



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery Trip

on board

m/v Hondius

**5th of February 2020 – 15th of February
2020**



The MV *Hondius* was built in 2019 in Brodosplit, Croatia, as an expedition vessel for Oceanwide Expeditions. *Hondius* is 107.6 m long, 17.6 m wide and has a maximum draught of 5.3 m and has an exceptionally high Ice class of PC6, a top speed of 15 knots, and 3 diesel generators. The *Hondius* sails on LSMGO. *Hondius* is sailing as a 176-passenger vessel with 83 cabins. Our beautiful, modern vessel carries 369 m³ of fresh water and has a water plant producing 70 m³ per day. In many ways, the *Hondius* is the perfect vessel for a true polar adventure!

Captain Remmert Jan Koster

and his international crew of 74

including

Chief Officer:	Matei Mocanu	[Romania]
Staff Officer:	Mikko Heikkila	[Finland]
Second Officer:	Maikel Overbeeke	[The Netherlands]
Third Officer:	Kirill Buriachek	[Russia]
Chief Engineer:	Sergei Trifonov	[Estonia]
Hotel Manager:	DJ Nikolic	[Ukraine]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Rafael Szutikewicz	[Poland]
Head Chef:	Bawa Gaurav	[India]
Sous-Chef:	Sergiy Sklyarov	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	Sanne van Tilburg	[The Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Adam Turner	[Great Britain]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Sara Jenner	[Great Britain]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Pippa Low	[Great Britain]
Expedition Guide:	Ross Wheeler	[Great Britain]
Expedition Guide:	Miriam Vermeij	[The Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Adele Jackson	[Great Britain]
Expedition Guide:	Bill Smith	[Great Britain]
Expedition Guide:	Pierre Gallego	[Luxembourg]
Expedition Guide:	Gaby Pilson	[USA]
Expedition Guide:	David Begg	[Great Britain]
Kayak Guide:	Pete Gwatkin	[Great Britain]
Kayak Guide:	Paul Ulrich	[Austria]
Camping Guide:	Ben Giunchi	[Argentina]

Camping Guide:	Marcel Paul	[The Netherlands]
Workshop Guide:	Sara Torres Ortiz	[Spain]
Workshop Guide:	Morgan J. Martin	[USA]
Videography Guide:	Myriam Casper	[Brazil]
Photography Guide:	Massimo Bassano	[Italy]

We welcome you on board!

Day 1: 5th February 2020

Embarkation, Ushuaia

GPS position at 0800: 54°48'.6 S, 068°17'.8 W
Wind: SW4 Sea State: Port Weather: Overcast
Air Temp: +10 °C Sea Temp: +11 °C



Ushuaia! We gathered from all points on the globe on a sunny summer day in Ushuaia, capital of Tierra del Fuego. Known as 'the End of the World', but for us it is just the beginning as we will venture much further South to the great white continent. For most of us this is a lifelong dream, and for many this will be the seventh continent they have visited.

Ushuaia is a beautiful city set in beautiful landscape. The mountains behind are topped with snow, and the streets are buzzing with excitement for those about to embark on the voyage of a lifetime and a slight sadness for those that have already been and it's

time to go home. We wandered town's cobbled, steep and random footpaths, had coffee and lunch, then in the afternoon many did some last-minute shopping before joining the *Hondius* at the Port.

It is finally 16:00 and we are slowly making our way to our future home for the next 11 days, *Hondius*. Whilst waiting to board you could feel the excitement in the air. The Expedition Team greeted us at the gangway, and you could feel the exhilaration among the team which was also starting a new journey. We were met at Reception by DJ, our Hotel Manager. We were then checked into our cabins with the assistance of our fabulous Filipino crew.

We had a little bit of time to get familiarised with the ship before we all convened in the lounge on deck 5 to meet our Expedition Leader, Adam, and our Hotel Manager, DJ. They gave us an overview of the ship, a floating hotel which will be our home for the next few days, and a short introduction of the next couple of days. Then, we met the first officer Matei who led us through all the details of the required SOLAS briefing (Safety of life at sea).

One last time before dinner, we gathered in the Lounge with a glass of Prosecco. We were introduced to our captain, Remmert Jan Koster, who toasted to a safe and amazing trip. At 19:30 we were welcomed to the dining room. There we sat at shared tables, making new friends and wondering what awaits us in the days to come.

Day 2: 06th February 2020

Crossing the Drake Passage

GPS position at 0800: 56°51'.5 S, 066°18'.5 W

Wind: NW4 Sea State: Moderate Weather: Partly cloudy

Air Temp: +10°C Sea Temp: +10°C

Our first morning in the famous Drake Passage. For some it felt like the swell had woken them up like a baby in a cradle. However, there were some mixed opinions about this. Most people did come down for breakfast which was a great start. After breakfast we all had to meet up in the Lounge for the introduction of all the expedition staff. Strangely enough there was one older gentleman walking around in a Scottish kilt. That was Bill's first lesson about, Looking Seeing



Thinking. After the introductions Adam gave the mandatory IAATO briefing where we learned what we can do and more importantly, what we can't do in Antarctica. This was briefly followed with the handing out of the rubber boots. Many shoesizes flew around the room. If you had a big size or small size, the expedition staff had a pair with you in no time. Therefore, it also did not take very long until everybody had a pair and was ready to go for lunch. And for this afternoon we had a buffet style lunch with enough options and quantities for everybody on board.



In the afternoon we also had a full program filled with lectures and activity briefings. Starting with the Biosecurity check. For this we all had to bring down our outer clothing which were checked thoroughly by the expedition staff. All pockets had to be vacuumed and all Velcro were checked and cleaned with pincers. With a bit of music to listen to it was done within an hour. Afterwards Massimo and Myriam had a lecture prepared

to teach us something about "Photography in Antarctica". Followed by both the briefings for Kayaking, with Pete and Paul, and Camping, with Ben and Marcel, for those who had written themselves in for the more adventurous activities in Antarctica.

To end the day we had our first Daily Recap in the Observation lounge. Here we got to hear the Plans for the next day from our Expedition leader Adam. And some of the expedition staff had some interesting topics to talk about which were relevant to the day. Bill thought us about Looking, Seeing and Thinking. Sara talked about different birds we had seen in her Recap “the size of birds”. And last, Pippa thought us about the Antarctic convergence which we were about to cross that same evening.

Our evening lecture was given by Massimo and Myriam to teach us something about “Videography in Antarctica”. This way we were fully prepared for what was awaiting us at the distant continent of Antarctica.

Day 3: 7th February 2020

At sea, Drake passage

GPS position at 0800: 61°39'.1 S, 067°00'.0 W
Wind: WSW-4 Sea State: Slight Weather: Fog
Air Temp: +2 °C Sea Temp: +7 °C



During the night we sailed through the Antarctic Convergence and when you got on the outside decks, you could feel we came closer to the Antarctic peninsula and the Antarctic circle where we heading for. We expected some more sea birds, but probably because of the calm sea, there were not that many birds. But most people felt very good and most of us had a delicious breakfast.

After the mandatory briefings of yesterday we had a day full of interesting lectures. We first gathered in the lounge to hear Gaby tell us about the glaciology . We learned about glaciers and ice so we are able to read the landscape when we will reach the white continent. Just before lunch Pippa taught us about marine mammals of Antarctica. How we can identify whales and dolphins and we got a closer look in some scientific research programs.

Then it was time for the lovely lunch buffet and after a quick rest for some of us Sara took us on a voyage of the different penguins we can see, their adaptation to the harsh environment and frequently asked questions. Also the kayakers met up with their guides to get a close up look at a kayak, get familiar with the seats and steering and collect all of the kayaking gear.

The two acoustics scientists, Morgan and Sara, told us about their research in the afternoon and how we can help them. We will all be able to see how they work and what they are able to record over the coming days. After all the wildlife information it

was time for history. Koen told us more about the Exploration of Antarctica up to 1900. Very interesting and it really makes to think about how the early explores had to survive compared to us on the comfortable Hondius.

Before dinner we gathered in the lounge to hear the plans for tomorrow. It will be a day everybody is waiting for, because after leaving Ushuaia it will be our first outing in the zodiacs or the kayaks.

After the 4-course meal it was time to go to the lecture room to hear from Adam on the quest to the South Pole. A very interesting lecture and we learned a lot about Scott and Amundsen and how they had very different tactics to get to the South pole. And then at 22.00 it was time for a drink or a good sleep in the cabin. The last night before the dream of most people to set foot on one of the Antarctic Islands became true.



Day 4: 8th February 2020

Crystal Sound and Detaille Island

GPS position at 0800: 66°42'.5 S, 067°06'.5 W

Wind: NNE-2 Sea State: Calm Weather: Fog

Air Temp: +2 °C Sea Temp: +4 °C

Early morning, at 7.14 when most people were sleeping, Adam announced the crossing of the Polar circle on the PA system. Straight after the captain confirmed the crossing with 3 blows of the ships horn.

