



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## Antarctic Peninsula BASE CAMP Voyage

09 March 2020 – 27 March 2020

*M/V Plancius*



MV *Plancius* was named after the Dutch astronomer, cartographer, geologist and vicar Petrus Plancius (1552-1622). *Plancius* was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was named *Hr. Ms. Tydeman*. The ship sailed for the Royal Dutch Navy until June 2004 when she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions and completely refit in 2007, being converted into a 114-passenger expedition vessel. *Plancius* is 89 m (267 feet) long, 14.5 m (43 feet) wide and has a maximum draft of 5 m, with an Ice Strength rating of 1D, top speed of 12+ knots and three diesel engines generating 1230 hp each.



# Captain Artur Iakovlev

and his international crew

including:

Chief Officer:	<b>Miia Holma</b>	[Finland]
Second Officer:	<b>Sven Holzhausen</b>	[Germany]
Third Officer:	<b>Martin Hansson</b>	[Sweden]
Chief Engineer:	<b>Teun van T Verlaat</b>	[Netherlands]
Hotel Manager:	<b>Alex Lebedev</b>	[Ukraine]
Asst. Hotel Mgr:	<b>Dragan Grujic</b>	[Serbia]
Chef:	<b>Khabir Moraes</b>	[India]
Sous Chef:	<b>Ivan Yuriychuk</b>	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	<b>Nelleke Ernsting</b>	[Netherlands]

*and*

Expedition Leader:	<b>Iain Rudkin</b>	[UK]
Asst. Exped. Leader:	<b>Pippa Low</b>	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Tom van Hoof</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Felicity Johnson</b>	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Stefanie Liller</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Dorette Kuipers</b>	[Netherlands]
Mountain Leader:	<b>Mal Haskins</b>	[NZ]
Mountain Guide:	<b>Dave Mckinley</b>	[NZ]
Kayak Guide:	<b>Adam Harmer</b>	[UK]
Camping Guide:	<b>Rustyn Mesdag</b>	[USA]
Camping Guide:	<b>Céline Clément</b>	[France]

# Welcome you on board!

Day 1 –9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## Embarkation – Ushuaia, Argentina

GPS 08.00 Position: 5°53'S / 067°42'W

Wind: E 4-5 Sea State: Calm Weather: Clear Air Temp: +10°C Sea Temp: +11°C

So here we are at last in Tierra del Fuego, at the bottom of the world. Well, from Ushuaia we'll be going south...a long way south. But for today, we ambled about this lovely Patagonian city, savouring the local flavours and enjoying the sights. Ushuaia marks the end of the road in Argentine Tierra del Fuego, but also the beginning – the beginning of a once-in-a-lifetime adventure.

During the summer this rapidly growing frontier town of 55,000 bustles with adventurous travellers. The duty-free port flourishes with tourism but also thrives on a sizeable crab fishery and a burgeoning electronics industry. Ushuaia (literally “*bay that penetrates to the west*” in the indigenous Yamana / Yagan tongue) clearly benefits from its magnificent, yet remote, setting. The rugged spine of the South American Andes ends here, where two oceans meet. As could be expected from such an exposed setting, the weather has the habit of changing on a whim. However, temperatures during the long days of the austral summer are relatively mild, providing a final blanket of warmth before heading off on our adventures.



For many of us this is the start of a lifelong dream. The excitement comes in different forms for each person, but even the most experienced of us must feel genuine excitement departing on a journey to the Great White Continent. Accordingly, most passengers arrived promptly at the port, ready to board the good ship MV *Plancius*, our home for this Antarctic adventure!

We were greeted at the gangway by members of our Expedition Team and our ship's doctor Nelleke where everyone's health survey was reviewed and temperatures screened in order to keep all passengers and crew secure regarding the Coronavirus risk. After clearing the screening, we proceeded up the gangway where we met Hotel and Restaurant Managers, Alex and Dragan, and to be directed to our cabins with the assistance of the fabulous hotel crew. Once everyone had been approved for boarding, we all gathered in the lounge on deck five to begin our safety briefing. First was a video, entertaining but also clearly showing us what was important to pay attention to on the ship for our safety. Then we met our First Officer Miia, who with the crew and staff led us through the details of the required SOLAS (Safety Of Life At Sea) Safety and Lifeboat Drill, including trying on our huge orange life jackets and walking to the lifeboat stations to become familiar with their locations.

We then had some time to adjust to our cabins, explore the ship, and take in the striking scenery of Ushuaia's mountainous backdrop before reconvening for our next briefing with Alex our Hotel Manager to learn more about our floating hotel/home for the next 11 days, and how life onboard will operate. This was followed by a few words from our Expedition Leader, Iain Rudkin, and the rest of the Expedition Team who will guide us in Antarctica. Finally, Iain introduced our Captain Artur Iakovlev who after some wise words of welcome, proposed a toast to our voyage.

Our first dinner onboard was a chance to chat with other guests and be impressed by what Chef Khabir welcomed us into the dining room to celebrate the first day at the famous Drake Passage.

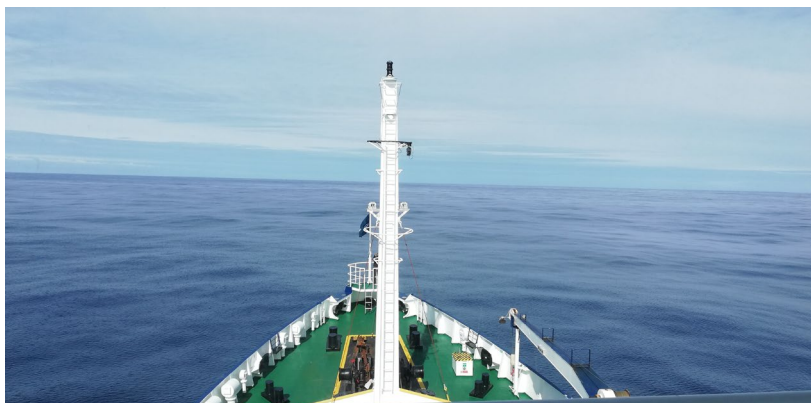
## Day 2 – 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### At Sea to Antarctica – Drake's Passage

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 56°49.1'S / 065°30.2'W

**Wind:** W 3 **Sea State:** calm **Weather:** Slight Overcast **Air Temp:** +7°C **Sea Temp:** +10°C

A quiet morning in a place where many legends talk about strong winds and big swell. Grey light, a shy sun painting the immensity of this vast ocean, giving us the sense of life that we've been looking for. We are in search of this dream-- this day, and it is finally becoming real.



