polar plunge along the shore !



Kayaking

Beautiful day with the Errera canal like a mirror. Morning kayaking around Orne Harbour and afternoon kayaking around the Danco island. We were lucky with Weddell seals on ice and penguins jumping around our kayaks.

Camping: Kerr point

For this night of camping the first obstacle was finding a landing spot. The Weddel seals had taken over the camping ground. Luckily they were willing to share this beautiful spot with us. While digging our holes we had the most amazing sunset with the colors changed from Yellow to Orange and Orange to Purple over a 2 hour time range. The pick up time was very early but, this gave us the time to sleep a bit more on the ship and to visit Port Lockroy in the late morning.



Day 5 – 9th December 2019

Port Lockroy and Damoy Point (Kerr Point, Camping)

GPS position at 0800: 64°50.7 S 62°32.4 W

Air Temp: 8°C Wind: NW1 Sea state: Calm

In the morning we paid a visit to Port Lockroy. This is a well-known and popular Antarctic destination, visited by almost all the ships that call for the Antarctic Peninsula. Today Port Lockroy offers a wide variety of Antarctic souvenirs as well as post stamps and books. Originally this building was established as part of a series of secret military bases erected by British Forces in 1944 in order to monitor any German or Axis maritime traffic in the Antarctic Region under the code name "Operation Tabarin". This particular base was named Base A. After the end of World War II, the base became a weather observatory until it was abandoned and later refurbished to make it the museum/shop/post office is today, as part of the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust. This is a non-governmental organization which runs this and other historical places located in Antarctica, bringing personnel every year during the austral summer to Port Lockroy and also, giving maintenance to this and various other huts. The visit was very much welcome by our guests who used this as an opportunity to send postcards to their beloved ones, and to buy souvenirs. Because it is impossible to land all our guests at once, we made two groups of passengers, the first one visiting the post office while the second made a scenic zodiac cruise around the area.

Unfortunately our second landing of the day was cancelled due to too much ice and strong wind conditions, and so Clouds decided that we would take a ship cruise to look for whales. This proved to be a very nice activity and we indeed spotted many humpback whales along our way.

We finished our visit at 6 PM, bringing everybody back on board for our daily recap and for dinner. After dinner, it was time to send our campers to land. Given the great weather we were enjoying, about 30 passengers decided to camp this night, leaving a very quiet ship behind. The evening brought great colours and views from the mountains and glaciers around; the long sunset gave us the chance to see a wonderful gradation of colours over a few hours, going from golden yellows to bright orange and ending with a beautiful touch of pink, fading in the high peaks around us.



Mountaineering

Morning - Damoy & Port Lockroy 6 Guests, 2 Guides

A swift visit was made to Port Lockroy to post cards, buy souvenirs and watch the snowy sheathbills, nesting Gentoo penguins and the cormorants. Then, it was off by zodiac to Danco Point. Careful navigation through brash ice took us to land. The party used snowshoes to walk up the peak behind to enjoy fine views of Dorian Bay, the old glacial air runway and Jabet Peak. The groups descended to the old Damoy Terminal and Argentinian rescue hut. Unfortunately, nesting Gentoos made it impossible to enter the old hut. The group returned to Damoy Point along the coast. Ice build-up along the coast while we were away made access for the zodiac quite tricky.

Afternoon - Damoy Island, 12 Guests, 2 Guides

Cancelled due to ice along the shoreline preventing access for the zodiacs.

Kayaking

Morning kayaking at Port Lockroy. We Kayaked around the island and had to use our kayaks as icebreakers through the ice to go around. Had several Weddell seals on land close to the kayaks. Ended our morning outing with a stand on the fast ice.

Camping: Kerr point

Coming back to Kerr point it almost seemed as the seals hadn't left their place. And this day a couple of penguins joined us as well. With a much later pick up time this day we had the chance to enjoy the beautiful sunrise from our bivy bags. And the heat from the sun certainly made it much easier to get out of our warm sleeping bags.



Day 6 – 10th December 2019

Neko Harbour and Cuverville Island (Kerr Point, camping)

GPS position at 0800: 64°45.7 S 62°50.0 W

Air Temp: 8°C Wind: NW1 Sea state: Calm

The day started early with the pick-up of the campers at Kerr Point, where they spent a night in their bivy bags under the Antarctic skies, in the company of some resting Weddell Seals (*Leptonychotes weddelli*), surrounded by glaciers and many icebergs. After breakfast Ortelius approached Neko Harbour, place named after a floating whaling factory, which operated in the South Shetland Islands and Antarctic Peninsula area for many seasons between 1911 and 1924, and which often used this bay. Because of a bit of wind and waves, activities were slightly delayed, but the weather improved and everyone was able to enjoy a fantastic continental landing, with visits to Gentoo penguin rookeries, a hike with snowshoes up to a viewpoint and a much more demanding one for the mountaineers; who reached a fabulous vantage point. The glacier, one of the most active ones in the area, calved several times, luckily not creating the infamous “mini-tsunami” waves.



Back onboard, lunch was served while Ortelius repositioned to Cuverville Island, in the Errera Channel. This island was discovered by a Belgian Expedition (1897-1899), under the command of Adrien de Gerlache, who named it after J. M. A. Cavellier de Cuverville, vice-Admiral of the French Navy. The biggest Antarctic colony of Gentoo Penguins (*Pygoscelis papua*), it is also home for other species as Kelp Gulls (*Larus dominicanus*), South Polar Skuas (*Catharacta maccormicki*), Antarctic Terns (*Sterna vittata*), and seals like Weddell and Leopard (*Hydrurga leptonyx*). Besides the landing, a long kayaking journey up to Kerr Point (Rongé Island), a photo workshop and a hike on snowshoes, a scenic zodiac cruise was offered, a perfect opportunity to appreciate the beauty and splendor of the many icebergs in the Channel. Following a briefing on the activities for the next day, a surprise BBQ in the helideck was the icing on the cake for a wonderful day in the “Core of the Antarctic Peninsula”. With the prospect of a day filled with activities in the neighboring Paradise Bay/Harbour, the campers were shuttled for the last camping night in the Errera Channel, and the remaining guests enjoyed an evening of total calm amongst icebergs, glaciers and blue skies.



Mountaineering

Morning - Neko Harbour, 14 Guests, 2 Guides

Neko Harbour, named after one of the early whaling ships which moored here is impressive for the glacier carving into the sea and the slopes rising to the peak behind. With clear blue skies, no wind and mild temperatures we were equipped with snowshoes and from the beach made our way around the Gentoo rookeries. On reaching the snow covered glacier we roped up and made a gentle trail up towards the cliffs above. We able to look across and down to the north and watch the glacier regularly breaking away to fall into the harbour. We avoided crevasses to the right. Shortly before the bergschrund we stopped to observe the kayakers out in Andvord Bay and the glacier streams tumbling into the sea from the Antarctic mainland.

Afternoon - Cuverville Island 12 Guests, 2 Guides

At the northern end of the Errera Channel Cuverville Island has a flat snowcap summit. Snowshoes were ideal for making a steady rising trail in the softening snow. From the beach landing site, we walked up through the Gentoo rookeries towards to steepening slopes. A gradual rising traverse around the west side to the island brought us to the summit plateau. At the top we were treated to slue sky views of Ronge Island to the west, the mainland to the east and to the north across the Gerlache Strait Brabant Island. Descending the steep trail sliding in snowshoes was trickier than coming up !



Kayaking

Afternoon kayaking around Cuverville. Beautiful sunny day and the sea is like glass. First group goes all around the island and the second group ends up at Kerr point. Both groups get close meetings with Weddell seals.

Camping: Kerr Point

After a delicious BBQ on the ship. We left the noisy ship behind and went to our beloved Kerr point for some silence. While preparing our holes two Humpback whales came through the Errera Channel right in front of our camping site. It was windstill and the moon was almost full. We ended our night sitting by the water looking at the reflections of Cuverville island and the moon.



Day 7 – 11th December 2019

Waterboat Point & Brown Station (Leith Cove, Camping)

GPS position at 0800: 64°56.0 S 63°39.9 W

Air Temp: 10°C Wind: SW Sea state: Calm Sea Temp: 2°C

This morning, after picking up the campers at 6am, we are heading north toward the so-called Paradise Bay. As we arrived in front of the Chilean Videla station, like every day, the passengers are spread into the 3 activities: kayaking, mountaineering and photoshop. All the remaining guests invited to go ashore and to visit this station at the entrance of the Paradise Bay.

2 buildings are free for visit: a small museum, where the Chileans sell some little gifts and souvenirs, and the main building. The kindness and the welcome of the 15 guys here are so amazing. We can either climb up in the observatory from which we have a wonderful view of the surroundings, either visit, their main lounge, where they offer us coffee, tea, and some cookies. The place is warm, very cute and cocooning, with a huge sofa, and everyone has the opportunity to share their life for a little while. The Christmas tree is ready for these guys who will spend 4 month far from their family. Everybody agrees to point the kindness with which they are receiving us. Out of the buildings, the penguins are everywhere and we can have a very close encounter, all along the paths less than 2 meters with these locals guys!