Breakfast was served at 8.00 whilst the ship was making its way calmly true the



Chrystal sound. Most people went to deck after breakfast to enjoy the surroundings and wildlife. There were a lot of crabeater seals sleeping and laying on iceflows around the ship and we also enjoyed the birds that came flying past. To everybody's excitement we spotted a Ross seal! After the initial first sighting, the captain turned the Hondius for another good look. A very, very rare sighting and a first for all crew and staff on board as well.

After lunch it was time for the kayakers to meet up with their guides, Pete and Paul. They got all of their kayaking gear distributed and had a first look at a kayak that was brought inside to get used to the seats and steering.

Around 14.00 it was time for the first outing. It was a zodiac cruise and a landing at Detaille island. The cruise was very good with close up sightings of quite a few Crabeater seals, a Weddell seal and even a Leopard seal. On the Island itself there were some Adelie penguins. The cruising area was super calm and lots of big icebergs around with beautiful shapes and blue colors.

The landing was challenging with steep rocks to climb over but the visit to the hut made it well worth the effort. A superb hut, called "Base W", showing how the people used to live in it and the inside is still very much was in 1959 when it was last used as a British base. Visits to this island and hut are very rare and again a first for all of the passengers and guides.

After coming back on board, it was time for the daily recap. This time with champagne to celebrate the crossing of the Antarctic circle. Plans for the day after were explained as well as some recaps by the team.

The day was not over yet after dinner as Bill did a lecture on paintings of the sea. As always Bill managed to get us looking, seeing and thinking in a different way on the fascinating paintings he showed. An excellent first day at Antarctica!









© Ross Wheeler



© Ross Wheeler

Day 5: 9th February 2020

Yalour Islands and Petermann Island

GPS position at 0800: 65°13'.7 S, 064°08'.8 W

Wind: ENE 2 Sea State: Calm Weather: Sunny

Air Temp: 10°C Sea Temp: 3°C

We woke up to a beautiful blue-sky day. With blazing sun and not a breath of wind the temperature felt distinctly tropical rather than Antarctic! Our morning landing at Yalour Islands was an ideal place to watch Adelie penguins. We enjoyed watching the penguins tobogganing across the snow, hurrying from one place to another. The chicks were getting close to being fully fledged, many of them had developed most of their adult feathers with just a few patches of chick down left. Still reliant on their parents the big chicks chased their parents asking to be fed. The sea around the islands was filled with stunning sculptural iceberg formations: some had impressive archways, whilst others glowed blue. The flatter pieces of ice floes made perfect sleeping platforms for groups of crabeater seals, which looked very relaxed enjoying the cool of the ice and the heat of the sun. Cruising in the zodiacs around the shoreline gave the chance to see a busy colony of Antarctic cormorants. Many of the adult birds grouped together in the water to dive for fish, while their chicks ashore vigorously



flapped their wings getting ready for their first flight. A few lucky cruisers enjoyed the spectacle of humpback whales before it was time to return to the ship.

After a delicious lunch it was time for the second landing of the day at Petermann Island. The island has a rich Antarctic expedition heritage, it was the site where the

French expedition of Jean Baptiste Charcot over-wintered in the ship 'Pourquoi Pas'. The initials PP carved into the rock can still be seen at low tide, marking the place where the ship was anchored. When we arrived ashore island was throng with birdlife. Gentoos and Adelie penguin chicks chased their parents in search of food. Adult moulting penguins hunkered down near rocky outcrops for shelter while their summer feathers were slowly replaced by new winter ones. Brown Skuas circled the colonies on the look out for an opportunistic penguin chick meal. A short hike up and around the back of the island gave a stunning view of impressively sculpted icebergs. Much of the snow had melted and that which remained was mottled pink and green with a mixture of red and green snow algae and, of course, penguin guano. Once again, lucky zodiac cruisers were blessed with the experience of seeing humpback whales, while those of us ashore admired the whales from a distance. Another spectacular day in Antarctica!



After the daily recap in the lounge Dejan, surprised us with the news that a special Antarctica BBQ was waiting for us on the outside decks and better still, there was a free bar to be enjoyed! The galley team had prepared a wonderful selection of barbequed meats, vegetables and salads, followed by an array of mouth-watering deserts. As we tucked in to this mighty feast we sailed through the very picturesque Lemaire Channel, famously nicknamed 'Kodak Gap' due to the amount of pictures that people take of the ice filled channel and surrounding towering peaks, we could not have asked for a better setting for a BBQ. Once we had eaten our fill, they cleared the deck of tables and chairs and pumped up the music so that those of us that still had a little energy could dance the night away as we cruised further North in preparation for our morning landing.



Day 6: 10th February 2020

Port Lockroy & Ships Cruise

GPS position at 0800: 64°49'.6 S 063°30'.2 W

Wind: Var1 Sea State: Calm Weather: Overcast

Air Temp: +3 °C Sea Temp: +4 °C

Once again, we woke to a beautiful Antarctic day with light winds and a mirror calm sea. Our first destination of the day was Port Lockroy, a renovated base that is now a museum and post office operated by the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust. To ensure that everyone had significant time to explore the museum, purchase some unique Antarctic souvenirs and send their postcards we combined this visit with a scenic zodiac cruise. The cruise offered some memorable sightings of gentoo penguins, Antarctic shags and a minke whale for a lucky few. As well as the wildlife we also cruised along the base of the stunning snow covered mountains and giant icebergs whilst also observing several remnants of the whaling industry left behind



over 100 years ago.

After we said goodbye to Port Lockroy and the small number of staff working at the base we started to head in a North Westerly direction towards the Orne Islands. As we entered the Southern reach of the Gerlache Strait we were all treated with some exceptional views of feeding humpback whales. At one point there were numerous groups of these fifteen meter leviathans all around the Hondius which ensured that everyone onboard had the opportunity to experience the unforgettable sights and sounds of these charismatic marine mammals.

Unfortunately, the weather conditions deteriorated throughout the afternoon and with the safety of everyone at mind it was decided that a landing at the Orne Islands was not feasible. Instead we continued our marine mammal experience with an educational lecture on the ecology and life of a humpback whale in Antarctica by expedition guide Pierre. This was followed by our usual informative daily recap where plans for the next day of our expedition were discussed along with a short presentation on salps by Koen and counting penguin populations by Assistant Expedition Leader Sara.





Day 7: 11th February 2020

Orne Harbour, Dobrowolski Island

GPS position at 0800: S 64°22'; W 62°56'

Wind: SW20kn, **Sea State:** Choppy, **Weather:** Cloudy

Air Temp: +3°C **Sea Temp:** +4°C

This morning's objective was to set foot on the main Peninsula as, up to this point, our landings had been on adjacent islands. Orne Harbour, on the Danco Coast of Graham Land, was first discovered by the Belgian Antarctic Expedition, led by Adrien De Gerlache in 1898. The name is thought to have been given by Norwegian whalers.

When the winds are high and seas rough, as we found them, Orne Harbour offers a sheltered haven where we can land ashore, zodiac cruise and even kayak. The scenery is truly spectacular, a massive glacier tumbles into the head of the bay and granite spires surround us.

We all loaded into zodiacs for a cruise, during which we landed briefly on a promontory of rock, keeping a safe distance from several fur seals. Having enjoyed the feeling of landing on the actual continent of Antarctica we continued with the cruise. Colonies of Chinstrap Penguins perched atop small cliffs by the shore and we were able to watch them work their way down to the water where, after some human-like indecision, they took the plunge and headed off to feed on krill. Nearby was a colony of Antarctic Shags and we could see their fledgling chicks stretching their wings as they grow ready for flight in the weeks ahead.

Passing the kayakers working their way along the shore we headed to view the massive icefall nearby (keeping a wary distance from it). Then it was back to the ship and the usual lovely lunch.

The afternoon saw us cross the Gerlache Strait to Dobrowolski Island tucked alongside Anvers Island. Once the site of a scientific station of which nothing remains, the snow dome on the island gives a nice view of the mountain wall of Anvers, the top of which was obscured by cloud but from within which we could hear the rumbling ice falls above. Surrounding the island were rocky shoals where seals were pulled out as well as ice floes on which three leopard seals were resting, digesting their penguin lunches. The weather was bracing, with moderate to strong winds gusting off the mountain sides and choppy seas. The landing was well conceived

by the landing team who shepherded us across small rounded rocks in the shallow waters to load and unload.

A splashy ride back to the ship followed with a cider and rum toddy waiting for us. Life is good!

That evening Adam had just launched into his evening briefing when a cry was heard, that which we were all hoping for had happened, "orcas"! For the next half hour, we were treated to a display we'll never forget. A pod of around 10 orcas, likely feeding on a submerged minke whale, seemingly oblivious of the ship slowly circling nearby, were diving, surfacing, tail slapping and breaching. It was almost as if they were putting on a display for our benefit, but in fact, they were more likely reveling in the meal below the waves. Above it all, several hundred Wilson's Storm Petrels feasted on the scraps that floated on the oily slick generated by the kill.

And so concluded yet another fantastic day ... Antarctica never disappoints.