We start to familiarize our bodies with the never-ending tango between the ship and the waves, a strange love shared since forever. This stretch of ocean, called by the sailors the furious fifties, the deadly forties of the Southern Ocean', is quite nice for us on our way to white continent, a true Drake-lake.

During the morning the activity guides gave the Basecamp Activity Briefing, explaining all about Mountaineering, Kayaking and Camping and how their activities would work for the voyage, meanwhile everyone on the ship continued to adjust to life on a moving platform. Many things happening around, many questions to answer, everybody is excited!

After lunch we could register for the activities in the lounge. After the registration sessions were finished, Rustyn gave an entertaining lecture about the Antarctic Treaty, and urged us all to become Antarctic Ambassadors.

At the end of the afternoon we had our Recap, our daily moment to review what we have seen and done during the day and to hear about plans for tomorrow. Dorette talked about her role as photography guide and showed a mini video-clip she made covering the embarkation process. Rustyn talked about seasickness just before we went to diner on a luckily very easy-going Drake Passage.

Room #	Name	6 pax

## Day 3 – 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### At Sea to Antarctica – Drake's Passage

GPS 08.00 Position: 60°01.9'S / 063°37.6'W

Wind: NNW 1 Sea State: calm Weather: clear sky Air Temp: +2°C Sea Temp: +7°C

A nice morning, first real sensations after a full day on this sea. The Drake has been merciful with us, we woke up again in a true Drake lake.



This morning Iain offered us the Mandatory IAATO Briefing and another Safety Briefing about Zodiac boarding, how to get into them, the 'Three steps' that the expedition guides will ask us to do every time we board the boats at the gangway to start any landing or zodiac cruise. It seems easy but it will be surprising how often we can forget the process... but they will remind us as many times as is necessary. It's all about safety!

After that we started with one of the most important things before arriving to Antarctica: The vacuuming of all our outerwear, backpacks and any other kind of equipment that we will introduce to this area. The reason? PREVENTION of introducing exotic species into this pristine environment.

While crossing into the Antarctic convergence and upon approaching the South Shetland islands, more and more wildlife could be seen from the ship. We spotted Fin-whales, Hourglass Dolphins and some long-finned Pilotwhales, and even an Arctic tern was spotted.



In the late afternoon Dorette introduced her photography workshop to us. Followed by the daily recap of Iain. After dinner, Celine gave an entertaining lecture about the most commonly known inhabitants of Antarctica, the penguins.

# Day 4 – 12th March 2020

## Orne Harbour/Danco Island

GPS 08.00 Position: 64°37.9'S / 063° 32.3'W

Wind: E3 Sea State: Smooth Weather: Cloudy Air Temp: 0°C Sea Temp: +1°C

Our first day in Antarctica starts early. We get a morning call by Iain already at 6:30 a.m. We get dressed and head out to see our first destination and the scenery is lovely. We approach a small bay surrounded by icebergs and steep mountains. The bay is called Orne Harbour. Many bays around the peninsula are called harbour as they gave shelter for former whaling ships. Right after breakfast we start the day with our first Zodiac cruise. The weather conditions are a bit fresh -1 degree and 13-15 knots of wind. Well this is what we can expect. We head out and see lovely chinstrap penguins and Antarctic shags on the rocks of the cliffs. Above the cliff we see already the mountaineering group ascending the mountain on the edge of the bay. The penguins look at us curious, some hop in the water and head off, some are moulting around the rocks to get their waterproof feathers for the winter. We explore further and find out that the whole area is full of humpback whales. These wonderful gentle giants are all around in little groups. We say hello, some little groups mostly the groups consist of 2 individuals, are sleeping but some are quite active and check us out. Some passing the Zodiac



really close or some even spy hopping and check us above the water surface. What an incredible moment to see and hear these lovely animals breathing so close to us. Some of us even felt the breath and the water during their blows on their skin. We are speechless, what could we wish more for. 2 hours later we are still speechless and frozen! We slowly head back to the ship and get new strength with a good lunch buffet back on our temporary home Plancius.

For the afternoon destination we are heading around the corner and cruise into the Errera channel. A beautiful channel on the peninsula. We visit Danco Island that is situated in the middle of the channel. The sun comes out, the wind disappears and the scenery is lovely calm and perfect. The channel, again, is covered by beautiful glaciers all around the mountains. We head out to our first landing. We head on the zodiacs and the expedition teams drops us around the corner. We get the chance to walk up the dominant hill on the island. Along the hill we pass plenty of little gentoos rookeries. The little chicks are already left alone during the day by their parents. The parents go to sea and come back for feeding the chicks. What happens when you leave teenagers alone at home. They are just everywhere, they are bored, and they just checking out the bypassing tourists. The little teenager penguins have no clue about the 5m rule and approach us gentle, curious and in an unbelievable cute manner. We enjoy these new friendships and take a rest, sit down and inhale this fantastic landscape that the hill climb has to offer us. The view is spectacular and we are impressed by this unique landscape. We get more than 3 hours time to enjoy and right when our free time on land finished the sun is settling behind some clouds. Maybe just to make leaving this island a bit easier.



We meet the team again for our daily recap, but it is hard to follow their interesting talks about the color of ice and humpback whales. The scenery passing through the icebergs of the Errera channel towards the evening camping destination is again incredible. Another hundreds pictures are taken. What a day so far!

Unfortunately our outdoor adventures ended for this day. The camping was cancelled as penguins took over the camping area. Well anyhow it would

have not been the dream night full of stars anyway. Many unlucky campers showed up at the bar, so I guess the evening was nice anyway.