All the morning is dedicated on the visit of this place, the different group activities swapping every hour, in order for everybody, to have the opportunity to come ashore and to enjoy this very warm and peaceful place Lunch is served while we are repositioning, ready for the action at another Argentinean station, Brown station. The same turnover is applied for giving every signing up passenger the opportunity to experience kayaking, mountaineering, or a zodiac cruise.

We disembark all the zodiaques in front of the buildings. Zet take in charge the kayakers, while Martin and Richard, wait for the first mountaineers at the top of the first gentle slope. For the other regular disembarkers, Lucas offer them to reach him at the summit of the station from which the point of view on the whole paradise bay, is incredible! From it, the Ortelius looks so small in the center of this huge bay, surrounded, like everywhere here, by glaciers, huge seracs and ice falls. The traditional daily briefing occurs as soon as all the guest are back onboard and the plans for tomorrow sound again very exciting before going for dinner.





Mountaineering

Morning - On Mount Hoegh from Duthiers Point 18 Guests, 2 Guides and an fine alpine leader

The objective was the glacier ridge descending from Mount Hoegh. The group landed south of the point at the bottom of a steep slope as the point was occupied by many Gentoo penguins. On arrival two crab-eater seals swam past. As we geared up 20 gentoo penguins looked on. We ascended the steep icy slope and on the broad ridge we arranged the ropes for glacier travel. The snowpack soon softened with blue skies and sunshine. The group ascended to 300 metres to a small rock outcrop below the summit of Mount Hoegh. There were stunning views into Andvord Bay to the North. On the descent one of the party took out a pair of Big Foot short skis and put in some fine linked ski turns on the slope down to our landing point - much more graceful than our snowshoes! Just offshore we watched at last piece break from an iceberg and the rolling of the berg in the water to regain equilibrium.

Afternoon - Afternoon Ice cap above Station Almirante Brown

Group 1, 18 Guests, 2 Guides. Group 2, 14 Guests, 2 Guides.

The party ascended the peak behind the station with views into Paradise Harbour, Then roped up in 3 teams to travel around the icecap behind. There were impressive views into Skontorp Cove where the Avalanche Glacier regularly carves large seraks into the sea. The sky became overcast offering a variety of grey and white shades to the view of Paradise Harbour, and a cold breeze was a rare event.



Kayaking

Morning kayak has it all. Penguins, icebergs, Weddell seal and a 2 crab-eater seal. Afternoon kayak at Brown bluff was great with the huge cliff next to the Argentine station with all the nesting birds and the impressive glacier front

Camping: Leith Cove

Entering Leith Cove with heavily crevassed glaciers that filled up the water. We had a beautiful but, slow entrance to our Island, Islote Hanka. With Gentoo penguins awaiting us at the landing site we had a great start of our camping night. Without the wind the reflections of the mountains surrounding Paradise bay were absolutely amazing. We were accompanied by Antarctic terns that made is clear when we got to close to their nest. We again had an early pick up time that made it possibly to get to Portal Point way up north on the Antarctic peninsula.



Day 8 – 12th December 2019

Portal Point & Cierva Cove

GPS at 0800: 64°47.6 S 62°49.1 W

Air Temp: 1°C Wind: SW4 Sea state: rippled

This was the last day amongst icebergs and massive glaciers, so the plan was to make the most of it by visiting Portal Point (Charlotte Bay), the third continental landing of this Antarctic expedition trip. The place was used by the British to access the “core” of the Antarctic Peninsula, a small hut was erected on an outcrop, but according to the Antarctic treaty regulations it had to be dismantled eventually, as it was not used anymore. In its place, 4 concrete pillars reveal its former location. During the visit, Ortelius’ mountaineers went to the top of the glacier, while everyone else enjoyed either kayaking or landing with snowshoes on a small snow-covered peninsula with great views of the bay. On the way back to the ship a Leopard Seal (*Hydrurga leptonyx*), was spotted on a flat iceberg and everybody had a chance of seeing and photographing this emblematic Antarctic species, both from zodiacs and the vessel’s bow.

After lunch, Ortelius was repositioned to Cierva Cove, named after the Spanish aviator Manuel Cierva, nowadays an Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPA), and also location of the Argentine Station Primavera (“Spring”). This base has produced countless studies on the biology and ecology of Wilson’s Storm-petrels (*Oceanites oceanicus*), leopard seals, and Chinstrap Penguins (*Pygoscelis antarcticus*); as well as alarming data on the heavy metals accumulation in antarctic animal’s tissues. During our cruise, great opportunity to play among the icebergs and explore the remote and wild coastline, several seals were seen: mostly Weddell (*Leptonychotes weddellii*), sleeping on floes or directly on the rocks. A few Minke Wales (*Balaenoptera bonaerensis*) were briefly seen, as well as a Humpback (*Megaptera novaeangliae*). On the return to the vessel, a very original rowing race took place: with all zodiacs lined-up facing Ortelius, the start was sound and all engines were stopped (well... not all...there was A LOT of cheating), one zodiac claimed victory, but nobody agreed because of the intermittent “help” of many engines. In any case, everybody had a great time and the rowers were congratulated regardless of their performance. Back on board with all zodiacs on deck, Ortelius sailed North towards the South Shetland Islands.





Mountaineering

Morning - Morning Portal Point 12 Guests, 2 Guides

Another continental landing. A pleasant ascent up the sinuous glacier, initially adjacent to some fine winter cornices before climbing up to the summit plateau. Great views all around and especially of Mount Parry, to the north west – the highest peak on Brabant Island. Below, Charlotte Bay was littered with icebergs of all shapes and sizes. On the way down around 40 Weddell seals were sighted on the snowpack and on the return to the ship a leopard seal was hauled up on a small iceberg, pretty exciting.



Kayaking

Morning kayak around massive icebergs. After one hour Zet spots something on a iceflow he wants to take a closer look at. He asks all the kayakers to speed up and it is well worth the extra speed to get a chance to see a huge leopard seal from the kayaks. Afternoon kayakers had a playful kayaking including brash ice paddling a maybe first in history K2 500 meter race.

Day 9 – 13th December 2019

Penguin Island & Turret Point

GPS position at 0800: 63°01.6 S 60°30.7 W

Air Temp: 0°C Wind: NW5 Sea state: Smooth

This morning Clouds woke us up between Penguin Island and King George Island on the South Shetlands. Almost no wind and perfect weather for an outing to Penguin Island. The island hosted everything we hoped for. 3 species of penguins, nesting giant petrels, elephant seals and a magnificent walk up to the rim of the old volcano.

For the afternoon the wind picked up and we had to cancel our afternoon outing and start our way North and out into the Drake passage.

Instead of a landing we all get invited to the lounge for an interesting lecture from Pierre about his research on humpback whales. And just to be sure to be as prepared as possible before the Drake Passage Doctor Linda invited those who needs seasickness medication to the hospital for handing out patches.



Mountaineering

Morning - Penguin Island



Day 10 – 14th December 2019

Drake passage

GPS position at 0800: 60°30.4 S 63°49.5 W

Air Temp: 2°C Wind: NE Sea state: Calm Sea Temp: 1°C

This morning we awoke in the Drake heading north, we have left the glaciers and the icebergs behind. So, one hand for the ship'' is the refrain but this morning the Drake is almost flat calm, with a swell of 0.4metres and a following current so making good progress. Early risers witnessed the sight of numerous fin whales at 0700, and one lunge feeding next to the ship, and around 0900 we pass feeding minke whales, and spot a sooty albatross.

This morning Clouds delivered a very interesting Climate Change lecture followed by Pippa lecturing on antarctic acoustics. Through the morning the ship passed through waters containing lots of fin whales, identified by their strong vertical blow and occasional dorsal fin. Increasingly we were accompanied by cape petrels and the occasional giant petrel.

Large whales were visible at a distance during the afternoon indicated by their tall, powerful blows, probably Fin whales. Christian and Tyson presented a really engaging talk on Penguins and finally after dinner Clouds gave an incite into the other adventures possible around Antarctica and the sub-Antarctic islands.

Later in the afternoon MV Ortelius entered fog, indicating that we are passing the Antarctic Convergence and saying a fond farewell to the Antarctic. Conditions remained reasonably calm into the evening. The ship continued at 13 knots, making good progress towards the shelter of Tierra del Fuego and avoid the westerly storm approaching.

It begins to feel like the end of the expedition is approaching as the rubber boots and life jackets are collected in during the afternoon, and Siggie the Hotel Manager broke the news that everyone would be able to settle their bar bills tomorrow.



Day 11 – 15th December 2019

Drake passage

GPS position at 0800: 56°26.2 S 66°08.6 W

Air Temp: 10°C Wind: SW Sea state: Calm Sea Temp: 2°C

This was a day of good fortune! After some gentle rolling in Drake Passage, we awoke to calmer seas and light overcast skies. It appeared that Captain Yuri had successfully managed to navigate behind the storm and continue safely towards the Peninsula. Breakfast was served at 8:00am and the food was as fresh and delicious as it always is on the *Ortelius*.

After breakfast it was time to attend our first Learning and lecture for the day which was a fascinating talk by Lucas entitled “*Why sea ice matters?*” This was followed by some free time to go out on deck and look for wildlife or relax in the bar area. There was not a lot of wildlife around at this stage, but we did have a several Black-browed Albatross, Cape Petrel, Northern Giant Petrel, Southern Giant Petrels and a two Southern Royal Albatross’.