Day 8: 12th February 2020

Whaler's Bay & Half Moon Island

GPS position at 0800: 62°50'.6 S 060°08'.0 W

Wind: NW 4 Sea State: Slight Weather: Partly Cloudy

Air Temp: +3 °C Sea Temp: +4 °C

After a night of slight rock and roll as we left behind the Antarctic continent proper and headed northward towards the South Shetland Islands, we finally got our first glimpses of our morning landing site of Deception Island in the early hours of the morning. Before we could arrive at our landing site, however, *Hondius* had to make its way through Deception Island's narrow opening at Neptune's Bellows.

Under the command of her skilled bridge officers, *Hondius* navigated the Bellows and sailed into Port Foster – Deception Island's deceptively hidden interior harbour. A sharp turn to the starboard and a few more minutes of sailing brought us to our anchorage at Whaler's Bay, where we planned to make our morning landing.

Despite the gusting winds and somewhat dreary conditions, the expedition team still managed to get us all ashore for a nice leg stretch and a chance to see firsthand the remnants of Antarctica's whaling days during our last day on the White Continent. While ashore, some of us made the walk up to see Neptune's Window while others meandered over toward some of the historic buildings left behind after Deception Island's last major eruption in the late 1960s.



Whether we were keen for a hike or eager to learn more about Deception Island's long history of whaling, however, we all got to see an abundance of fur seals snoozing on the beach next to the landing site. The highlight of the morning, though, was not the hike, nor the history, as some of our number decided it would be a good idea to jump into the near-freezing water of Whaler's Bay for a quick polar plunge.

Once that was all said and done, our brave polar plungers made their way back to *Hondius*, where we were all greeted with a mug of hot cocoa to warm up after the morning's activities. Over the next few hours, we enjoyed some time on the ship, ate a delicious buffet lunch, and listened to a lecture from Pippa and Pierre about the beautiful orcas we had seen the previous evening.

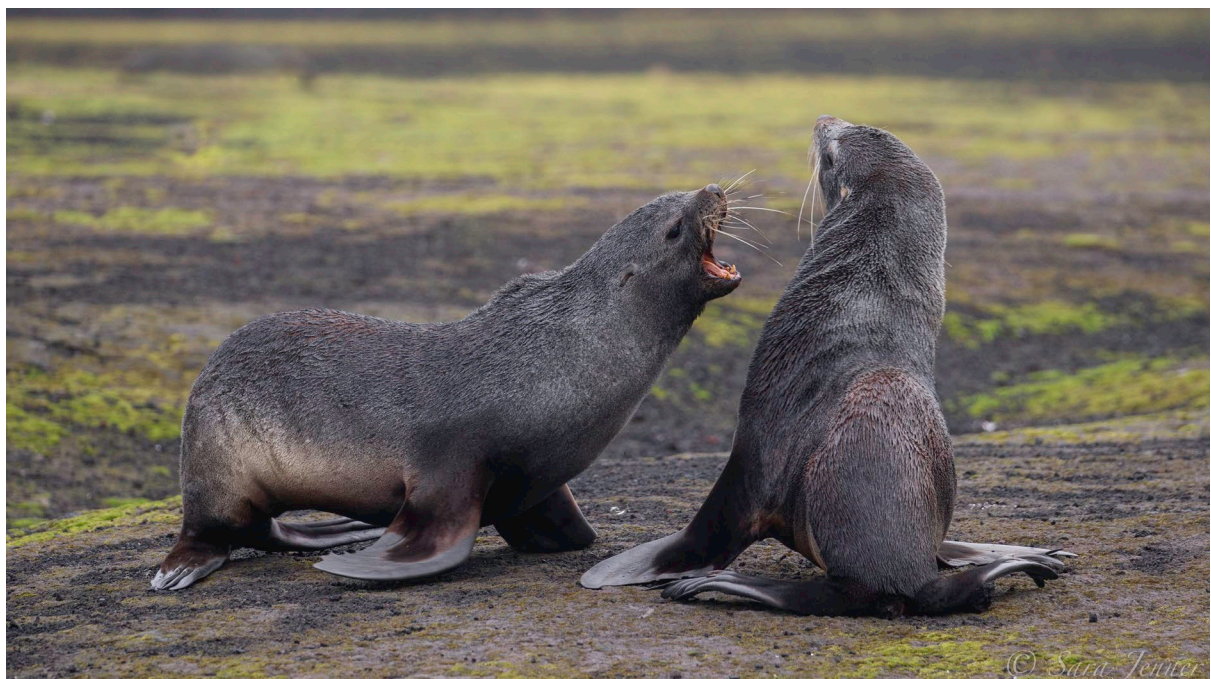
Soon enough, though, we had made our way to Half Moon Island, the site of our afternoon's activities. Despite the forecasted high winds, the weather seemed to want to cooperate with us for our very last excursion in Antarctica. Under sunny skies and moderate winds, we made our landing at Half Moon Island, in the shadow of the South Shetland's Livingston Island.



Once at Half Moon Island, we had yet another chance to stretch our legs, as many of us wandered down the aptly-named island's long expanses of beach. Along the way, we were treated to a number of great wildlife viewing opportunities, including a whole host of fur seals resting on the beach, as well as a number of gentoo penguins and Weddell seals scattered about. Closer toward the landing site, we even had a chance to

visit a chinstrap penguin colony, checking off the third and final penguin species that we had hoped to see during our voyage.

By the early evening, however, it was time to head back to *Hondius* and set sail for our northward journey back across the Drake Passage and toward Ushuaia. With great memories and more photos of penguins than we could ever have imagined in tow, we had one last, wet, bumpy ride back to the ship as the winds picked up to usher us home to conclude our last day in Antarctica.



Day 9: 13th February 2020

Drake Passage

GPS position at 0800: 60°24'.7S, 061°18'.8 W

Wind: N7 Sea State: Moderate Weather: Overcast

Air Temp: 4°C Sea Temp: 7°C

After a night in the 'Drake Shake' it was nice to wake up to a calmer sea. This said, the waves were still large enough to keep many people in their cabins and away from breakfast in the dining room.

As the ship powered forward at an impressive speed of 13knots, several of the expedition staff took our minds off the motion of the waves, entertaining us with a day of lectures and presentations. Adele spoke about what it is like to work and live on a tiny island in Antarctica looking after a historic building and welcoming visitors to the Port Lockroy museum and post office. The presentation left some people inspired to apply to be part of next year's Port Lockroy team. Ross shared facts and figures of all the different bird species we've seen on the trip. In addition to the Gentoo, Adelie and Chinstrap penguins we've actually seen over 30 different birds.

After another superb lunch prepared by the galley team it was soon time for a series of 'bite-sized' talks exploring climate and weather. This was especially relevant considering Antarctica and the Southern Ocean are the engine of the Earth's climate and weather system. The afternoon was also the time for the kayakers to return their gear. We all felt a tinge of sadness that the trip was coming to an end, yet we enjoyed recounting the adventures we've shared together.

Morgan and Sara, the wildlife acoustics scientists onboard, shared some of the fascinating sounds and spectrograms they have collected over the past week. They have over four hours of recordings of Gentoo, Adelie and Chinstrap penguins. Most exciting are the recordings of Chinstrap penguins vocalizing while at sea, Chinstraps have never been recorded or researched in this way before now. It's great to know that our voyage enabled ground-breaking research to be carried out.

The day was finished off with a short recap where Sara explained some maritime superstitions. We all agreed to avoid doing anything that would attract bad luck or stormy conditions for our last day on the Drake tomorrow.

Day 10: 14th February 2020

Drake Passage

GPS position at 0800: 56°21'.9S, 064°49'.9 W

Wind: W3 Sea State: Moderate Weather: Partly Cloudy

Air Temp: 8°C Sea Temp: 10°C

As Valentine's day dawned, passengers who had felt uncomfortable with the rough conditions of the previous day were relieved to experience a gentler motion from *Hondius*. After investigation, it was found that the stabilisers were still deployed but not activated. This was sufficient to create a user friendly motion for those who had discovered that they lacked the 'core-strength' to balance easily during the voyage. The sea had moderated slightly but the wind was still blowing at over 28 knots. This was a near gale and a Force 7 on the Beaufort scale. *Hondius* was making good speed at 13 knots despite the stabilisers reducing speed by 1 knot. As the day progressed the wind moderated.

As we were at sea on day 2 of the return voyage to Ushuaia with no landings or Zodiac cruising, it was a very relaxed morning. A trickle for breakfast as people savoured a bit longer the sensuous sensation of being rocked gently in their bunks. Passengers sat and discussed shared experiences and hunched over lap-tops as they swapped, edited and down-loaded hundreds of terrific photographs and deleted thousands of out-of-focus rubbishy photographs.

In the morning Koen delivered an interesting lecture on A Brief History of Penguins followed by Sara with her powerful 'political' presentation on the Women of Antarctica.

The 'highlight' of the day was the boot collection as passengers surrendered their beloved muck-boots for inspection by the guide team. Another week of activities and most would have requested new boots one size up as their thighs and calf-muscles were now bulging and 'almost' fully toned from the constant up and down exercise on the stairs and the increased load everyone carried as a result of eating excellent meals during 11 days of adventure.