## Day 5 – 13<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

### Port Lockroy, Jougla Point/Damoy Point

GPS 08.00 Position: 64°49.6'S / 063° 31.0'W

Wind: NW4 Sea State: Smooth Weather: Overcast Air Temp: 0°C Sea Temp: +1°C

This morning, in Iain's voice when he wakes us up we feel a new excitement. We're about to land at Port Lockroy on Goudier Island...



This is a historic site, born out of Operation Tabarin in 1945... British base "A" was an important research station in meteorology. It is now a charming little museum very informative and one of the few Post Office on the Peninsula.

This station, overrun with gentoo penguins and snowy sheethbills, is only occupied during the 4 summer months and this year's team has just left the site. However, we are allowed to leave postcards with the

money for the stamps. They will not be processed until next November and will therefore arrive in about a year's time!



Due to landing restrictions, we are divided into two groups. While the first ones visit the museum, the others take a small zodiac cruise, an opportunity to land at Jougla, where we can observe whale bones. Divers have reconstructed a skeleton with the bones of different species. One of the highlights is to see a live scene of the harsh wildlife, a leopard seal catching a penguin and devouring it.

After our succulent lunch on board, it is time to go on another excursion. We don't have far to go as our afternoon landing is at Damoy Point in the small, shallow Dorian bay. With the help of Iain and Pippa, we have to walk in the water for a while before starting our exploration. Some go directly to the British Antarctic Survey hut hosted by Tom and Celine. Closed since 1990, it can still be used as a refuge.





© Dorette Kuipers

The most valiant ones follow Rustyn's footsteps that lead them to the highest gentoo penguins rockery of the place with a beautiful view of the fjord. This excursion has to be suddenly interrupted because the wind increases in strength. The captain reports to our expedition leader that the swell at the gangway is getting deeper and deeper. The return to the boat is particularly wet in the zodiacs.

One more day is coming to an end. We go to bed with fabulous images in our heads.

## Day 6 – 14<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

### Neko Harbour/Andvord Bay

GPS 08.00 Position: 64°50.9'S / 062° 32.5'W

Wind: VAR 2 Sea State: calm Weather: Rain Air Temp: 3°C Sea Temp: +1°C



This morning we arrived in Neko Harbour, a stunning bay surrounded by towering mountains and a very active glacier. It was a still morning with a little drizzle of rain and low cloud, or as the Scottish would describe it, it was a drierch morning! But the bay is filled with interesting icebergs of all shapes and sizes which makes the landscape even more interesting. As the zodiacs dodged the moving ice, everyone was dropped on the shore and were greeted by an inquisitive

gentoo colony. Whilst here, we were able to map out a path to the top of a little hill/lookout point and also along the shoreline so we could observe the penguins from all angles! There were plenty

of fluffy chicks, trying to lose their down in time for winter, and plenty of chubby chicks chasing around the adults for more food, but ironically were slowed down by their full bellies! Everyone enjoyed the entertaining chicks and juveniles swimming in the shallows, darting around the ice. After a small hike to the top of the hill, we had a great vantage point right across Andvord Bay, where we soon spot three humpback



whales, slowly cruising by, just 30 metres off the shoreline. With the occasional rumble from the active glacier, wildlife and mountains, Neko Harbor is a stunning location, even if it is a little drierch.



The afternoon's adventure was a zodiac cruise to explore deeper inside Andvord Bay. The wind had dropped, and the sun was poking through the clouds, creating beautiful light glinting off the water. The cruise got off to a cracking start as the first few zodiacs spotted some sleepy humpbacks and cruising minke whales. It is safe to say, everyone had incredible wildlife interactions today. Throughout the afternoon, we had curious minke whales, playful humpbacks, sleepy crabeater and weddell seals scattered throughout the bay. Andvord Bay is filled with icebergs, from the deepest of blue in colour to tall spires looking like they will topple over at any moment. For the

kayakers and few of the zodiacs, the afternoon was particularly special as they were approached by a handful of very active humpback whales, which continued to play, fluke and pec slap around and under the boats. The engines were shut off and everyone was quiet and speechless as they observed the special interaction of curious humpbacks checking out them out.

After a very special day, everyone's spirits were high and so to top it off, we had a ship BBQ on the back deck! The crew provided a huge spread of delicious BBQ meat, salads and veggies, followed by a table full of deserts and cakes, all washed down by wine and beer for those who wished. The night carried on into the early hours of the morning for some, dancing the night away in the middle of the Antarctic Peninsula!

## Day 7 – 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### Portal Point/Graham Passage

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 64°29.7'S / 61° 43.8'W

**Wind:** SE 2 **Sea State:** calm **Weather:** overcast **Air Temp:** 0°C **Sea Temp:** 1°C

Another Antarctic day starts for us at Portal Point. The view and the mood of the area is moody. We have low clouds, foggy view, glassy water surface and calm winds, typical Antarctic weather. The plan for the morning is a split landing and a zodiac cruise, as well as the regular activities like kayaking and mountaineering. The first passengers get dropped ashore. The scenery is special and everybody is distracted by the unusual mood. Different type of seals hauling out on shore. We see Antarctic Shags flying around and just in front of the landing site we see humpback whales playing



in the water. We take the chance and walk up the small hill to observe the scenery. The greyish weather in combination with the blue of the icebergs, we see around the bays, is incredible and seems unreal. We were so lucky and encountered breaching whales just in front of us in the water. What a spectacle and we are just in the middle of it. During the landing it starts to snow in big beautiful white snowflakes the visibility drops but it has no

negative impact on this environment.

The Zodiac cruise get the chance to encounter the whales a bit closer. Various small groups of humpbacks are moving around mainly feeding on krill. Krill is the most abundant wild species of animal on earth and it is the key factor in the Antarctic food chain. The whales are swimming

through the swarms of krill. The mouth wide open, catch all the krill and filter the water through there baleens. We got to see the feeding really close and saw their mouth wide open. Incredible, so close. We are privileged and happy to encounter these gentle giants. What a morning. A bit cold and wet, we return to our lovely Plancius and enjoy the lunch.