Even for those not particularly interested in birds it was a lovely opportunity to spend time outside, breathing fresh air and enjoying the Drake Passage. Soon it was time to head inside for a very informative lecture by Pierre entitled “*The International Whaling Commission and CCAMLR*”.

After lunch we met at the helicopter pad for a group photo with the expedition staff before heading inside to watch a movie on rounding the Cape Horn.

A couple more hours of free time to look for wildlife in the Beagle Channel before our final lecture of the day by the enigmatic ornithologist Christian entitled “Antarctic Naturalists” which shared some of the funny and incredible stories by the adventurous individuals who discovered and studied Antarctica. A delicious and much-appreciated dinner awaited us in the dining room for a last night on the Ortelius. All in all, it was a fantastic day on the infamous Drake Passage.

Now that we have reached the conclusion of our great voyage to the pristine wilderness of Antarctica, we will have a chance to reflect on our time here. For us that have the fortune to visit this last place on earth, to be surrounded by its splendor, to experience and explore, to learn and to love what this continent beholds, we must be forever thankful. And we must, in all fairness, give back for our privilege and share with others what we have known and seen.

In 200 years, people will look back on this period and say to themselves, ‘How did those people at that time just allow all these amazing creatures to vanish’. If we all lose hope, there is no hope. There is still a lot worth fighting for.

As Margaret Meade, the Anthropologist said,

“A few thoughtful citizens can change the world. Indeed it’s the only thing that ever has.”



Day 12 – 16th December 2019

Disembarkation, Ushuaia, Argentina

GPS position at 1400: 54°49'S 68°17'W

Air Temp: 9°C Wind: Var F1 Sea state: Smooth

We awoke for the last time with a wakeup call from our EL, this was sadly our disembarkation day. We had enjoyed our two days at sea watching the sea birds, and it was with mixed emotions we found ourselves in Ushuaia, happy to have had an amazing trip but sad that it was now over. After our breakfast on board we said our goodbyes, and left the good ship Ortelius, although our trip was over it was simply fantastic and all of us have memories to last a lifetime.





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

Total Distance Sailed: 1791 Nautical Miles

**On behalf of
Oceanwide Expeditions
Captain Yury Marin
Expedition Leader Claudia Holgate
Hotel Manager Sigi
all the crew and staff
it has been a pleasure travelling with you**





OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

OTL24 Mountaineering Daily Log

08.12.19 Morning

Spigot Peak from Orne Harbour. 8 Guests, 2 Guides.

Cruising overnight to the Antarctic Peninsula MV Ortelius arrived early morning into Orne Harbour. The sea was flat calm and the sky was clear. Our first view from the ship was the imposing landmark of Spigot Peak. A short Zodiac ride took us to our first continental landing. Conditions were mild but as the snow was firm, we were able to proceed in boots and crampons to the col on the ridge and fine views out into the Gerlache Strait. The warm clothes were packed away before heading north onto the ridge and the climb to the summit. Chinstrap penguins were busy on their nests and occasionally revealed their egg when swapping duties with their mate. There are good snow conditions on the ridge at the moment. We ascended the steeper final section to the small summit at 10.30. We were treated to sunshine and blue skies and magnificent views. A careful descent took us to the shore in an hour.

08.12.19 Afternoon

Danco Island 13 Guests, 2 Guides

ICE CLIMBING

Zodiacs dropped the group close to the ice cliff rising up above the shore. Three anchors were placed at the top of the cliff and three top ropes were set. Working in groups everyone climbed one or two routes using ice climbing axes and crampons. The glacier ice surface was melting in the warmth of the day providing good placements for the tools and a regular shower of crystals on the belayers below. Afterwards everyone went to cool off in the polar plunge along the shore !

09.12.19 Morning

Damoy & Port Lockroy 6 Guests, 2 Guides

A swift visit was made to Port Lockroy to post cards, buy souvenirs and watch the snowy sheathbills, nesting Gentoo penguins and the cormorants. Then, it was off by zodiac to Danco Point. Careful navigation through brash ice took us to land. The party used snowshoes to walk up the peak behind to enjoy fine views of Dorian Bay, the old glacial air runway and Jabet Peak. The groups descended to the old Damoy Terminal and Argentinian rescue hut. Unfortunately, nesting Gentoos made it impossible to enter the old hut. The group returned to Damoy Point along the coast. Ice build-up along the coast while we were away made access for the zodiac quite tricky.



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

09.12.19 Afternoon

Damoy Island, 12 Guests, 2 Guides

Cancelled due to ice along the shoreline preventing access for the zodiacs.

10.12.19 Morning Neko Harbour, 14 Guests, 2 Guides

Neko Harbour, named after one of the early whaling ships which moored here is impressive for the glacier carving into the sea and the slopes rising to the peak behind. With clear blue skies, no wind and mild temperatures we were equipped with snowshoes and from the beach made our way around the Gentoo rookeries. On reaching the snow covered glacier we roped up and made a gentle trail up towards the cliffs above. We able to look across and down to the north and watch the glacier regularly breaking away to fall into the harbour. We avoided crevasses to the right. Shortly before the bergschrund we stopped to observe the kayakers out in Andvord Bay and the glacier streams tumbling into the sea from the Antarctic mainland.

10.12.19 Afternoon Cuverville Island 12 Guests, 2 Guides

At the northern end of the Errera Channel Cuverville Island has a flat snowcap summit. Snowshoes were ideal for making a steady rising trail in the softening snow. From the beach landing site, we walked up through the Gentoo rookeries towards to steepening slopes. A gradual rising traverse around the west side to the island brought us to the summit plateau. At the top we were treated to slue sky views of Ronge Island to the west, the mainland to the east and to the north across the Gerlache Strait Brabant Island. Descending the steep trail sliding in snowshoes was trickier than coming up !

11.12.19 Morning

On Mount Hoegh from Duthiers Point 18 Guests, 2 Guides and an fine alpine leader

The objective was the glacier ridge descending from Mount Hoegh. The group landed south of the point at the bottom of a steep slope as the point was occupied by many Gentoo penguins. On arrival two crabeater seals swam past. As we geared up 20 gentoo penguins looked on. We ascended the steep icy slope and on the broad ridge we arranged the ropes for glacier travel. The snowpack soon softened with blue skies and sunshine. The group ascended to 300 metres to a small rock outcrop below the summit of Mount Hoegh. There were stunning views into Andvord Bay to the North. On the descent one of the party took out a pair of Big Foot short skis and put in some fine linked ski turns on the slope down to our



landing point – much more graceful than our snowshoes! Just offshore we watched at last piece break from an iceberg and the rolling of the berg in the water to regain equilibrium.

11.12.19 Afternoon Ice cap above Station Almirante Brown

Group 1, 18 Guests, 2 Guides. Group 2, 14 Guests, 2 Guides.

The party ascended the peak behind the station with views into Paradise Harbour, Then roped up in 3 teams to travel around the icecap behind. There were impressive views into Skontorp Cove where the Avalanche Glacier regularly carves large seracs into the sea. The sky became overcast offering a variety of grey and white shades to the view of Paradise Harbour, and a cold breeze was a rare event.

12.12.19 Morning Portal Point 12 Guests, 2 Guides

Another continental landing. A pleasant ascent up the sinuous glacier, initially adjacent to some fine winter cornices before climbing up to the summit plateau. Great views all around and especially of Mount Parry, to the north west – the highest peak on Brabant Island. Below, Charlotte Bay was littered with icebergs of all shapes and sizes. On the way down around 40 Weddell seals were sighted on the snowpack and on the return to the ship a leopard seal was hauled up on a small iceberg, pretty exciting.

13.12.19 Morning Penguin Island

13.12.19 Afternoon Turret Point



PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST 2019/20

Your chance to win a € 1000 gift voucher for your next polar adventure.

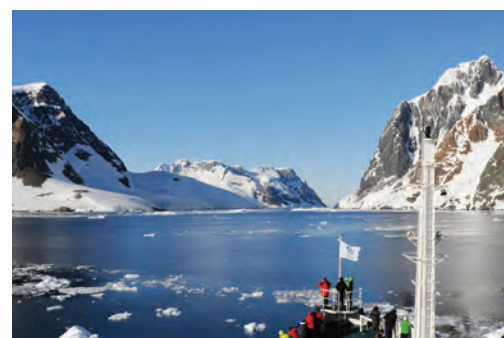
EVERYONE KNOWS A PICTURE IS WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS, BUT DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR PHOTOS MIGHT NOW ALSO BE WORTH A **€ 1000 GIFT VOUCHER**?

Share your experience!

Did you catch a rare seabird on the fly? Do you have a panorama of the Northern Lights filling the sky? Did you get up close and personal with a penguin? Did you capture a look of awe or wonder on a fellow passenger's face?

If you've been a passenger on any one of our past voyages we want to see your pictures.

You're free to send in as many pictures as you wish. The best pictures are the ones that capture what it's like to take one of our special expeditions to the remote and beautiful ends of the Earth.