In the afternoon Adam delivered a visual presentation outlining Oceanwide Expeditions voyages on the various vessels in the fleet explaining the routes. This was a well timed marketing ploy as many passengers, delighted with their experiences in Antarctica, were expressing interest in the Arctic and other Oceanwide Adventures.

Late afternoon - a passenger, Marli Linter DVM delivered a Lecture on Avian Physiology followed by 'local boy' guide Ben, braided hair flowing, with an informative lecture on the Beagle Channel. The formal end to the highly successful voyage was a power-point presentation of staff photographs followed by a Farewell Drink in the lounge and a toast from our superb highly professional Captain... Remmert Koster.



Day 11: 15th February 2020

Disembarkation, Ushuaia

GPS position at 0800: 54°48'.6S, 068°18'.0W

Wind: Light Air 1 Sea State: Port Weather: Partly Cloudy

Air Temp: +18 °C Sea Temp: +14 °C

Our last morning wake up call to announce the final morning on board the Hondius. As instructed, we left our luggage out in the hall marked with the appropriate tag for our needs. We had a quick breakfast and as always it was delicious. There were many farewells to our new friends made on board. As we were exchanging contact information the expedition team was busy hauling our luggage up and down stairs and finally down the gang way; to be sorted and checked after we disembarked.

We made our way down the gangway and shook the hands of our team that awaited us for our farewell. With much emotions we all set out on our separate ways, for some this would mark the end of our travels and we will be heading home. For others this amazing voyage was only a stop on our grand adventures. For where ever you go from here we wish you safe travels and hope to see you again someday aboard the Hondius. Farewell guys and go safe.

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 on our voyage: 1865 nautical miles

Furthest South: 66°52',5S, 066°49,0W

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





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

8th February 2020 - Detaille Island (PM)

Nine paddlers drove away from Hondius (in the zodiac), everyone super excited to be making their first ever kayaking excursion in Antarctica. Even more incredible was that this kayaking adventure was going to take place below the Antarctic circle (66°33'S).

The zodiac towed the kayakers out into the ice maze of Crystal Sound. Huge amounts of ice surrounded the kayakers in all directions. Hauled out on the ice flows were Crabeater, Weddel as well as Leopard Seals. Pushing their way through the ice the kayakers set off in search of Adelie penguins. Not only did the kayakers find the colony but also managed to spot some Shags flying overhead.

The kayakers then made their way past a pair of posing Fur Seals on some rocks close to the historic building. The historic hut (Detaille) on the island is a former British scientific base built in the late 1950's now abandoned but maintained by the AHT. Time for a group picture before a final paddle back out through the ice towards the waiting ship.





9th February 2020 - Yalour Island (AM)

Words cannot fully describe the incredible time the kayakers had out on the water at Yalour Island. Amazing icebergs, Weddel, Fur and Crabeater seals, Adelie penguins, Humpback whales, Shags, Skua's and lots of fun rocky islands to paddle around. All this in weather that was truly incredible as the pictures below will show. Without exception all 20 kayakers out on the water with Pete & Paul (kayak guides) assisted by Hanibal & RB (zodiac safety drivers) had the most amazing kayaking morning possible.









9th February 2020 - Petermann Island (PM)

Although the sun had fallen behind the clouds the 13 afternoon kayakers were all super keen for an afternoon adventure. Pete gave one of the safety drivers the afternoon to rest driving safety zodiac for Paul. The team explored all the rocky bays from one side of the island to the other pushed on by a gentle NW wind. The kayakers were well sheltered most of the way until they met the swell on the Eastern end of the island. The Eastern end was also where all the large icebergs were located. Towering monoliths ready to collapse at a moment's notice. Paul weaved a safe route amongst these giants until he reached the safety of the open water and was able to arrange a few minutes of silence. After this the kayakers headed through the ice towards the glacier front and their finish point. Nothing left for Paul to do other than summon up a passing Humpback to surface 10 meters from the kayaks. An incredible afternoon and a fabulous finish.





10th February 2020 – Port Lockroy (AM)

Conditions at Port Lockroy were excellent for kayaking but all the kayakers had gone shopping.

11th February 2020 – Orne Island (AM)

The wake-up call from Adam prepared all on board the Hondius that we could all be in for a windy, rock and roll morning. He was not wrong, when Pete & Paul got up onto the bridge a little after 07.00 it had recently been gusting 40 knots. Thankfully the wind eased over breakfast to levels that made kayaking a possible option for a small team

of 6 more experienced kayakers. Paul was guiding out front and Pete driving safety zodiac at the rear. The kayakers drove across to a large peak towering above the water and unloaded the brave souls onto the water. Paul paddled out to the point to check out conditions and decided the situation was a little too adventurous. The kayakers made a wise decision and turned towards the glacier to continue in some degree of shelter. The rudders proved invaluable as the kayakers were blown along the coast. A short photo shoot close to some (hauled out) Fur seals then on towards the back of the bay. Here the kayakers lost the shelter and had to paddle hard back towards the ship and the finish point. All 6 kayakers thoroughly enjoyed the experience with smiles that confirmed that they had all remained on the right side of adventure.





11th February 2020 - Dobrowolski (PM)

The afternoon landing at Dobrowolski was looking more promising than the morning with wind means of around 5 knots at the bridge. Further into the shelter of the coastline the conditions looked inviting so with a team of 17 the kayakers headed towards the glacier. During the drive across the kayakers noticed the breeze was rising but in the relative shelter of the coast conditions on the water remained OK. The first of the kayakers onto the water held their positions close to the 2 zodiacs whilst Pete, Paul and both crew-drivers helped more people into position. The first strong gust came through and grabbed the attention of all concerned. A second gust and then not long after a third and fourth. Conditions were rapidly deteriorating and as such there was no other decision to make other than to abort the adventure. The staff team swiftly returned all the kayakers back to the zodiacs and onto the safety of the ship. Kayaks were craned back on board and the 17 brave souls offered the opportunity of a landing.

12th February 2020 – Half Moon Island (PM)

After the disappointment of having to cancel the morning kayaking at Deception Island due to high winds, Pete and Paul were delighted to be able to offer afternoon activities. Twenty kayakers headed out on the zodiacs away from the ship and around to the far side of Half Moon Island. The two safety drivers held position behind some ice whilst the kayakers unloaded. Once on the water all the kayakers tried some paddling skills crossing a headwind at 45 degrees and turning downwind then holding position. The team continued along the coast (wind assisted) stopping to take pictures of wildlife and scenery along the way. The sun came out

and everyone had a relaxing time, some kayakers even had some fun with a short sprint race. Shortly before the kayakers were due to finish their tour a message was received from the bridge alerting everyone that the wind had risen and was blowing 35 Knots. The warning was well respected and the kayakers were soon back on board the zodiacs and driving back towards the ship. A fun ending for the kayakers to finish their expedition on a high having experienced some of the best and worst conditions Antarctica has to offer.