For the afternoon a real expedition is planned. We should explore the Graham Passage, a narrow gap to pass through. Normally ships can not pass due to the icebergs inside this tight passage. On our arrival the passage looks miserable. 22 knots of wind or even more funneling throughout the passage. Rain and clouds are making is even more miserable. Iain decided to cancel the afternoon landing, as the risk of higher winds with gusts is just to high and to go out just to get wet, does not so much sound like a successful exploration. Well our clothes are not

dry anyway, so an afternoon on the ship watching the weather outside does not sound too bad. Pippa is shortening our afternoon with a really interesting lecture about the marine mammals in the southern ocean and right to finish the day, Alex, our hotel manager, is calling for Happy Hour before Recap. Well this afternoon passed over quicker than expected. Our recap with the plans for tomorrow, information about salps and icebergs got distracted by some bypassing whales. We just love Antarctica. It never gets boring even when we need to stay on the ship.

## Day 8 – 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### Cierva Cove/Mikkelsen Harbour

GPS 08.00 Position: 64°08.2'S / 60° 57.0'W

Wind: S 2 Sea State: slight swell Weather: rain Air Temp: +2°C Sea Temp: 0°C

We wake to a rough sea and a slight roll, as the wind howls down the Gerlache Strait. Luckily for us we sail into the shelter of Cierva cove, and although still a little windy, we are able to begin our zodiac cruise. We set off in relatively calm conditions, through brash ice and towering icebergs. To the South we can see Primavera Station, an Argentinian scientific base; the orange buildings standing out from the otherwise rugged landscape. Amongst the ice we find Gentoo and Chinstrap Penguins swimming and feeding, occasionally porpoising through the swell. The swell that rolls in from the strait causes the icebergs to sway, and some even to roll.

A curious Minke whale circles some of our zodiacs; a fantastic sight from the smallest baleen whale in Antarctica; usually a solitary, reserved species, but sometimes it seems curiosity gets the better of them. The incredible wildlife encounters continue, with a Leopard seal, which swims around the zodiacs, and curiously eyes us up; these apex predators are known for their aggression, but this one maintains a curious composure.

As the wind increases, we head back to Plancius, in time for another delicious lunch prepared by the fantastic galley team.

Over lunch we relocate North to Mikkelsen Harbour, South of Trinity Island; here we will land at D'Hainaut Island; a small island with Gentoo Penguins, whaling remains and an Argentinian refuge hut. The island is very muddy at this time of the year, with most of the snow and ice melted away; leaving small rivers and a lot of penguin guano! Amongst the rocks and guano, we find many chicks almost ready to fledge to the sea, as well as some Giant Petrels feasting on a perished penguin. The rain poured as we walked amongst this rather morbid scene; showcasing the darker aspect of the nature here perhaps.

On the shore we discover the remains of a whaling boat, as well as many whale bones, scattered



along the beach. Many Penguins rest on or amongst these remains; a novel sight. On the beach a Fur seal rests, occasionally rising to scratch and stretch – much to our delight. After rinsing our very muddy boots we head back in the zodiacs to Plancius, where we begin to sail North, leaving the Antarctic peninsula behind and head for the South Shetland Islands.



## Day 9 – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### Whalers Bay, Deception Island/ Yankee Harbour

GPS 08.00 Position: 62°59.1'S / 60° 33.6'W Wind: VAR 4 Sea State: smooth Weather: snow Air Temp: +1°C Sea Temp: +3°C

During the night we had sailed up the Gerlache Strait and across the Bransfield Strait towards the South Shetland Islands where we were planning to spend our last Antarctic day. At 07:00 Iain woke us all up as Plancius was approaching Deception Island, thereafter passing through the infamous 'Neptune's Bellows'. The whole of Deception Island is classed as an active volcano and the entrance was where the rim of the volcano collapsed and allowed the water to flood in creating Port Foster.



Our landing at Deception Island (Telefon Bay) was a completely different sight than we had previously seen this trip. The beach was black volcanic rock, which contrasted beautifully against the white snow. Many Fur seals were lounging and wrestling around the beach in all directions from our landing.

We explored the abandoned buildings and walked up to Neptures windows overlooking the open ocean on the outside of the volcanos crater. Our landing was short as we were racing a storm, but the combination of fog, sun, white snow and black beaches made for no less than a mystical morning.



After lunch and a small break we set out again for Yankee Harbour. As we arrived to our landing, a large Weddel Seal lay only meters from our zodiacs. If that wasn't enough a Fur Seal and a Crabbier Seal both lay scattered across our path. We walked the long, narrow spit of land that was so unique to Yankee Harbour. Again our landing was short as the Captain was warning us of an approaching storm, but the weather was beautiful and the long walk was exactly what everyone needed.



Back on the ship, and back in warm dry cloths we enjoyed recap and heard stories from staff. We set off into the Drake... not knowing what to expect.



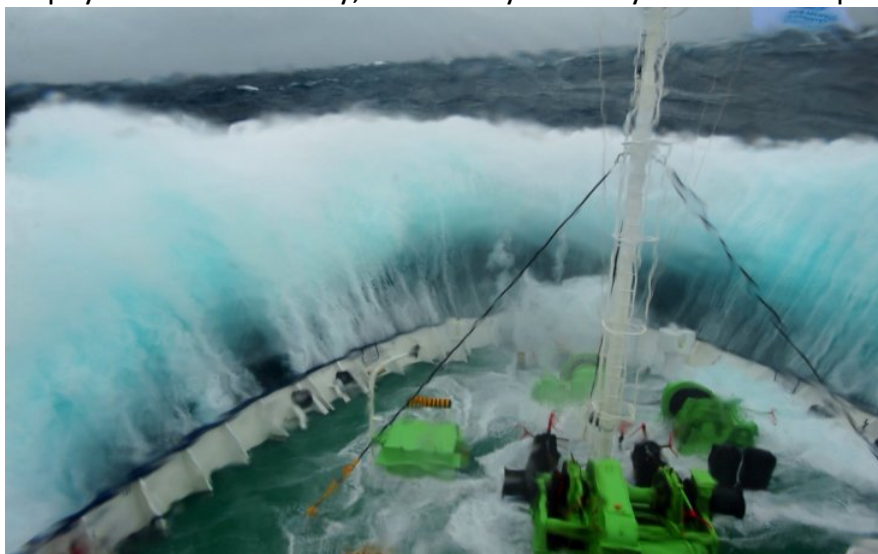
## Day 10 – 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### At Sea to Ushuaia