PRIZES



€ 1000

GIFT VOUCHER

for Oceanwide Expeditions



€ 500 gift voucher

for Oceanwide Expeditions



€ 250 gift voucher

for Oceanwide Expeditions

UPLOAD YOUR PHOTO AT

WWW.OCEANWIDE-EXPEDITIONS.COM/GALLERY

The size of your photo should be between 2MB and 8MB. Our lucky winners will be contacted by e-mail and Facebook by 02 June 2020. The photography contest runs from 03 November 2019 until 02 May 2020.

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

Oceanwide Ortelius

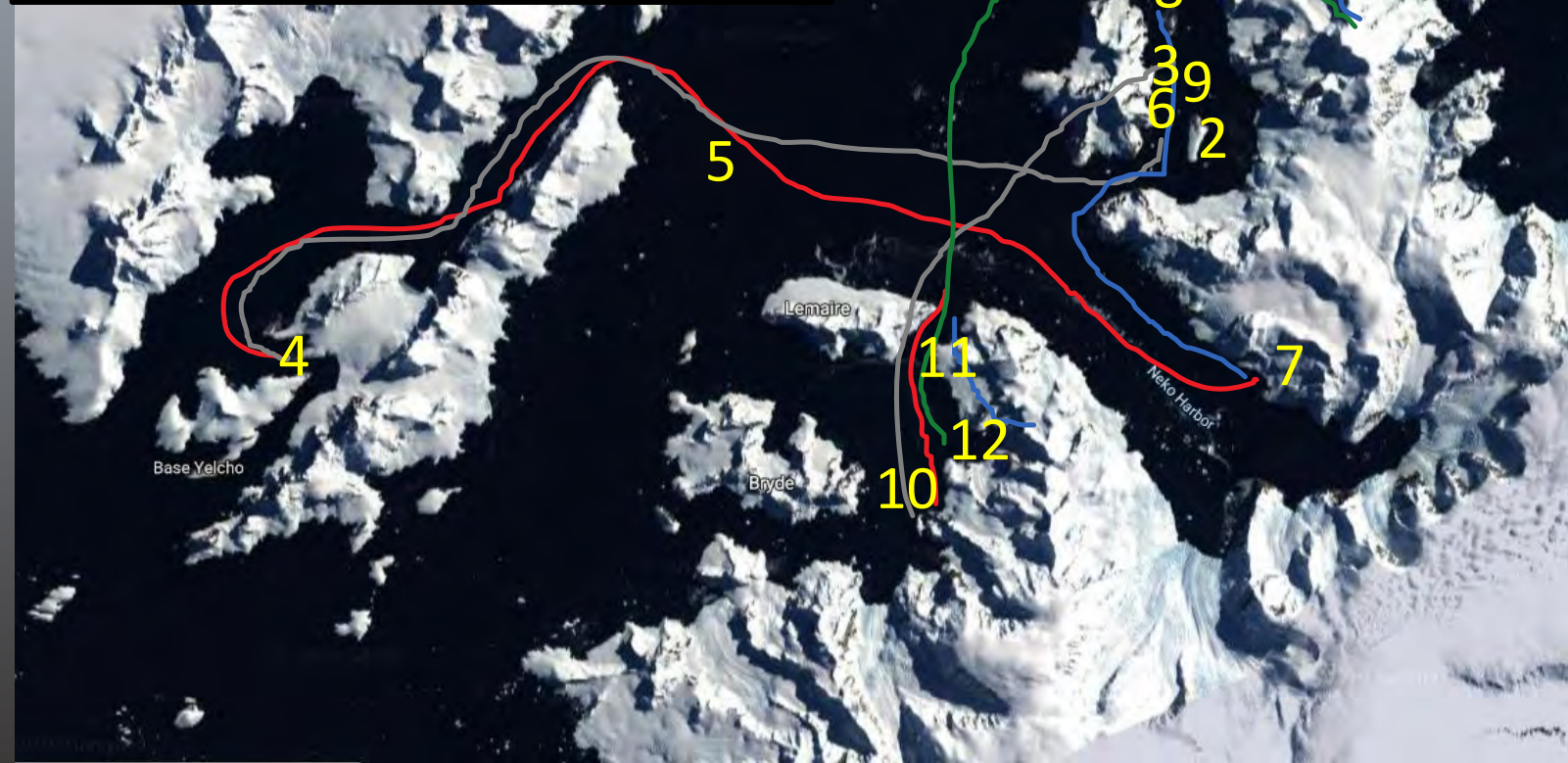
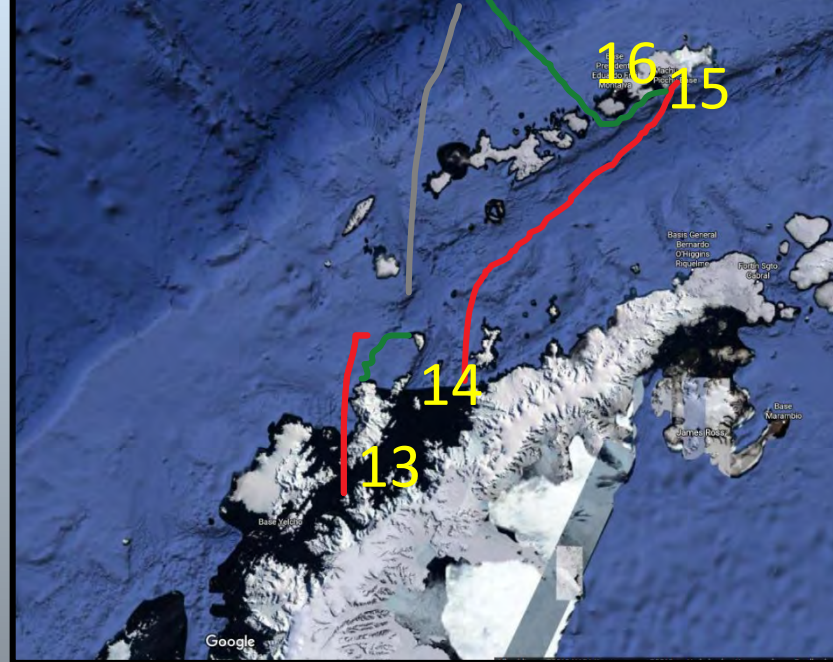
12 day Basecamp trip

Dec 5 – 16 2019

- 1 Orne Harbour
- 2 Danco Island
- 3 Kerr point
- 4 Port Lockroy / Penguin post office
- 5 Neumayer Channel cruise
- 6 Kerr point camp
- 7 Neko Harbour
- 8 Cuverville Island
- 9 Kerr point camp
- 10 Gonzales Videla/ Chilean station
- 11 Waterboat Point/ Brown station
- 12 Leith cove camp
- 13 Portal Point
- 14 Cierva Cove / Primavera station
- 15 Penguin Island
- 16 Turret Point

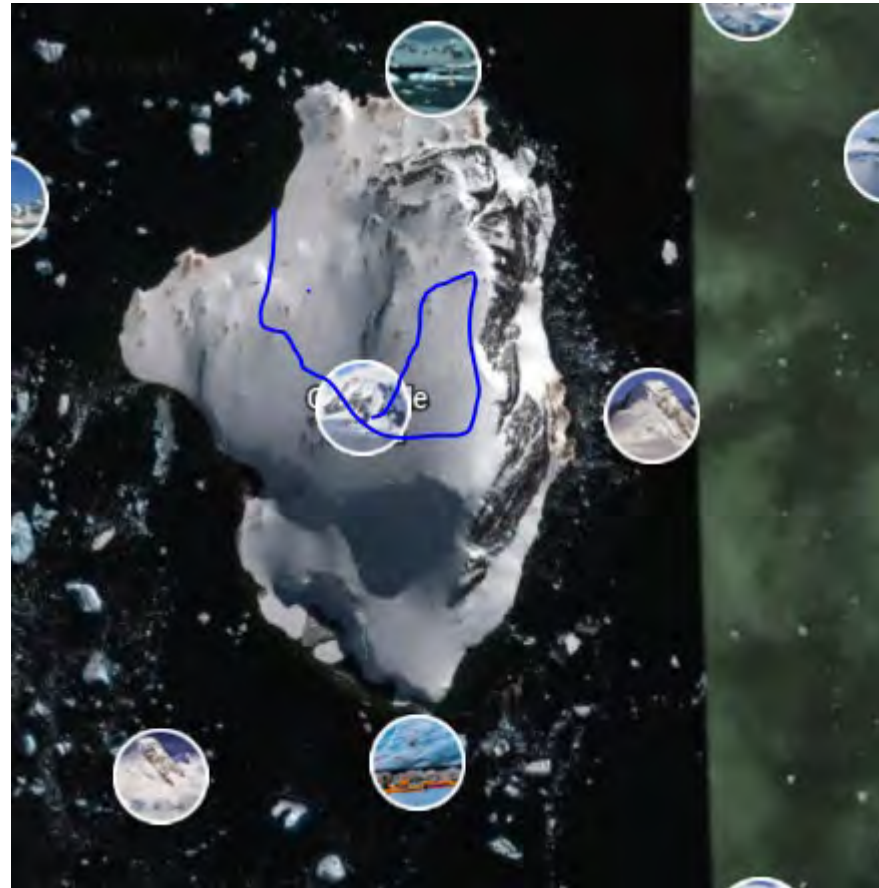
Activities:

- Zodiac cruise
- Landings
- Kayaking
- Photography
- Mountaineering
- Snowshoeing
- Camping
- Polar Plunge



Cuverville Island 27.11.19

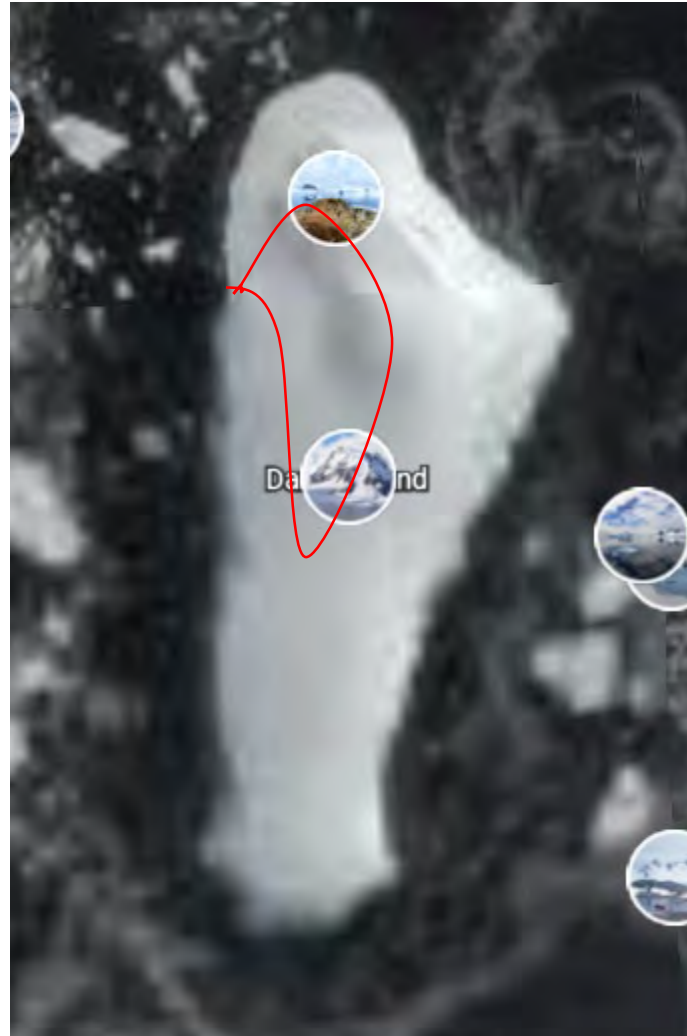
Long 62degrees South,
Lat 64 40 minutes degrees west



Danco Island

28.11.19

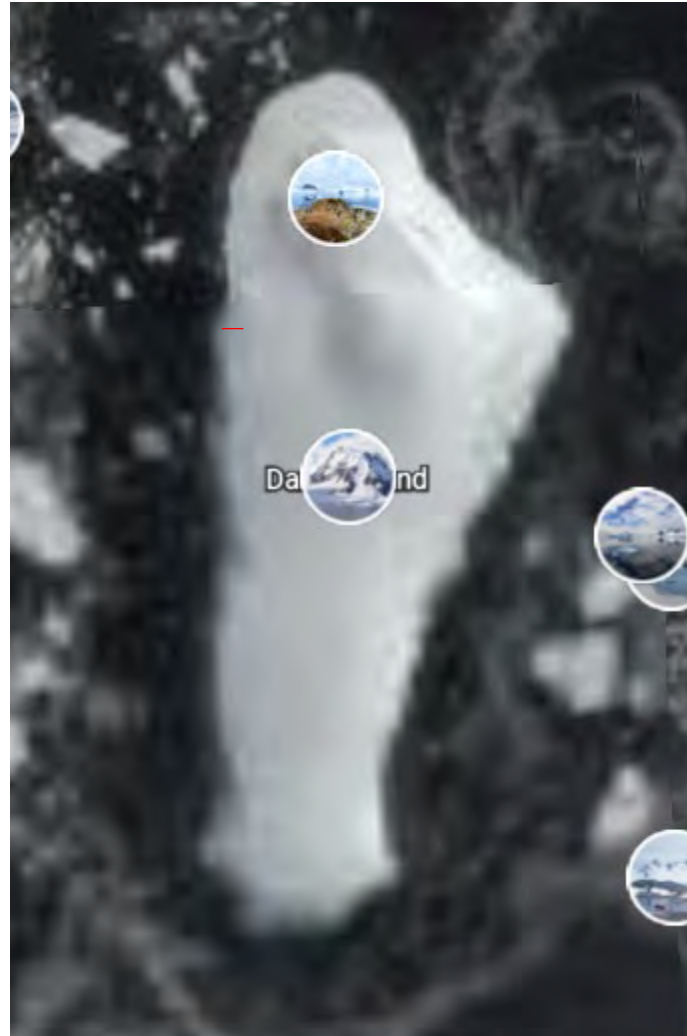
62 degrees 70 minutes west,
Lat64degrees, 45degrees south