An Oceanwide Voyage to the Antarctic Peninsula

Ship Hondius | Expedition 29 | 05th - 16th Febr

Arrival to the Antarctic Peninsula

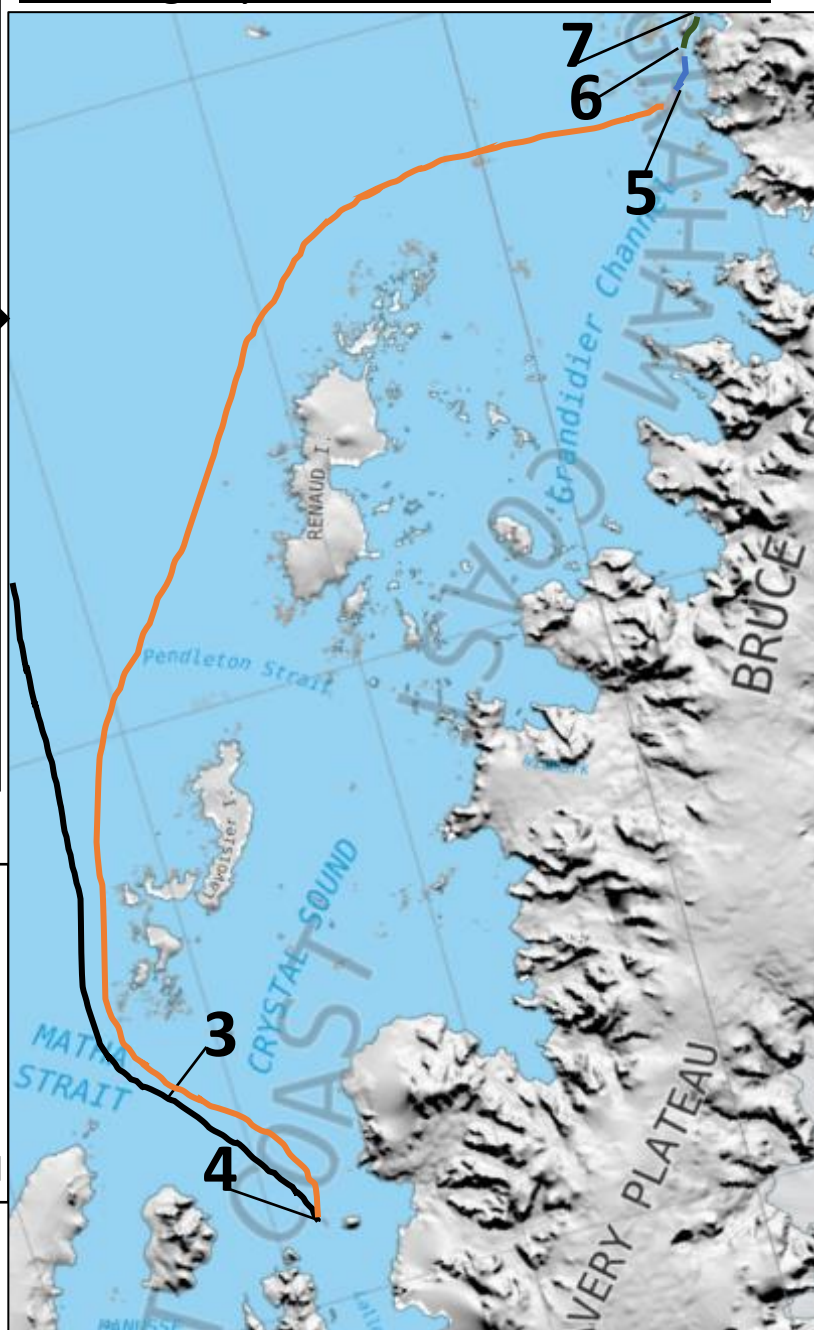


Day 1, 2, 3

Visited locations

- 1 Ushuaia Start/End
- 2 Crossing the Drake passage
- 3 Ross Seal spotting

Crossing Crystal sound to Yalour island

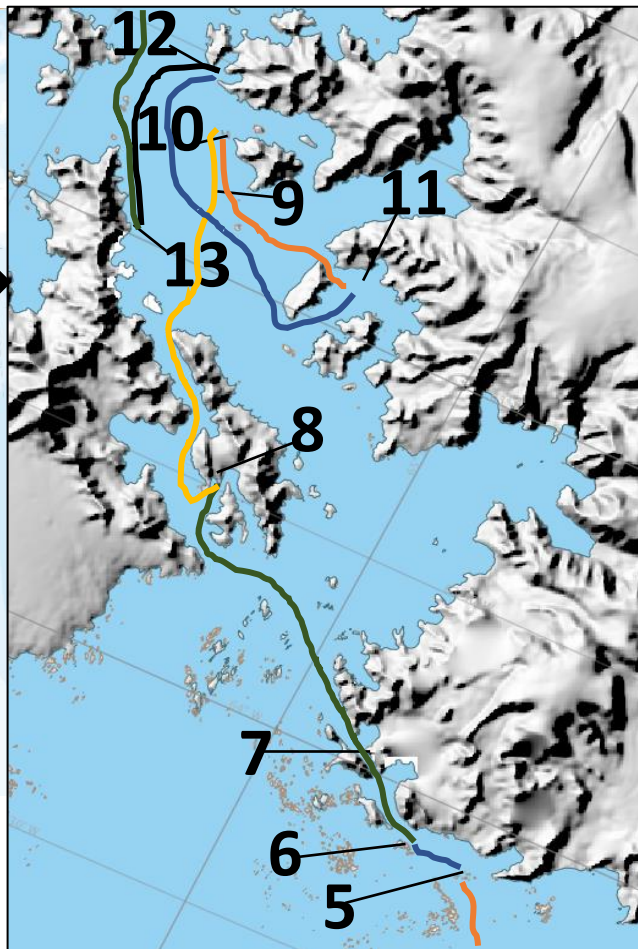
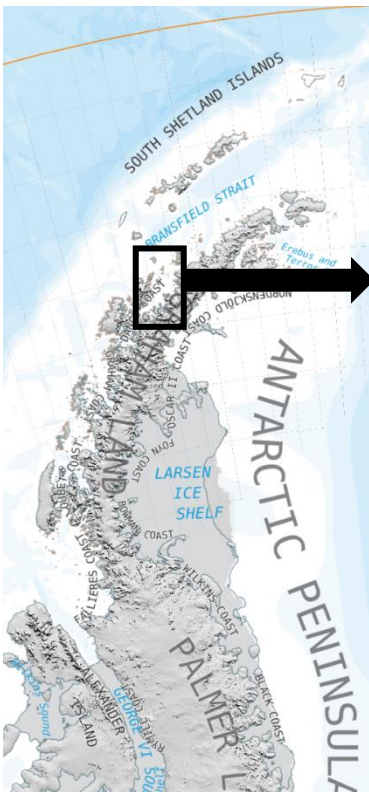


Day 4, 5

Visited locations

- 4 Dettle Island
- 5 Yalour Islands
- 6 Petermann Island
- 7 BBQ in Lemaire Channel

Crossing the Lemaire, Neumayer Channel and Gerlache Strait



Day 6, 7

Visited locations

- 8 Port Lockroy/ Penguin office
- 9 Feeding whales/ Gerlache Strait
- 10 Orne islands – Cancelled landing
- 11 Camping Paradise bay - Cancelled
- 12 Orne Harbour/ Continental landing
- 13 Dobrowski/ Astrolabe Island

Reminder Day 5

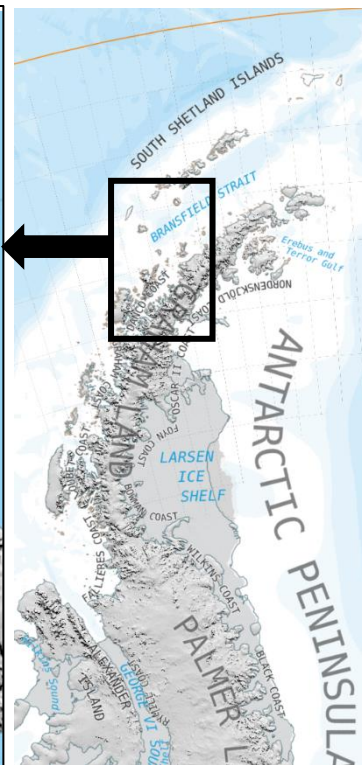
- 5 Yalour Islands
- 6 Petermann Island
- 7 BBQ Lemaire Channel

Crossing the Bransfield Strait

Day 7, 8, 9

Visited location

- 14 Killer whale/ Orcas Recap
- 15 Deception Island/ Whalers bay
- 16 Half moon Island



Back to Ushuaia



Day 10, 11, 12

Visited location:

17 Crossing the Drake

Species list: Birds and marine mammals of the Antarctic region											
		5-feb	6-feb	7-feb	8-feb	9-feb	10-feb	11-feb	12-feb	13-feb	14-feb
English	Latin										
Adelie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>				x	x					
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua</i>	x				x	x	x	x		
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>			x	x	x		x	x		
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>	x									x
ALBATROSSES											
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>		x								
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>		x								
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>		x								
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	x	x	x						x	x
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche chrysostoma</i>		x	x						x	
Light Mantled Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>									x	
Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>		x								x
Southern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	x	x		x	x	x	x	x		x
Antarctic Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>			x	x	x					
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>		x	x				x	x		
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>				x			x			
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>			x							
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>		x							x	x
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Ardenna grisea</i>										x
Great Shearwater	<i>Ardenna gravis</i>										x
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>			x							
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>		x		x	x	x	x	x		x
Magellanic diving petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>	x									
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides urinatrix</i>									x	
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	x			x						x
Antarctic shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>					x	x	x	x		
Pale-faced Shearwater	<i>Chionis alba</i>					x	x	x			
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	x									x
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>				x	x					
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>		x		x		x	x	x		
Dolphin Gull	<i>Leucophaeus scoresbii</i>	x									
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	x			x	x	x	x	x		
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	x									x
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>				x	x	x	x	x		
Marine mammals											
Whales											
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>					x	x				x
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>				x	x	x	x			
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>							x			

DOLPHINS											
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>										x
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>	x									x
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>				x	x		x			
Crabeater Seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophagus</i>			x	x	x	x	x			
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>				x	x		x			
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonina</i>					x		x			
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>			x	x	x	x	x	x		
Ross seal	<i>Ommatophoca rossii</i>				x						

Adam Turner, FRGS - Expedition Leader



Adam was brought up in countryside of Essex, England. He began sailing at the age of 9 and began working on the local river aged 12 before leaving school.

By 16 he had a small fishing boat and was working on boatyards and taking tourists to see the local seal colonies as well as helping out on the local Lifeboat.

Adam then joined HM Forces and was posted to Northern Ireland and in the UK, he also served in Kenya as a boat operator. In 2002 Adam joined the Police and spent several years on a specialist unit working

across the UK with his search dog Charley.

Since being a young lad Adam had dreamt of working in the Antarctic like his Uncle had done in the late 1980's, and in 2014 Adam left the Police to work as Boating Officer for British Antarctic Survey at King Edward Point, South Georgia where he spent just over a year.

Adam studied at Middlesex University and often gives lectures on history, in 2017 he was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society, and he now works as guide and Consultant.

Adam holds a commercial masters certificate and instructs in several marine disciplines, he enjoys diving, climbing, kayaking and outdoor activities.