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 60°18,4'S / 61° 25.0'W

**Wind:** NW8 **Sea State:** Rough **Weather:** Rain **Air Temp:** +4°C **Sea Temp:** +6°C

If one gets treated to a Drake lake on a trip, the Captain's wisdom always dictates that we will have to pay for this someday, and today this day had come. Speeding up trying to be at the Cape in



front of Hurricane force winds we ploughed through swell of 6 meters high. Good old Plancius bounced up and down and swung sideways. Every now and then a big wave would hit the ship and it sounded as if a large sledgehammer was banged against her side. In the morning both Pippa and Rustyn managed to give lectures, respectively about Antarctic Whaling and Gear Evolution. During lunch the sea

was so rough we were served a small lunch in our cabins. In the afternoon everybody was so busy trying to hold on to the ship or not becoming sea-sick the lecture program was postponed.

## Day 11 – 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### At Sea to Buenos Aires

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 56°58,1'S / 27,9° 27,9'W

**Wind:** W8 **Sea State:** Rough **Weather:** Rain **Air Temp:** +8°C **Sea Temp:** +9°C

Still rough seas in the morning but it was already a bit less than the day before. Tom was giving his lecture about Geology and the opening of the Drake Passage and its implications on the development of ice-caps on Antarctica. It's hard to imagine that this ice-covered world was once covered with lush green forests, geologically speaking not even so long ago. After lunch the lecture



program continued with Celine explaining us how to track sea birds and marine mammals and how in return they can track us ! After this very interesting lecture we got briefed that we set sail to Buenos Aires instead of Ushuaia because of a shutdown of all domestic flights in Argentina. This news brought by Iain was met with a round of applause, with was sort off a surprise to the staff. Passengers immediately started to volunteer to help out to fill the extra days at sea with entertainment. Rustyn was promoted from camping guide to cruise director/entertainment manager and started to consult with passengers who wanted to help out with the entertainment in the next days. In the evening we held a pub-quiz in which our knowledge of Antarctica was tested, with a full lounge and fanatic teams it was a close call who eventually won.

## Day 12 – 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### At Sea to Buenos Aires

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 53°29,1'S / 64° 39,7'W

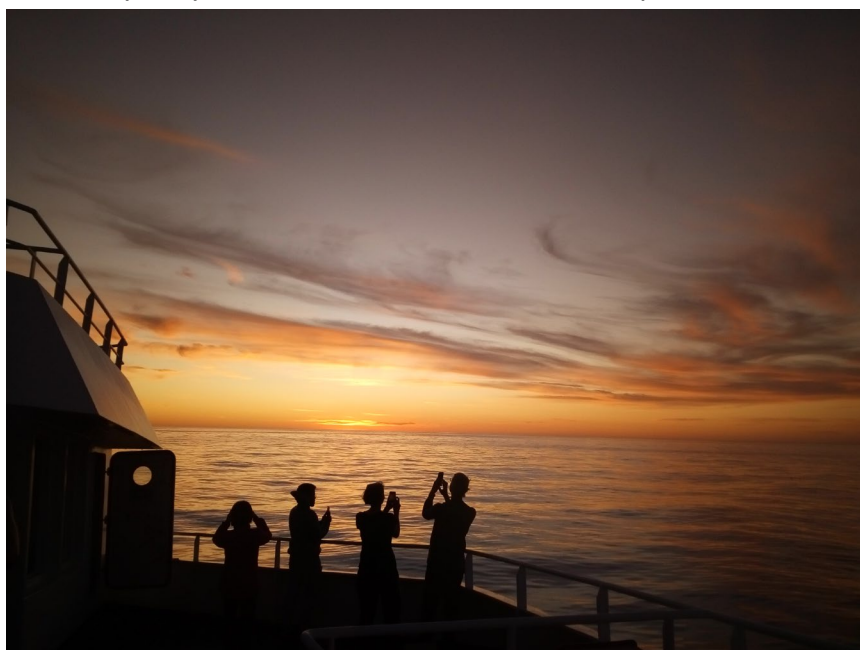
**Wind:** NW9 **Sea State:** High **Weather:** Partly clouded **Air Temp:** +9°C **Sea Temp:** +10°C

So today starts the first day of our second part of the trip heading north towards Buenos Aires. In the morning we get called for a short meeting by Iain. The newest Corona update is that Buenos Aires is locked down until the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2020 - more news that probably changes after just a few hours. We will stay positive and wait to see what happens. We will reach Buenos Aires in approximately 5 to 6 days sailing and so we will watch out for more news.

After this news, Steffi gave a lecture about adaption of plant and animals to the polar regions. So now we know finally why penguins do not need socks.

After our well-deserved lunch we got the chance to listen to the adventures of Iain. He spent 3 winters on an Antarctic base in the southerly part of the peninsula. We listened to his stories curious and enjoyed the small anecdotes of a life that is probably hard to understand for an outsider. We know now for sure it is more fun than it sounds.

Directly after this informative lecture we got to see another historic movie documentation about a sailing ship passing Cape Horn. We stayed silent with our experiences of the drake, as this was absolutely way more adventures what we experienced. Not everybody needs to be the toughest one.



During the afternoon the sea state was getting significantly calm, so we could use the opportunity to get some fresh air and it already smells different than in Antarctica. The water and the air temperature are significantly rising.

We enjoy another great dinner by our Indian Chef and meet up later for the memories of our travels so far. The Expedition Team is presenting a slide show with plenty of pictures they collected

during the trip in Antarctica. What a fabulous reminder and what great moments we all share. The slide show was followed by a quiz “Do you know your guide?” Our guides were telling us stories out of their lives and we have to say true or false. Well, some interesting things came up.