Danco Island

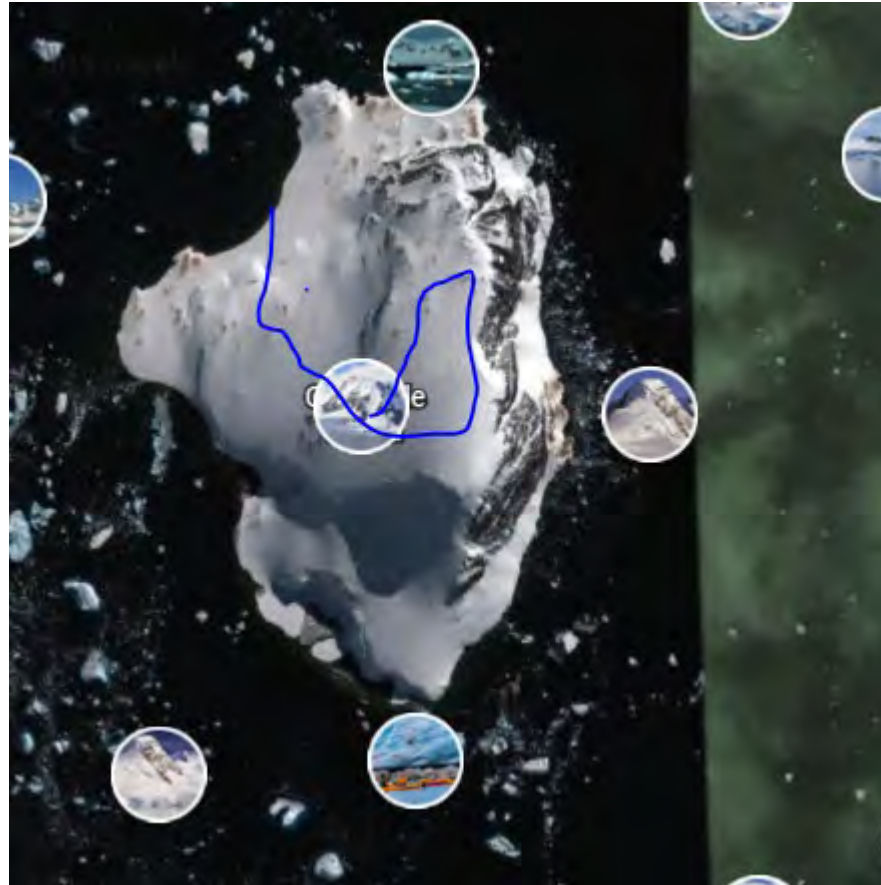
08.12.19

62 degrees 70 minutes west,
Lat64degrees, 45degrees south



Cuverville Island 10.12.19

Long 62degrees South,
Lat 64 40 minutes degrees west



Duthier Point 11.12.19

Long 63 degrees west, Lat 65 degrees south



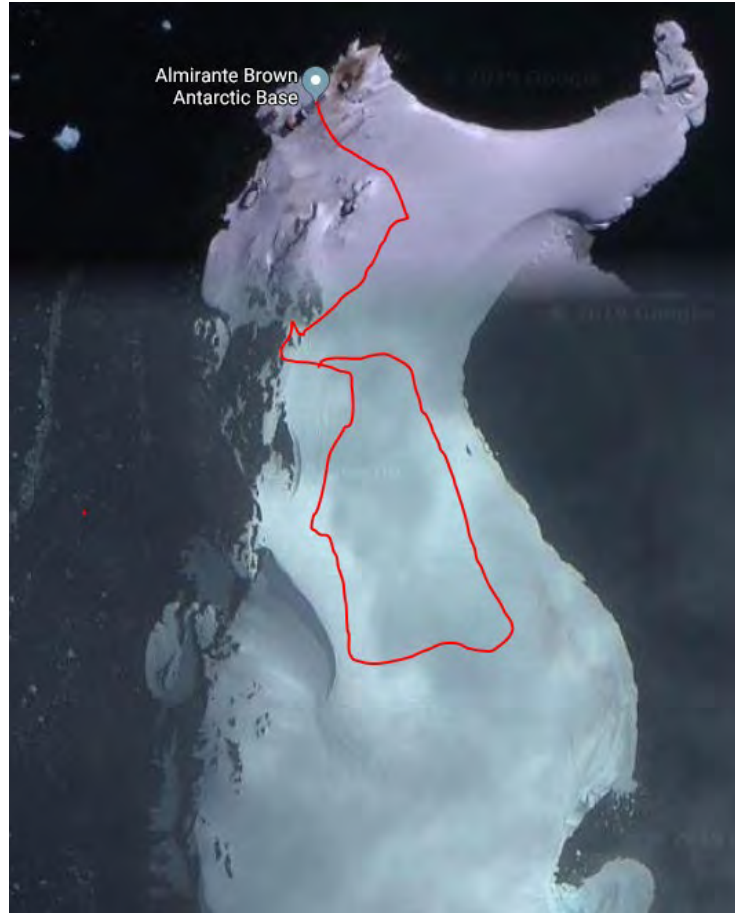
Duthier Point 01.12.19

Long 63 degrees west, Lat 65 degrees south



Almirante Brown 11.12.19

Long 63 degrees west Lat 65 degrees south



Almirante Brown 01.12.19

Long 63 degrees west Lat 65 degrees south



Portal Point

Long 62 degrees west Lat 64 degrees 30 minutes south

12,12.19



Spigot Point

- 08.12.19
- Long 63 degrees west
- Lat 64 degrees 45 min



Spigot Point

- 26.11.19
- Long 63 degrees west
- Lat 64 degrees 45 min



Deception Island Whalers Bay

- 02.12.19



Neko Harbour 10.12.19

Long 62 degrees 30 minutes west, Lat 65 degrees south



Neko Harbour 28.11.19

Long 63degrees, Lat 65 degrees south



Claudia Holgate - Assistant Expedition Leader



Claudia, or “Clouds” as she is known on the ship, is a Polar guide with a passion for sharing her knowledge and experience. Claudia, a South African native, has worked at all levels in government, for the United Nations, as an independent environmental consultant and as an academic, but being an expedition guide is the best job by far. She has an MSc. and a Diploma in Higher Education, and considers herself to be a general naturalist, able to speak authoritatively many natural history subjects, from climate and geology to birds and marine biology. Her research has focussed on climate change and she will

point out some of the changes that we are seeing during our journey. Claudia’s contribution to geographical research, teaching, outreach and exploration lead to her being elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (FRGS).

Claudia’s has been working in the polar regions for 12 years and she still never tires of the White Wilderness and she will tell you that each trip is different and special in its own way.

Claudia is also a Critical Care flight paramedic and when she is back home in South Africa, she teaches doctors and nurses courses in Advanced Cardiac, Paediatric and Trauma Life Support and is currently working on a PhD in Emergency Medicine through the University of Cape Town. In her time off, Claudia loves going into the African bush, photographing, hiking and birding, as well as, doing community work as part of Soroptimist International (Johannesburg club).

Pippa Low - Expedition Guide



Pippa has worked as a marine guide and skipper for 7 years, primarily in Scotland, Australia and New Zealand. A marine scientist specialising in marine mammal research and conservation, she splits her time between the hemispheres, and loves showing the public the marine world and all it has to offer.

Growing up on the coast of the incredible Moray Firth sparked a love for the marine world and its inhabitants. Spending every spare minute in, on or under the water; professional life reflected this love from a young age, becoming an instructor in

various marine disciplines and going on to study Marine biology at university in Scotland, then later, Australia.

Upon completion of her degree, Pippa worked in Australia on marine science research projects as a marine mammal observer, scientific diver and research assistant. After returning to Scotland, Pippa set up a wildlife tour boat company in her hometown of Findhorn and has spent the past 6 years working summer in Scotland, showcasing the wonders of the Moray coastline and wildlife to adventurers on board, and then spending the winter in southern hemisphere working on marine research projects; including photo ID, migration, distribution and behavioural studies on a range of marine mammals. She has developed a keen interest in marine mammal conservation through outreach and research. Most recently, Pippa worked in the Ross Sea on a New Zealand Ecosystem voyage, realising a life dream to work in Antarctica. On this voyage she assisted in the collection of baseline data on the World's largest Marine Protected Area; primarily on the distribution of cetaceans in this region.

Tyrone Mckendry – Expedition Staff



Tyrone is an Ecologist and bird guide from Johannesburg, South Africa; which is a country renowned for its incredibly high level of biodiversity. Although based in the busy city, he would spend his free time exploring natural landscapes in search of wildlife to study and photograph.

He completed his Master of Science degree through the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. His research looked at how wildlife corridors could mitigate the negative impacts of urbanisation on biodiversity. During this research he served on the committee of an NGO where he conducted regular biodiversity surveys and community upliftment work. He soon found an interest in conservation, which led to him establishing a conservation project to try and protect rare and elusive African-Grass Owl in South Africa.

Through this work he realised that his greatest passion was teaching others about the environment and why it is important to preserve it. This led to writing articles, giving presentations and guiding for anyone that wanted to learn more about the natural world.

Tyrone is an award-winning wildlife photographer and he uses his photos in lectures and articles, to share exciting and interesting wildlife moments with others. Now as an expedition guide, he travels around the world, observing, learning and teaching ecology along the way. He hopes that through this work, he will inspire as many people as possible to love and appreciate nature and all the wonderful things it has to offer.

Lucas Humbert - Expedition Guide



My name is Lucas Humbert . I am French and I live in Saint Claude in the Jura mountains, 50 km from Geneva. I was a soldier in the mountain troops of the French army and then a gendarme before becoming a mountain guide in 2012. I now exercise all year round my full time activity

When I'm not sailing on the Oceanwide ships or mountaineering for Grand Nord Grand Large, I work for different structures (Prémanon Polar World Space, for various distributors of outdoor activities, the tourist office of St Claude, and some gites

of step and refuge in the Jura). I also have my own clients for whom I organize Treks in the Jura, the Alps but also in Morocco!

I discovered the polar environment and the naturalist-guide activity on the cruise ships-expedition 4 years ago (Greenland, Nunavut, Alaska, Northwest Passage, Siberia). I also discovered the Nordic regions on individual expeditions: -traverse of Sarek national park in Swedish Lapland in autonomy in 2016 - shipping in sea kayak in Greenland in 2017.

Zet Freiburghaus - Kayak Guide



Zet is a former successful member of the Swedish national kayak team who after his active career has travelled around the world.

Just last year he hiked and rode a horse in the Tien Shen mountains of Kyrgyzstan and explored big parts of Ethiopia, where he saw the Ethiopian wolf and were standing on the rim on an active volcano.

His sharp eyes and great experience in nature implies he rarely misses an animal.

Zet has a Master of Science in Biology from Lund University.

Today he works as a guide with the whole world as his office. Zet is new to the Oceanwide crew and very excited to share his enthusiasm and energy on board our vessels this season.

Pierre Gallego - Expedition Guide



Pierre is a veterinarian specialised in marine mammal medicine. He has been working in the field of marine biology for 18 years, and has been organising marine mammal research internships around the world since 2004. He represents the Government of Luxembourg at the International Whaling Commission and CCAMLR, and works with numerous international NGOs to promote marine mammal conservation and to fight cetacean captivity.

He is currently carrying out his PhD with the Oceanology Lab of the University of Liege, Belgium. His PhD thesis deals with pollutants and stable isotopes in humpback whales off Ecuador and Mozambique. He is a keen birdwatcher and enjoys photography. The ocean is his passion, and water is his element!

Christian Savigny

Christian is an Ornithologist, naturalist and Illustrator. Birding since childhood, he has explored many places in South America, Western Europe and Southern / Western Africa; but oceans and remote islands have always been like a magnet. Sailing south on research vessels since 1998, Christian has found among other rarities several albatross and petrel species new for Argentina and/or the Southwest Atlantic. He is considered Argentina's "pelagic birds guru".



Involved in Antarctic expeditions since 2005, he has worked extensively in the Peninsula, Sub-Antarctic Islands, the Ross area, etc. completing semi-circumnavigations that included helicopter operations. His lecture topics include bird identification, ecology and conservation; history of exploration, marine mammals and basic geology. Christian is an experienced all-weather Zodiac driver, trained in multiple survival techniques including at-sea survival, and has taken part of SAR operations.

With a degree in Natural Sciences plus courses on Biological Sciences, Nature Interpretation, Ornithology and Fisheries Monitoring, Christian worked with NGOs like Wildlife Conservation Society and Birdlife in the Important Bird Areas, Red Data Book, Seabird Conservation programs and the ACAP. During the 90's volunteered for the WWF and Wetlands International.

He regularly publishes and acts as a reviewer / freelance editor, involved in conferences and congresses; Christian has trained fisheries observers for the Argentine government. His illustrations and photos appeared in many NGO publications, magazines and newspapers. He has co-authored / illustrated the "*Commented Checklist of the Birds of Neuquén, Patagonia, Argentina*", and co-authored the milestone "*Important Bird Areas of Argentina*". Christian collaborated with several authors in their respective bird guides, improving and updating texts, maps and images of all seabirds and most antarctic - subantarctic birds. He is currently finalizing (this time for real!), the preparation of "*Birds of the Southwest Atlantic & Antarctica*", the most up-to-date, detailed and thoroughly illustrated book for that region.