Sara Jenner - Assistant Expedition Leader



For as long as Sara could remember she has had a passion for travel and searching for the wildest and most remote places on earth.

Back in the UK when she was only 10, she remembers trading in her favourite pink bicycle for the money to start her travel fund. Every birthday and Christmas she added a little more in the kitty and finally, at 18 she realised her dream of diving at the Great Barrier Reef! At that point the travel addiction was born!

Ever since Sara has been travelling the globe in search of wild and remote places and has spent many months volunteering on wildlife conservation projects in a bid to help some of our most iconic and endangered species.

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

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

Pippa Low – Assistant Expedition Leader



Pippa has worked as a marine guide and skipper for 10 years, primarily in Scotland, Australia, New Zealand and the polar regions. 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 has worked as a marine mammal observer, scientific diver and research assistant on various 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.

After working in the Ross Sea region of Antarctica as a research assistant, she fell in love with Antarctica. Pippa now works as a full-time guide and assistant expedition leader in both the Arctic and Antarctica. In-between seasons, she still finds time to work on research projects.

Ross Wheeler - Expedition Guide



Ross lives in a small town in Cornwall, which is located in the south western corner of the UK. As he grew up in a coastal town he has always been fascinated by marine wildlife and the marine environment.

Having completed an undergraduate degree and masters degree in environmental sciences / conservation biology at Plymouth University he then went on to use his passion and education to work as an environmental consultant and researcher in the coastal and marine field.

This progressed into the offshore sector where he worked as a marine mammal observer and passive acoustic monitoring operator in the offshore seismic and renewable industry sectors. This role took him to a wide range of areas throughout the North Atlantic, Central Africa and Southern Africa where he conducted marine mammal and sea bird surveys aboard various survey vessels. After a few years in this industry he then moved into the environmental compliance side of the cruise ship industry where he continues to work for six months of the year today. Whether he is working on ships around the world, volunteering for conservation based organisations or travelling in his 'time off' he is constantly seeking opportunities to photograph wildlife in their natural environment.

Feel free to ask him any questions about marine mammals, seabirds or anything environmentally related with the shipping industry.

Miriam Vermeij - Expedition Guide



During her youth she travelled a lot with her parents and sister in Europe. Miriam developed an interest in nature at a young age and lots of time was spent outdoor, exploring local insects and plants. Following her interests she followed an environmental science study and got a degree with a specialisation on soil pollution. Nowadays she is a self-employed environmental planning officer.

From 1999 the travelling outside Europe started. With her husband Marcel, she travelled all around the world. In 2006 they went to the Antarctic and there the passion for the poles started. The first contact with the Arctic was in 2011 and after another trip in 2013 she came back as field assistant on the Dutch polar expedition (SEES) in 2015 and to the Dutch polar station in Ny Alesund in 2016. Since 2017 she has been guiding in the Arctic, followed by the Antarctic in 2018.

In Holland Miriam is a nature guide since 2003. First in the local forest and since 2008 also in one of the largest national parks in Holland: De Biesbosch. There she is guiding school kids and adult groups on walking and boating trips. She is also part of the board that manages the local forest.

Koen Jongerling - Expedition Guide



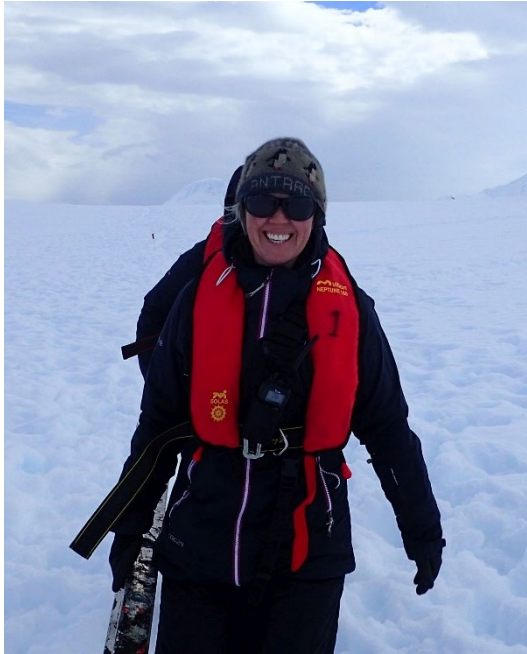
Having grown up in the Netherlands Koen always knew he wanted to live in a more rugged landscape than the rather flat lowlands that surrounded him. That is why after finishing his outdoor education in 2011, he chose to move to Patagonia, Chile to find the mountains he was longing for.

Combining his love for nature and the desire to learn more, he started guiding expeditions through the mountain ranges of Patagonia. Travelling back and forth to Europe for additional mountain courses - every time feeling more at home in the

rough conditions of Patagonia. In 2017 he started his own guide company, introducing travelers to the beauty of Southern Chile.

Living in Puerto Natales he came to love the cold and extreme weather and after years of working in one of the most southern mountain ranges in the world, he could not stop looking further south to the great white continent, Antarctica.

Adele Jackson – Expedition Guide



Adele is an environmental artist interested in the interrelationships between people, places, culture and nature. Much of Adele's recent artwork has focused on Antarctica, inspired by the continent's cultural, geopolitical, and natural environments.

Adele has worked in Antarctica since 2013. Her first role was as expedition photographer, she then worked for the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust for four years where she was base leader, and conservation team field assistant at the Port Lockroy historic site.

Originally from West Yorkshire in the UK, Adele is now living in New Zealand where she is studying for a PhD at Gateway Antarctica, at the University of Canterbury. Her research explores 'the value of visual artists working in Antarctica'.

Bill Smith - Expedition Guide



“Super Bill” as described by his colleagues and clients, is a fun-loving outdoor pursuits enthusiast, cartoonist and former Head of Art and Design Education at Ellon Academy Aberdeenshire.

Bill joined Oceanwide Expeditions as a guide when Plancius was built and over the last few years has become addicted to the Polar Regions.

He has 55 years’ experience of Art and Design Education and Design for Industry. Plus 55 years leading and instructing a range of outdoor pursuits.

He has the following qualifications: -

- Royal Yachting Association Advanced Powerboat Instructor
- Royal Yachting Association Senior Sailing Instructor
- Royal Yachting Association Windsurfing Instructor
- British Canoe Union Open Canoe Instructor
- British Association of Ski Patrollers National Patroller
- British Association of Ski Patrollers First Aid Trainer
- Snow Sport Scotland Ski leader
- President of the Assynt Highland Games
- Honorary member of Assynt Crofters Trust
- Member of the Federation Internationale des Patrouilles de Ski

Bill delights in producing humorous cartoon logs of each trip.

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!

Gaby Pilson - Expedition Guide



Originally from the United States, Gaby is a guide and outdoor educator with a passion for introducing people to the world's most beautiful and unique places. She is a keen hiker, climber, paddler, and skier and has travelled extensively in search of the next great adventure.

Gaby holds undergraduate degrees in Philosophy and Environmental studies, with a focus on Meteorology and Glaciology, and is a candidate for a master's degree in Outdoor Education from the University of Edinburgh.

When not working in the polar regions, you can find Gaby working as a mountaineering and climbing guide in Alaska, teaching wilderness medicine, freelance writing, travelling, or leading students on remote wilderness expeditions around the world.

David Begg - Expedition Guide



David is an IFMGA Mountain Guide based in the Canadian Rockies. From early days in New Zealand, he has always been fascinated by nature. David holds a BSc in Botany though his career has been in guiding. He owned and operated Yamnuska Mountain Adventures, Canada's premier mountain school, until he and his partner, Maria sold it in 2010 to become polar guides.

David now spends up to 5 months a year working as a lecturer and guide in both Antarctica and the Arctic. Passionate about everything polar he loves to share experiences and knowledge.

Pete Gwatkin - Kayaking Guide



Pete originally trained as an engineer but has made a number of career changes over his working life that have included... sports development work, community education, social work, university lecturing as well as running his own bespoke mountaineering and kayaking business.

Pete lives in the highlands of Scotland close to the National Training Centre for Outdoor Adventurous Activities where he is employed as a kayaking guide.

Pete has attained the highest UK kayaking and mountaineering qualifications and is now a technical advisor to educational authorities. Pete is a qualified first aid trainer and also lecturers at The University of Edinburgh on the postgraduate MSc programme in outdoor education.

Pete started kayaking as a boy of 15 in a wooden framed canvas kayak. These first tentative kayak strokes in a craft that he built with his father were to provide the inspiration for a lifetime of adventure in the outdoors. During this time Pete has kayaked in many places throughout the world on both rivers and on the sea.

Paul Ulrich - Kayak Guide



ACA Level 3 Sea Kayak Instructor and BCU 4 star Trip Leader.

It was the Danube River in Austria where I was born and where I grew up. As a child this river, which connects countries and people, inspired my longing for the big wide world out there. As soon as I could I cycled through all continents, walked through deserts and climbed some peaks like Kilimanjaro and Aconcagua.