## Day 13 – 21<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### At Sea to Montevideo

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 49°28,4'S / 62° 04,7'W

**Wind:** S2    **Sea State:** Smooth    **Weather:** Cloudy    **Air Temp:** 11°C    **Sea Temp:** 11°C

Today was the start of our second day sailing towards Buenos Aires ... or so we thought. As the news came in overnight, after everyone had their breakfast, another meeting was called by Iain to inform everyone that our new destination is ... **\*\*drum roll\*\*** ... Montevideo, Uruguay! The office informed us that Buenos Aires has closed its port and we were no longer allowed to disembark there, so we are currently on track to arrive there in 4-5 days, luckily it is next door to Buenos Aires!



This morning was action packed! It kicked off with an IT Support workshop run by Mal so everyone could use the internet responsibly and so we could all continue to use the free wifi to remain in contact with our friends and family! Next, was a bird ID workshop run by Celine on the deck outside. There have been many kinds of petrels and albatross flying around the ship for a few

days so this was very useful workshop. But shortly after this, we had arranged to meet up with our sister ship Ortelius, who is on the same path as us to Montevideo, to collect some medical supplies and a few extra fresh fruit and veggies! As Pippa, Steffi and Alex set off in a zodiac, there were cheers and Mexican waves from all the decks! Great excitement! We could also see all the passengers on board Ortelius doing the same thing when the zodiac drew closer to them. After matching the ship's speed, the goodies were skillful lowered into the zodiac and then just like that, Ortelius was on her way again!



After yet another delicious lunch, the afternoon started with a lecture from Felicity talking about the modern-day threats that marine life faces today – ship strikes, entanglements and overfishing. Shortly after, there was an organized fire/abandon ship drill. Miia, the chief officer, had organized some “difficult” passengers to test the staff and crew’s abilities but thankfully, all went well and she was happy with everyone’s performance/response!

Recap tonight was also very entertaining, with Tom giving a talk on Plancius, and the Dutch independence war with Spain and how we could all relate to being stuck on a Dutch ship not allowed to enter Spanish harbors...! Luckily, everyone found it hilarious! After dinner, our first movie night was set up in the dining room where popcorn and *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty* was waiting for anyone who wished.

## Day 14 – 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

### At Sea to Montevideo

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 45°35,6'S / 60° 13,9'W

**Wind:** WNW 5    **Sea State:** Slight    **Weather:** Partly clouded    **Air Temp:** 15°C    **Sea Temp:** 12°C



really planned on our agenda anyway.

The sea on our way north welcomes us with calm seas and warmer temperature in the morning. The air feels and smells different. During the morning we get a new update. Well nothing new, just that it seems that the embassies are working on solutions. At least something where we can hope that it will turn out successfully. All our passports were scanned to the authorities in Uruguay. Let’s see what happens in 2 days, but it looks like we will need to get directly from the ship to the airport and into the plane. Well that is fine with us, Uruguay was not



During the morning our murder game started and there was big energy vibe going on, well half of the participants were dead within a few hours. I would say we can be considered to be effective.

In the morning Mal was presenting a lecture about climate change which ended in a nice, open discussion about opportunities or chances. Different people got to share some of their information and different opinions were appreciated.

For lunch the hotel crew prepared a BBQ on the back deck inclusive a theme:

*Pirates on board of Plancius.* Nobody was prepared for a costume party but people got creative, so we saw a big variety of new pirate features. Door opener developed to swords, hairdryer turned into parrots, different photographic hardware ended up being used as an eyepatch and some passenger “lost” arms and legs.

Rustyn organized a small walk of fame for our newborn pirates and the 10 best costumes were prized with a free shot of cheap rum and a huge portion of honor and respect for the playful mind they had. Some dancing was observed after the BBQ and we just enjoyed to be out on this beautiful ocean feeling free in this changing world. In the afternoon we watched a movie about a sea kayaking adventure of Adam he did in 2014, with a fabulous footage abouts hope, dreams and personal achievements. Interesting stories and people we have on our ship.

For the re-cap we got weather updates, Rustyn updated us with the latest news of the entertainment department, Juraj shared with us his Antarctic memories. He cut a 5 min video and Dave was sharing his experiences how to train Search and Rescue dogs.



Before we move towards dinner, we enjoy quick a beautiful sunset with dolphins in the water.

BUT the best comes: we continue our “Argentinian BASE Camp” and we head out for camping on deck 7. Well better late than never. 35 people got the chance to sleep under the stars of the Atlantic Ocean, the others went to their cosy beds.

# Day 15 – 23<sup>th</sup> March 2020

## At Sea to Montevideo

GPS 08.00 Position: 40°55,0'S / 57° 29,5'W

Wind: NW 5    Sea State: Slight    Weather: Clear sky    Air Temp: 17°C    Sea Temp: 14°C



A beautiful morning to wake up to – not a cloud in the sky, calm seas and warm air. The morning kicked off with a really interesting lecture by Pippa on ‘Ocean Sound – Acoustics in the Southern Ocean’. Everyone present, was able to listen to snippets of all the Antarctic marine mammals, some slightly adjusted to our hearing range – amazing! However, this was the final staff lecture and then began the passenger lecture take over! I began with a talk by Don on gender differences in communication which was quite amusing. There was then

some time to enjoy the sunshine out on the decks, watching albatross and petrels glide gracefully alongside the ship.



After lunch, the next passenger lecture was given by Nick on his newly created subject ‘Snowology’ ...this was an interesting overview of very technical terms such as “biggies” (big snowflakes) and smallies (small snowflakes), and then carried on to discuss some of the threats to snow, for example, snow cones and snowball fights. And finally, after the very entertaining lecture about Snowology, we were given a talk by Dave, a meteorologist, about the weather systems during our trip in the Antarctic Peninsula and how the polar

weather systems are changing due to global warming.

Meanwhile, the final stage of the murder game began, with new twists and added challenges, let’s see how long he final few stay alive! The evening’s recap included a recap on Poo-nami’s (the importance of whale poo in carbon capture) by Felicity, followed by a 15min film created by James.