Richard Mansfield

Mountaineering Guide



Richard first started climbing at the age of 10 and found his passion in life.

Since then he has climbed, skied and guided extensively in the European Alps as well as Greenland, Alaska, N America, S America and Antarctica. Richard has also been on many expeditions to the Nepalese, Indian and Tibetan Himalayas.

A fully qualified IFMGA International Mountain Guide for almost 30 years Richard is based in Chamonix, Mont Blanc, in the French alps. He still remains passionate about his skiing and climbing trips and loves nothing more than sharing the next adventure where ever it may be with his guests.

Werner Kruse - Photography Guide



Werner Kruse is a well-travelled and experienced Editor, Cameraman and Photographer. Werner has worked on international productions in Los Angeles, travel documentaries for Princess Cruises and Wildlife & Expedition Documentaries in Africa.

After graduating high school, he studied photography at Port Elizabeth Technikon while working as freelance photographer for the regional newspaper, Die Burger. From there he gained experience as assistant to well renowned Fashion/Advertising &

Documentary photographer, Johan Wilke.

In 2004 he expanded his career working as Cameraman and Editor in Cape Town, South Africa. His passion for editing took him to Los Angeles where he did an Avid Certified Professional film-editing course at Video Symphony in Burbank.

After his studies he started working all over the world making travel documentaries for Princess Cruises. He explored places such as Petra, Machu Picchu, Great Barrier and Rapa Nui, Spitsbergen, Iceland and his favourite, the Hawaiian and Tahitian Islands. Currently based in Cape Town, South Africa, working on TV shows, documentaries, commercials and corporate productions as well as frequent travels abroad for various video and photo assignments.

Werner is extremely passionate about wildlife, nature and the ocean, supports environmental and wildlife causes and believe in conservation. He has travelled to 112 countries and love to capture every moment.



Embarkation

Thursday 5th December 2019

Welcome on board!

Your luggage will have been delivered to your cabin. After we are all onboard, please check and notify Reception if you are missing anything or have luggage that does not belong to you.

While we are embarking please feel free to explore the ship. The Lounge/Bar is located on Deck 6.

~17.15 **Mandatory Safety Briefing in the Lecture Room (Deck 3). ALL PASSENGERS are required** to attend this important safety briefing. A roll call will be conducted.
We will conduct the mandatory Lifeboat Drill right afterwards. Please listen for the Alarm.

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

18.30 We would like to invite you to the **Bar** on Deck 6 for an **Introduction to the Ship** by Hotel Manager Sigi, this will be followed by a welcome cocktail, hosted by the Master of the vessel, Captain Yury Marin.

Expedition Leader, Claudia Holgate, will finish off with a **welcome briefing** and introduction to the Expedition.

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

*Tonight, we will enter the Southern Ocean
Please ensure your belongings are secure and will not roll, slide or fall
when the ship starts to move with the swell.*

Drake Passage on route to Antarctica

Friday 6th December 2019

- 07h45 **Wake-up** call
- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 09h30 Join **Clouds** for a lecture on **Seabirds of the Southern Ocean** (Lounge deck 6)
- 11h00 Join **Werner** for a lecture on **Photography** (Lounge deck 6)
- 12h30 **Lunch** is served in the dining room (Deck 4)
- 14h30 Join **Lucas** for a lecture on **An Introduction to Antarctica** (Lounge deck 6)
- 16h30 Join **Pippa** for a lecture on **Marine Mammals of Antarctica** (Lounge deck 6)
- 18h30 **Daily recap and briefing**
- 19h00 **Dinner** is served in the dining room

Today we are in the Drake Passage, please always hold on with at least one hand and be very careful in the stairwells. Please do not wear flip-flops and keep your hands away from door frames

Drake Passage on route to Antarctica

Saturday 7th December 2019

07h45 **Wake-up** call

08h00 *Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room.*

09h15 Mandatory IAATO and zodiac briefing for guests on **deck 3 and 5** (**Lounge/bar deck 6**)

09h15 Mandatory biosecurity for guests on **deck 4** (We will call a few cabins at a time. Please come to **lecture room (Deck 3)** when called).

Important: Bring all used outer gear, as well as any used walking poles/tripods/monopods and any bags you intend to take ashore

We will then swap groups, so Deck 4 will go to Lounge/Bar (deck 6) for IAATO and Zodiac briefing and Deck 3 and 5 will do biosecurity in lecture room.

11h30 Kayaking and Snow shoeing briefing (Lounge deck 6)

12h30 *Lunch is served in the Dining room*

14h00 **Camping** briefing (Lounge deck 6)

15h00 **Mountaineering** briefing (Lounge deck 6) Bring your mountaineering boots if you have any

16h00 **Activity sign ups** in lecture room by priority booking group. Please wait for your group to be called.

18h30 Join Clouds and the team for the **Daily recap and briefing** in the Lounge deck 6

19h00 *Dinner is served in the dining room*

20h30 **Mountaineers** for tomorrow, please meet Martin and Richard in the Heli Hanger (deck 6) to collect your gear (you will find out if you are going tomorrow at the activity sign ups at 4pm)

After dinner talk: Join Martin for an informal chat about his experiences climbing Mt Vinson: Antarctica's highest peak



Orne Harbour & Danco Island

Sunday 8th December 2019

07h15 Wakeup call

07h30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

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

08h30 **Mountaineers:** meet Martin and Richard at the **gangway**.

08h45 **Kayakers:** Disembarkation. Meet Zet on the port side deck 5, dressed and ready to go

09h00 **Zodiac Cruise - General disembarkation. Please come to the gangway.**

Photo group please wait until the end of disembarkation for your own zodiac with Werner

12h15 **Mountaineers:** If you are mountaineering in the afternoon please meet Martin in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6 once you have returned from the landing - before lunch.

12h30 Lunch is served in the Dining Room.

*After lunch we plan to land at **Danco Island**. This is another opportunity to see Gentoo Penguins and if conditions allow, we hope to offer a longer snowshoe hike up to the top of the island for views of the Errera Channel and the Antarctic continent. Don't forget to stop and take in your surroundings.*

13h45 **Mountaineers:** meet Martin and Richard at the **Gangway**, dressed and ready to go.

14h00 **Kayakers:** meet Zet in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6 to collect your gear

14h00 **Landing at Danco Island.** Disembarkation to the landing site. **Please come to the gangway.**

Photo group will meet Werner on shore - no need to get into a specific zodiac.

18h30 Please join Clouds and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for our **Daily Recap**

19h00 Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Please let the campers go first! Enjoy your meal.

20h00 **Camping at Kerr Point, Ronge Island**

Please be ready to collect your gear from the Heli Hanger by 20h00 for a 20h15 disembarkation. Remember to pack warm clothes and don't forget: **The bathrooms onboard are more comfortable than the one onshore!!**

20h30 **Mountaineers:** If you are mountaineering tomorrow morning please meet Martin and Richard in the **Heli Hanger on Deck 6** after Dinner.



Port Lockroy and Damoy Point

Monday 9th December 2019

07h15 Wakeup call

07h30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining room.

We expect to arrive at Port Lockroy at 08h30, however, it depends entirely on ice conditions during our transit. We will keep you informed as to our progress if there are any delays.

09h00 **Mountaineers and kayakers** at the gangway, ready to go to Port Lockroy

09h10 **Group 2** Disembarkation for Zodiac cruise then Port Lockroy

09h50 **Group 3** for zodiac cruise then Port Lockroy

10h30 **Group 4** for Zodiac Cruise and then Port Lockroy

Group 1 - Mountaineers and kayakers

Group 2- Cabins 337-448 (excluding kayakers, mountaineers and campers)

Group 3 -Cabins 449-529 (excluding kayakers, mountaineers and campers)

Group 4 - Campers from last night (first night camping)

12h00 Lunch

12h00 Mountaineers please meet Martin in the Heli Hanger to collect your gear before lunch

12h00 Kayakers please meet Zet in the Heli Hanger to collect your gear before lunch

13h15 Kayakers meet at the gangway ready to go

13h15 Mountaineers meet at gangway ready to go

13h30 Disembarkation of everyone to the landing site.

18h30 Please join Clouds and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for our **Daily Recap**

19h00 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**. **Please let the campers go first!** Enjoy your meal.

TBC **Camping at Kerr Point**

We will let you know tomorrow what time we expect to arrive at Kerr. This is entirely dependent on ice conditions.

Please be ready to collect your gear from the Heli Hanger by 20h00. Remember to pack warm clothes and don't forget:

The bathrooms onboard are more comfortable than the one onshore!!

Port Lockroy information

- All pricing is in GBP Sterling (with USD\$ equivalent shown).
- All credit card transactions will initially be taken in USD\$ until their system accepts GBP
- (American express/Diners club may not be accepted)
- Credit card payments are always preferred but Cash payments in USD, GBP or EURs are accepted
- There is a minimum credit card spend of £5.00 GBP
- Port Lockroy cannot accept coins in any currency nor \$2 notes or €500 notes.
- Plastic bags will not be provided at the gift shop. Reusable bags can be purchased in the shop (min. £5.00), however, we encourage you to ask your guests to bring their own bags to transport purchases
- Postage stamps \$2 or GBP2 for postage around the World



Neko Harbour and Cuverville Island

Tuesday 10th December 2019

07h15 Wakeup call
07h30 **Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.**

*We hope to land at **Neko Harbour** on the Antarctic Continent. This small indentation in Andvord Bay is named after a whaling ship that used the bay as a home base for a couple of years around 1910-1913.*

08h45 **Mountaineers:** meet Martin at the gangway dressed and ready to go.