During one of those trips I discovered a new passion, sea kayaking. It was like hiking on the water just that I didn't need to carry a backpack. After paddling 2500 km on the

Yukon River, 600 km from Stockholm to Helsinki across the Baltic Sea and 37 days through the Fjords of Patagonia without any options to buy food I wanted to work in the Kayak Industry.

I worked as a sea kayak Instructor and Tour Guide on Lake Neusiedl (Austria), Lake Constance (Germany) and the Island of Amorgos and Milos in the Mediterranean Sea in Greece.

In March 2019 I was invited to join a Trainee Programme with Oceanwide Expeditions and I am thankful to be able to work where the mountains meet the sea and the whales, penguins, and seals are roaming free.

Let us all have a great trip in unique Antarctica!

Ben Giunchi - Expedition Guide



Ben comes from the country side of Argentina, known as “The Pampas”. Since very young experienced nature but after a few years traveling around the country he discovered his passion about Patagonia and the mountains. This also woke up a curiosity about glaciers and wildlife and he became a guide around El Calafate and El Chaltén.

Having the chance to share some time with people around the world, he turned into a Tour Leader to expand his knowledge about culture in South America and took a few courses that could take him closer to his dream... Antarctica!!!

As we are probably hitting a dram together, I invite you to share all the good vibes and enjoy a unique place in the world and your life... WELCOME TO YOUR ADVENTURE!!

Marcel Paul - Expedition Guide



From his teens Marcel has been a keen traveller. After camping and trekking with friends, he led groups on trekking's to Austria, Switzerland, England and Scotland. His own travels over the last 20 years brought him to all 7 continents together with his wife Miriam. With his interest in (exploration) history and as keen hobby photographer, the Polar Regions have always been drawing his attention.

At his first arrival to Svalbard in 2011 and a second trip in 2013, he felt connected with the remoteness of the place and the dynamics of the polar nature. At that time

the idea started to grow to become a polar guide and give up a job that is keeping him indoor most of the time.

When the Dutch organised a scientific polar expedition to Edgeøya it seemed the perfect opportunity to gain more knowledge from the area by working with the scientists. He joined the expedition in 2015 as field assistant and participated in various fields of research. In 2016 he went to the Dutch polar station in Ny-Alesund, again as field assistant.

Living next to one of Europe's biggest wetland reserves, the Biesbosch in Holland, weekends are often spent on his boat with his camera close by. Since 2017 he has been guiding in the Arctic, followed by the Antarctic in 2018.

Sara Torres Ortiz - Workshop Guide



Sara Torres Ortiz is a researcher at the University of Southern Denmark where she finished her master studies on Animal Behaviour and Bioacoustics in 2016. She is originally from Spain, where she completed a BSc. in Oceanography at the University of Cadiz.

Sara works on many different research projects involving animal behaviour and bioacoustics, both in the field and in the lab. When she first began her work in Denmark in 2013 she assisted with training groups of grey seals, cormorants, and parrots that participated in hearing and/or cognition tasks. During her time with Montpellier

University in 2016 she collaborated as a co-investigator and assistant in researching the sensory abilities of whales in the field in Spain and Iceland. Additionally, Sara has worked with bottlenose dolphins at Dolphin Adventure in Mexico, both in a training and in a research capacity. Through an ongoing project she is studying the behaviour and communication of wild harbour porpoises using drones.

Currently, Sara is pursuing both a bachelors in psychology with National University long distance education (UNED) and a PhD with the Max Planck institute in Loro Parque working with cognitive abilities in parrots and dolphins.

Morgan J. Martin - Workshop Guide



Morgan is a visiting scientist at the University of Southern Denmark. She has an MSc in Marine Science from the University of San Diego, California, and a BSc in Biology from the University of New Orleans, Louisiana. Morgan recently finished her PhD in Zoology at the University of Pretoria in South Africa. From 2015 - March 2019, she was based in Namibia, southern Africa, conducting her PhD research on the underwater acoustics of two species of wild African dolphins: Heaviside's dolphins and dusky dolphins.

Her PhD research is the first to show that a toothed whale (Heaviside's dolphins) can produce two distinct types of echolocation clicks, which questions what we currently understand about how toothed whales produce biosonar. Currently, Morgan has been working on a sound production study of communication sounds used by harbour porpoises as well as conducting a fieldwork season with Sara Ortiz in Patagonia to record the behaviour and underwater vocalizations of Commerson's dolphins and Peale's dolphins. Morgan has conducted marine mammal related acoustics research on four continents and is looking forward to joining the crew of the *Hondius* and adding Antarctica to the list!

Myriam Casper - Videography Guide



Myriam is a photographer, editor and documentary filmmaker. Photography and teaching are her main passions.

Traveling since very young age, she grew up in four nations: France, Brazil, Portugal, England and today she lives in Canada.

Myriam formed her skills and developed an incredible passion for B&W photography and hand printing in the darkroom of Stamford College, on the North Side of London. From years spent amid the vibrancy and drama of Brazil her approach to photograph people and to become part

of their own lives come very naturally, making lifestyle and humanity her strongest topics for storytelling.

After moving to Canada, Myriam discovered more passions, nature and wildlife. Hiking the beautiful mountains of British Columbia, and observing animals by distance, became a sacred routine.

To follow her background, she built a career preparing students to one of the biggest industries in Vancouver, the Film Industry. For the last 17 years she mentored 3.600+ student's short films and animations covering areas such as composition, layout, editing and storytelling.

And then she visited Antarctica... It's there that her inspiration finds new "lymph" watching the Nature's wonder of icebergs and wildlife in the cold. Myriam understood that remote places of Earth have much to say to her as a filmmaker and photographer. The Polar Regions became her field of preferences and creativity.

Myriam speaks fluent English, Spanish and Portuguese.

Massimo Bassano - Photography Guide



Massimo started his career as traveller crossing the Ionian Sea from the south of Italy, his homeland, to Greece (his potentially genetic roots) by sailboat at the age of 15. That experience it has been the milestone of his life. From that beginning he has been crossing all the oceans on a sailboat ever since, and sometimes even solo. But the “bug” of traveling did not stop on the water. Thanks to his ocean knowledge, Massimo got a job as a fixer for National Geographic which opened a new vision for his career path, and so he

decided to become documentary photographer for the Society. In this way, his passion for human culture, history and wildlife became the reason to travel more.

After 30 years and 83 countries explored at all levels for Nat Geo, he still loves to travel and explore. His passion for photography is the key to open connections with people and Mother Nature, especially in remote places on Earth as Antarctica, the Arctic, the deserts and the Oceans. A passion that he does not keep just for himself but share as much as he can teaching photography & storytelling in all fields of this fantastic art. From private workshop up to University level, Massimo’s passion is contagious. He loves to be out there, being witness with his camera of the multi aspects of our beautiful planet.

Massimo speaks fluent English, Spanish and Italian. Conversational French and Swahili, and he is learning Portuguese.



WELCOME ABOARD!

Wednesday 5th February Boarding and departure from Ushuaia

*For the arriving passengers: luggage will be delivered to your cabin as soon as possible.
Please check to make sure you have received all your luggage!*

**** Tea and coffee are always available in the lounge bar on deck 5 ****

- | | |
|--------|--|
| ±17.15 | Welcome briefing in the observation lounge (deck 5).
Expedition Leader Adam and Hotel Manager Dejan will introduce you to the life on board the Hondius. |
| ±18.00 | Departure of the Hondius. Please stay off the bridge during this time.

This will be followed by a mandatory 'Safety at Sea' briefing for ALL passengers. Presence will be checked. |
| 19.00 | Captains welcome cocktail in the observation lounge. |
| 19.30 | Dinner is served in the dining room (deck 4). |

After dinner, feel free to relax in the lounge, enjoy the scenery and discover the ship.

Please note that tonight we will be sailing into the open sea. Take your seasickness medication before you really feel the movements of the vessel. Make sure that all your belongings are put away safely and that doors and drawers in your cabin are tightly closed. Walk slowly on the ship, always use one hand for yourself and one for the ship and beware of your fingers because of doors jamming!



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Thursday 6th February Into the Drake Passage!

- 07:45 Wake-up call
- 08:00 Breakfast buffet in the Dining Room.
- 09:15 The Expedition Team welcomes you to the Lounge for a staff introduction, followed by a **mandatory** IAATO briefing which covers safety and wildlife regulations in Antarctica. Attendance is compulsory and will be checked.
- Directly after the IAATO briefing join us on Deck 3 for the **mandatory** biosecurity check. Please bring all your outdoor clothing and gear with you for inspection. We will call you deck by deck, so stand by for announcements. This event is compulsory for everyone onboard and attendance will be checked.
- 12:30 Lunch will be served in the Dining Room.
- 14:00 We are handing out your rubber boots. You will be called deck-by-deck to the boot room on Deck 3. Bring your thick socks to find the best sized boots for you!
- 15:00 Massimo and Myriam welcome you to the lounge for an introduction to photography in Antarctica.
- 16:00 Kayakers will meet Paul and Pete in the Lecture Room for their **mandatory** kayaking briefing.
- 17:00 Ben and Marcel will brief those who have signed up for camping. Please note that this is a **mandatory** briefing for those of you who have signed up for camping. Please meet in the Lecture Room.
- 18:15 Join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for our daily recap! This is a daily event where we go through what we have seen during the day and our plans for tomorrow.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room.
- 21:00 Massimo and Myriam welcome you to the lecture room for an introduction to videography in Antarctica.