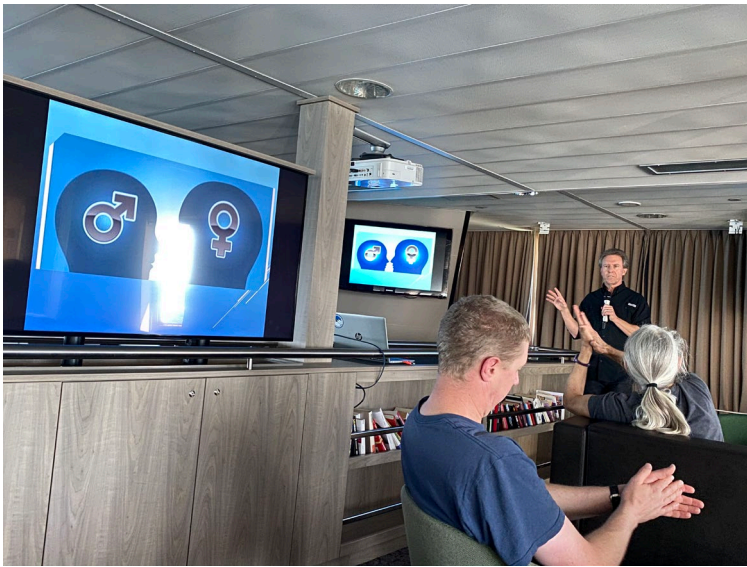
After dinner, drinks and music were enjoyed in the bar whilst the staff worked through the passenger list to collect and send off potential flights to get everyone home, safe and sound. Finger's crossed all goes to plan!

## Day 16 – 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### At Sea to Montevideo

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 36°41,5'S / 55° 10,8'W

**Wind:** NNE 5    **Sea State:** Moderate    **Weather:** Clear sky    **Air Temp:** 23°C    **Sea Temp:** 18°C



After again a nice breakfast, the theme of this day again was lectures by guests. The first lecture was given by Maria about TMJ disorders followed by a presentation of Maggie about couples communication, which came in handy for some of the staff who still had to communicate their partners they were going to sail back with Plancius to Vlissingen. After these informative lectures they Plancius' scavenging hunt took place. The hunters in couples had to roam around Plancius in search for pieces of information answering questions and carrying out little tasks e.g. taking a funny picture with one of the staff members (which I guess was not one of the most difficult tasks).



## Day 17 – 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

### Disembarkation Montevideo

After arriving in the port of Montevideo, three days of disembarkations followed. All of us could feel the tension, is it going to work...? To be allowed to disembark we all needed a valid airline ticket out of Montevideo. This was quite a challenge as flights got cancelled or changed by the minute. Expedition staff worked hard to check flight statuses and provide the necessary paperwork requested by the Uruguayan officials. Passengers were continuously checking their booking and rebooked where needed, this could be quite frustrating as the ships internet through satellite is not really equipped for such a massive data stream. Anyways, although the emotions and tensions were visible, everybody kept the spirits high resulting in several sessions of orderly disembarkations. Because our Antarctica expedition became an extraordinary one, saying goodbye to new friends made was not always easy, but eventually everybody managed to get home safely. We are very grateful for the Uruguayan authorities for making our safe travel home possible.



# Mountaineering LOG

## 12th March AM Orne Harbor – Spigot Peak

For our first landing and Mountaineering excursion we made an attempt on Spigot Peak – the morning was fairly cold with a moderate breeze and our landing site was chocked by ice. With a small amount of jiggery pokery we got ashore, put on our crampons and stepped onto the slope. What is normally a fairly gentle slope with soft snow was for this journey quite firm and slick.

We climbed to the Col above the landing site and along past the chin strap colony – an amazing place to see these flightless bird – the penguin mountaineers of Antarctica! What looked at first like blowing snow became obviously the snowy down feathers of the juvenile chicks molting.

The climb of spigot is normally a easy climb with only a few technical sections – the conditions however this trip were hard blue bullet proof ice making the ascent a much more serious and exposed prospect.

Reaching the steepening upper slopes, we needed to turn back as the ice conditions became too dramatic to allow us to proceed further without using too much time that we simply didn't have.

The return to shore was fairly straight forward but we did need to call in a Zodiac earlier to once again clear the ice from the landing site. A fairly interesting and dramatic first introduction for the Antarctic Mountaineers.









## 12<sup>th</sup> March PM – Danco Ice

Whilst the snow conditions on the Peninsula might be poor for mountaineering, the ice conditions are fantastic. We went ashore to the toe of an old glacier on Danco Island where our guides Mal and Dave setup 3 rope roped ice routes.

After instruction on how to use our tools and crampons effectively we were able to quickly get into the swing of things and make our way up the routes that ranged from fairly easy to more challenging.

Along the way we were visited by the ever-inquisitive local penguins and a few seals as they lazily swam by. An experience to remember – ice climbing on a glacial toe on the Antarctic Peninsula.





## 13th March AM Dumar Island

The day dawned "atmospheric" with hanging clouds and a bit of a breeze. But still with Peaks showing through and the odd patch of blue in the sky.

For this mornings Glacier hike Mal chose a landing on Dumar Island with a route neither he nor Dave had done before.

A rocky beach landing accessed the looker left of the island opposite Port Lockroy. after a very short scramble across rocks watched by a curious fur seal we donned snowshoes and made our way up the first snowfield and a narrow rockband before roping up for glacial travel.

The advantages of this form of travel became apparent when we started to investigate and jump over some of the numerous crevasse en route. We also got to look across the far side of the island towards the "Seven Sisters" mountain range.

Below this range there were some interesting examples of "transverse" crevasses (vertical to the slope as opposed to the more normal at right angles to it). Some theories included whether water undercutting the ice shelf may have allowed tidal and wind driven water to apply horizontal tension to the glacier. Unproven, but an interesting scenario.

we continued in a long loop through and over several other crevasse fields before heading back for a pick up and lunch.





## 13th March PM Damoy

Landing at the same site as the rest of the "normal landings in the shallow bay of Damoy on the other side of Port Lockroy and near to Jabet peak we equipped ourselves with ice axes and snowshoes and headed off to a high point near Jabet.

Crossing over a high spur we got another great view of the bay and floating calved ice on the other side. Unfortunately as we were enjoying the view and talking about the glacial structure of the ice sheets in sunshine and light winds due to the lee side affect of Jabet, we had information relayed to us by the Captain that we had winds rising to a steady 38 knots by the ship.