09h00 **General disembarkation** for those wishing to go ashore at Neko Harbour

09h00 ***Kayakers:*** meet Zet in the **Heli Hanger** on deck 6.

12h15 **Mountaineers:** Afternoon mountaineers please meet Martin in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6 before lunch.
Kayakers: Afternoon kayakers meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on deck 6 - before lunch.

12h30 **Lunch is served in the Dining Room.**

*This afternoon we plan to land on **Cuverville Island**. Home to the largest Gentoo Penguin colony on the Peninsula, this is a good opportunity to try out your snow shoes for a short walk to the penguin colony or, if the ice conditions allow, join Lucas for a moderate walk up the hill to a stunning viewpoint. Don't forget to stop and take in your surroundings.*

13h45 **Mountaineers:** meet Martin at the gangway, dressed and ready to go.

13h45 ***Kayakers:*** meet Zet on deck 5, port side, dressed and ready to go.

14h00 **Disembarkation** for all who want to go ashore at Cuverville Island

18h30 Please join Clouds and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for our **Daily Recap**

19h00 **Dinner is served in the Dining Room. Please let the campers go first! Enjoy your meal.**

20h00 **Camping at Kerr Point, Ronge Island**
Please be ready to collect your gear from the Heli Hanger by 20h00.
Remember to pack warm clothes and don't forget: **The bathrooms onboard are more comfortable than the one onshore!!**



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

Waterboat Point & Brown Station

Wednesday 11th December 2019

07h15 Wakeup call

07h30 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

This morning we hope to land at Waterboat Point. This is the Gonzalez Videla Chilean Station and home to a leucistic Gentoo Penguin

08h45 **Mountaineers:** meet Martin & Richard at the gangway, ready to go.

08h30 **Kayakers:** meet Zet at the heli hanger to collect your gear

09h15 **Kayakers** meet Zet at deck 5 port side

09h00 Disembarkation to Waterboat point for those in **cabins 337-447**

10h15 Disembarkation for those guests in **cabins 448-529**

Remember to bring cash (US\$) if you want to buy any souvenirs and you can stamp your passport at reception

12h15 **Mountaineers** for the afternoon (Group 1): meet Martin & Richard in the **Heli Hanger** to collect your gear

12h15 **Kayakers** in afternoon (Group 1 and 2), meet Zet in Heli hanger to collect your gear

12h30 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

*This afternoon we hope to land at **Brown Station**. This is another **Antarctic CONTINENTAL landing**. We will also have a zodiac cruise through Paradise Harbour to **Skontorp Cove**. We then swap on shore, so everybody can do everything.*

13h45 **Mountaineers (Group 1):** meet at the gangway, ready to go to shore.

14h10 **Mountaineers (Group 2) wait until the end of disembarkation** for a zodiac cruise. You will meet up with Martin and Richard when you swap for the landing at 15h30

13h45 **Kayakers (Group 1)** meet Port side, dressed and ready to go

14h00 **Kayakers (Group 2)** go with the first zodiacs to shore, you will swap onshore with group 1 at ~16h00

14h00 **Photo workshop (group 1)** go to shore with general disembarkation, you will swap over at 15h30

14h10 **Photo workshop (Group 2) wait until the end of disembarkation** for your zodiac cruise with Werner. You will go ashore after your cruise

14h00 **General Disembarkation** for Brown Station Landing & Zodiac Cruise.

18h30 Please join Clouds and the Expedition Staff in the **Bar** for our **Daily Recap**

19h00 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**. Enjoy your meal.

20h00 **Camping** at Leith Cove. Collect your gear at 20h00 from the heli hanger and head down to the gangway for a 20h15 disembarkation.



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

Portal Point & Cierva Cove

Thursday 12th December 2019

07h15 Wakeup call

07h30 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

This morning we plan to land at Portal Point. It is a truly spectacular spot on the Antarctic Peninsula. This long stretch comes down from the Polar Plateau and gets its name from the fact that it was used by the British after they built a refuge hut there. With panoramic views of Charlotte Bay, with it's incredible icebergs and the ever present chance of whale spotting.

09h00 **Mountaineers** meet Martin at Heli Hanger to collect gear

09h30 Disembarkation to Portal Point

09h30 **Kayakers** meet Zet at the Heli Hanger to collect gear

13h00 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

14h00 Please join Clouds and the expedition team in the lounge for a **recap and briefing.**

This afternoon we plan to offer a zodiac cruise in Cierva Cove. This beautiful cove has spectacular glacial scenery, icebergs, Gentoo and Chinstrap Penguins and maybe we will see a leopard Seal.

15h00 **Kayakers** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger to collect your gear

16h00 Disembarkation for all zodiac cruisers

If you would rather enjoy Cierva Cove from the ship, please write your name on the zodiac 'opt out' list at reception

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

Penguin Island & Turret Point

Friday 13th December 2019

07h15 Wakeup call.

07h30 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

This morning, we plan to land at Penguin Island in the South Shetland Islands. The island is home to a colony of Chinstrap Penguins and there are beautiful ocean views, with the chance of Elephant or Fur Seals!

09h00 **General disembarkation** for our Landing at **Penguin Island**

09h15 Disembarkation of 2 photo workshop zodiacs after general disembarkation. You will zodiac for approx. 45-60 min and then come to land for a short landing.

12h30 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

This afternoon, we plan to do a split zodiac cruise and landing at Turret Point on King George Island (Opposite penguin Island). There are nesting Giant Petrels, Chinstrap Penguins and the possibility of Adele Penguins. We may be able to walk up to a glacier (depending on conditions), and if we are really lucky, we may spot an Elephant seal too!

14h00 **General disembarkation** for everyone at **Turret Point**.

First 6 zodiacs will go to **land** first, the second 6 zodiacs will **cruise** first, and then we will **swap on shore**.

18h30 Please join Clouds and the Expedition Staff in the **Lounge** for an extended version of our **Daily Recap**.

19h15 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**. Enjoy your meal!

This evening we will be entering the Drake Passage. Please prepare both yourself and your cabin for potentially rough seas. Please remember - one hand for the ship!

Drake Passage on route to Ushuaia

Saturday 14th December 2019

- 07h45 **Wake-up** call
- 08h00 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 09h30 **Lecture** by Clouds on Climate Change
- 11h00 **Lecture** by Pippa on Acoustics in the Southern Ocean
- 12h30 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 14h00 **Boot and zodiac life jacket collection** in the lecture room
Please also bring all rental gear to be returned.
Cabins 334-447 will be called first
Followed by cabins 448-529.
Please listen for announcements
- 15h00 **Lecture** by Christian and Tyrone - a double feature on Penguins
- 17h00 **Antarctic quiz** - join the team to test your Antarctic knowledge
with fun team trivia!
- 18h30 **Recap:** Please join Clouds and the Expedition Team in the Bar for a
recap of our activities and plans for the next day.
- 19h00 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

After dinner Join Clouds for an informal chat about her **Adventures in the Southern Ocean**

Today we are in the Drake Passage, please always hold on with at least one hand and be very careful in the stairwells. Please do not wear flip-flops and keep your hands away from door frames



Drake Passage on route to Ushuaia

Sunday 15th December 2019

- 07h45 **Wake-up** call
- 08h00 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 09h30 **Lecture** by Lucas on “Why sea ice matters? Sea ice and its structural influence on polar ecology”
- 11h30 **Lecture** by Pierre on The International Whaling Commission and CCAMLR
- 12h30 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 14h00 **Group photo** of all guests on the Heli Deck
- 14h30 **Movie** on Rounding Cape Horn (This is a short movie narrated by Irving Johnson (who took the footage) of the rounding of the Horn on a 3 Mast Schooner)
- 16h30 **Lecture** by Christian on “Antarctic Naturalists.” Christian will chat about the first Antarctic naturalists, their main discoveries, frustrations, adventures, collections and science
- 18h15 Final **Recap, Captain’s farewell cocktail and trip slide show** (Bar deck 6)
- 19h00 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

Today we are in the Drake Passage, please always hold on with at least one hand and be very careful in the stairwells. Please do not wear flip-flops and keep your hands away from door frames



Disembarkation, Ushuaia

Monday 16th December 2019

Please ensure your large (check in) luggage is outside your cabin by the time Sigi invites you to breakfast at 07h30. We will move your luggage to the pier, and after the bus has arrived, we will call you to come down the gangway. You must ensure your **own luggage is moved** to either, the airport bus or the luggage storage truck, if you wish to use either of these services.

07h30 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

08h30 We expect the busses to arrive at 08h30 and to begin **Disembarkation. Please listen and wait for announcements.** It will be a great help to all the crew if you do not wait in the Lobby, which will be a very busy place. The Bar will offer good views of Ushuaia, and long-awaited cell/mobile phone coverage

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

We hope to see you again, North or South!

"Fair winds and following seas"