Remember: walk slowly on the ship, never rush. Keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship. Shut all doors firmly!



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Friday 7th February

Heading Further South!

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 07:45 | Wake-up call |
| 08:00 | Breakfast buffet in the Dining Room |
| 09:30 | Gaby welcomes you to the lounge for her presentation about Glaciology. |
| 11:00 | Pippa invites you to the Lounge for her lecture about Marine Mammals of Antarctica. |
| 12:30 | Buffet Lunch in the Dining Room |
| 14:00 | Sara welcome you to the Lounge for her lecture about Penguins. |
| 15:00 | All kayakers - meet Pete and Paul on Deck 3 to receive your kayak gear. |
| 15:30 | Please join Morgan and Sara in the lounge for an introduction to Acoustics in Antarctica |
| 17:00 | Koen welcomes you to the Lounge for his presentation entitled 'Exploration of Antarctica in the 1900's'. |
| 18:30 | Join the Expedition Staff in the Observation Lounge for our daily recap. |
| 19:00 | Dinner will be served in the Dining Room. |
| 21:00 | Adam will give an after-dinner talk in the lecture room on 'Scott; Quest for the Pole' |

Remember: walk slowly, no flip-flops or sandals on the ship, never rush. Keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship. Shut all doors firmly!



Saturday 8th February

Crystal Sound & Detaille Island

07:45 Wake-up call.

08:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

Crystal Sound Ships' Cruise & Expedition Morning

We will be cruising south of the Antarctic Circle this morning. Please listen for announcements for any possible sightings, activities and lectures throughout the morning.

12:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room.

±13:30 Kayakers meet Pete and Paul in the lecture room.

±14:00 This afternoon we plan to land at Detaille Island. We will also offer a zodiac cruise around the island. The first half of the zodiacs will go on shore, the second half will cruise.

Both groups will swap activities on shore half way through the afternoon.

18:30 Join the Expedition Team in the observation lounge for our daily recap.

19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room.

21:00 Join Bill in the Lecture Room for his presentation entitled 'Paintings of the Sea'.

Remember: walk slowly on the ship, never rush. Keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship. Shut all doors firmly!



Sunday 9th February

The Yalour Islands, Petermann Island and the Lemaire Channel

- 07:45 Wake-up call.
- 08:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 09:00 Kayakers meet Pete and Paul in the lecture room.
- 09:30 This morning we plan to land at the Yalour Islands. The first half of the zodiacs will go on shore, the second half will cruise.
- Both groups will swap activities on shore half way through the morning.*
- 13:00 Buffet Lunch in the Dining Room.
- 14:00 Kayakers meet Pete and Paul in the lecture room.
- 14:30 This afternoon we hope to land at Petermann Island.
- 18:30 Join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for our daily recap.
- 19:00 A special Antarctic dinner, please dress warmly! Over dinner we will sail through the picturesque Lemaire Channel so perhaps bring your camera to dinner.

Remember: walk slowly on the ship, never rush. Keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship. Shut all doors firmly!



Monday 10th February

Port Lockroy, Jougla Point and Orne Island

- 07.15 Wake-up call
- 07:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 08:00 Kayakers meet Pete and Paul in the lecture room.
- 08:20 Meet in the lounge for a briefing from the Port Lockroy Staff.
- 09:00 This morning we plan to land at Port Lockroy and cruise Jougla Point. The first 3 zodiacs will go to Port Lockroy, the rest will cruise Jougla Point.
- All zodiacs will get the chance to do both activities.*
- 12:30 Buffet Lunch in the Dining Room.
- 13:30 Please join Peter Clark for a Passenger Lecture in the Lecture room entitled 'Antarctic Ice Sheet: Present and Future.'
- 15:00 Kayakers meet Pete and Paul in the lecture room.
- 15:30 This afternoon we hope to land at Orne Island. Please listen for announcements.
- 19:00 Join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for our daily recap.
- 19:30 Buffet Dinner will be served in the Dining Room. Please let the campers go first.
- 21:00 Campers please be ready for your night on the ice. Please remember the toilets onboard are better than the one on shore!
- 21:00 Please join Sara and Morgan in the Lecture room for a listen of their acoustic collections from the trip so far.
Massimo and Myriam will be in the library to answer any photography or videography questions you have.

Information for Port Lockroy Visit:

Port Lockroy has a post office and a small gift shop where you can send postcards around the world and buy souvenirs of your trip to Antarctica!

The main currency in the gift shop and post office is US \$ although UK £ and Euro € are also accepted. The Port Lockroy Staff prefer credit card payment; they accept MasterCard and Visa only and the minimum spend is US \$10 (all transactions charged in US\$).

Please bring your own bag for your purchases – there are no plastic bags at Port Lockroy.



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Tuesday 11th February Orne Harbour & Expedition Afternoon

- 06:45 Wake-up call
- 07:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 07:45 Kayakers meet Pete and Paul in the Lecture room.
- 08:30 This morning we plan to do a Continental landing at Orne Harbour.
- 12:30 Lunch buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

This afternoon will be an expedition afternoon. Please standby for announcements for activities this afternoon.

- 18:30 Join the Expedition Team in the observation Lounge for the daily recap and briefing.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room.
- 21:00 Myriam and Massimo would like to invite you to the Lecture Room for a presentation on Smart phone photography.

Remember: walk slowly on the ship, never rush. Keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship. Shut all doors firmly!



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Wednesday 12th February

Whalers' Bay, Deception Island & Half Moon Island

- 06:45 Wake-up call
- 07:00 We will be sailing through Neptune's Bellows, the entrance to the Caldera. Please join us on deck.
- 07:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 07:30 Kayakers please meet Pete and Paul in the Lecture room.
- 08:00 This morning we plan to land at Whalers' Bay, Deception Island.
- Polar Plunge** ... Near the end of the morning activity, you may go for a "swim". If you intend to do this, please wear your swimming costume under your normal clothes before leaving the ship. You will go into the water from shore at the end of the morning activities. We will provide the towels.
- 12:00 Lunch buffet will be served in the Dining Room
- 13:30 Please join us for a lecture in the Lounge about The Killer Whale – Orcinus Orca
- 15:30 This afternoon we plan to land at Half Moon Island.
- 18:30 Join the Expedition Team in the observation lounge for the daily recap and briefing.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room.

We will be sailing into the Drake Passage this evening. Please take any seasick medication in plenty of time. Please secure all items in your cabins also. Take care when walking around – remember; one hand for the ship!



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Thursday 13th February

The Drake Passage

No wake-up call. Sleep in!

- 08:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 09:30 Adele would like to invite you to the lounge for her presentation entitled 'Life at Port Lockroy'.
- 11:00 Please join Ross in the lounge for his lecture on 'Birds of Antarctic.'
- 12:30 Lunch will be served in the Dining Room.
- 14:00 Please join some of the expedition team for a mini series of short lectures.
- 15:00 This afternoon we will collect the kayak gear. Please stand by for an announcement regarding where and how.
- 16:00 Sara and Morgan will be being doing a presentation in the lecture room about their acoustic findings during this voyage.
- 18:15 Please join your Expedition Team in the Lounge for a recap and briefing.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room.
- 21:00 Myriam will be giving a presentation in the lecture room about video editing.

Remember: walk slowly on the ship, never rush. Keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship. Shut all doors firmly!



Friday 14th February

The Drake Passage & Beagle Channel

No wake-up call. Sleep in!

- 08:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 09:30 Please join Koen in the Lounge for a lecture on A brief History of Penguins.
- 11:00 Sara invites you to the Lounge for a lecture on the Women of Antarctica.
- 12:00 We will gather your rubber boots on Deck 3. If you have rented any gear, we will also collect that at the same time. Stand by for announcements, we will call you deck-by-deck. *Please make sure that your boots are clean and dry when you return them.*
- 12:30 Lunch will be served in the Dining Room.
- 13:30 Please join Adam in the Lounge for a Presentation on Oceanwide's other Polar Destinations.
- During the afternoon we ask you to settle your accounts at the reception. Please stand by for announcements.*
- 15:00 Please join Marli Lintner DVM for a passenger Lecture on Avian Physiology – Test your knowledge! In the Lecture Room.
- 16:00 Please join Ben in the Lounge for a Lecture on the Beagle Channel.
- 18:00 Join us in the Lounge for a farewell drink with Captain Remmert Koster!
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room.



Saturday 15th February

Ushuaia

07:15 Wake-up call

Please leave your large check-in luggage in the corridor outside your cabin when you go to breakfast. Crew and staff will bring it to the pier, where you will need to personally identify it and bring it to the bus going to the airport or the truck going to the temporary storage facility.

07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

08:30-09.00 Disembarkation.

There will be buses waiting at the dock for those who requested a transfer to the airport.

We hope that you had a wonderful trip, and thank you for travelling with us. We hope to see you onboard again someday!