While we were safe on land this is close to the operating threshold for safe Zodiak travel and boarding of the ship, so a retreat was in order.

As the rest of the expedition also needed to head back, we took the mountaineers' perogitive and claimed the last two zodiaks to leave after a circular route back.







## 14 March AM NEKO ICE

Not as pleasant weather as we've been used to today with rain and low clouds, but at least the overnight wind had dropped away. We loaded up and landed on the lookers' left of Neko harbour with a Gentoo penguin colony to our left for company.

Undeterred by the weather, the crew fixed crampons while Dave and Mal made their way to the top of the ice cliffs by way of a neat "plastic ice" a gentle (but slimy) shade of green from Snow algae slope to the side of the steep to overhanging white cliffs to set up the top-ropes.

The warmer temperatures had indeed made the ice a lovely consistency to climb on and everyone made the most of it with some really stylish ascents on both the routes. They also had the opportunity to try climbing with both traditional alpine axes and modern "technical" tools.

At one stage the brash ice floated in raising question marks on how we would exit as we really didn't want to disturb the penguin colony, but the fates aligned to change the wind direction just in time for our egress to the Plancius in clearing conditions.





## 15 March AM Portal Point

The Portal Point landing is a small rocky outcrop nearby the concrete footings of an abandoned research station and populated by Weddell, fur and leopard seals.

Overcast skies soon turned to snow as the mountaineers cramponed or snowshoed up. A short walk up a spur brought us to the first crevasses and the need to rope up. This was ably demonstrated when Mal minutes later found the first one, popping through to his knee depth.

The snow was getting thicker and the cloud base lowered to all but obscure the neck of glacier joining the Point to the larger Glacier on the Mainland. So, a decision was made to only continue a little more to check out a large crevasse feature where an ice serac was poised to fall off into the Bay. A feature it's so much better to observe from above than from below!

This proved to be so deep you could not see the bottom and extended 100m up the slope. Impressive. A chance to check this out was taken with a tight rope and wriggling the last couple of metres on our stomachs.

To add some spice to our day, Mal and Dave set up an anchor then proceeded to lower everyone 25 metres down a nearly vertical slope to just above the sea. Then with the help of a bit of teamwork, a self locking device called a micro traction and 7 people pulling we raised them up again.

Lots of hilarity with bum-slide descents and even one inverted version (on purpose). Back to the boats and big smiles all round, even a comment about it being "better than whales", much to the outrage of our helpful driver, Felicity, the Marine Mammal scientist.





## 16 March PM Mikleson Bay

In the mode of true Antarctic exploration, we set off from the ship to check out, for the first time for all, including the Guides, the opportunities at Mikleson Bay.

From the Zodiacs, we spotted a land-able beach near a glacial snout. Coming into the landing, in the company of a curious Leopard seal, it became apparent that although we could land and access the base of the glacier, taking a large group in snowshoes and roped together for the obvious crevasses might be too risky to justify. The angle wasn't super steep, but on both sides there were steep sections that was above fairly consequential terrain.

Rather than lose the opportunity, Mal and Dave created an abridged "basic alpine skills" course.

- Walking on snow/ice with and without ice axes.

- Step Cutting with ice Axes

- Self arresting

- "Glissading" a kind of boot-skiing technique

We then put on our snow-shoes to see just how much difference and extra security they can give you.

Mal also took small groups down the beach to look at the terminal face of the glacier and the different aspects of the ice within it.





## 17 March AM Whalers Bar, Deception Island Hill

After an early breakfast we sailed through the Pillars of Neptune into the Caldera of Deception Island (the depression formed from a volcanic eruption).

The bay was the scene of a busy whaling port until abandoned when volcanic activity was occasionally noticeable.

Now days it's dormant but not quite extinct.

The crew that missed out on yesterday's landing, plus a few other keen souls, joined Dave for a wander past the seals and abandoned, broken buildings and ascended the ridgeline behind the old hanger.

It was a bit blustery and snowing lightly, dusting the ground with snow, making for a very picturesque landscape over the volcanic sands and rocks. The view from the small summit was spectacular in both directions. Back down to the ruins, the Caldera and a Lagoon with Plancius at anchor in the background, and over to the sea past steep cliffs and rolling hills sprinkled with alpine tarns (small alpine ponds).

Then back down to the beach for the famed "polar plunge"



**Total distance sailed on our voyage:**

3047 Nautical Miles

**Furthest South:** 64°84'S / 62°52'W

**Furthest North:** 34°89'S / 56°19'W

# Your Expedition Team!



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



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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.



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UPLOAD YOUR PHOTO AT

**[WWW.OCEANWIDE-EXPEDITIONS.COM/GALLERY](http://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](http://www.oceanwide-expeditions.com/page/contest-terms)

Species list: Birds and marine mammals of the Antarctic region

English	Latin	9-mrt	10-mrt	11-mrt	12-mrt	13-mrt	14-mrt	15-mrt	16-mrt	17-mrt	18-mrt	19-mrt	20-mrt	21-mrt	22-mrt	23-mrt	24-mrt
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>																
Adelie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>																
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>				X												
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>																
Southern Rockhopper Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>																
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>		X	X													
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>																
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>																
Yellow nosed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche chlororhynchos</i>																X
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche melanophris</i>	X	X	X								X	X	X	X	X	
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche chrysostoma</i>		X									X	X				
Light Mantled Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>																
Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>		X	X			X		X		X					X	
Southern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	X			X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X		
Antarctic Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialisoides</i>			X	X		X		X								
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>		X	X	X		X					X	X				
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>																
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>																
Soft Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>																
Atlantic Petrel	<i>Pterodroma incerta</i>														X		
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>																
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>												X	X	X		
Spectacled Petrel	<i>Procellaria conspicillata</i>															X	
Cory's/Scopoli Shearwater	<i>Calonectris diomedea</i>																
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>		X									X	X				
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>																
Little Shearwater	<i>Puffinus assimilis</i>												X	X			
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>												X		X		
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>																
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>																
Broad-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila vittata</i>																
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>												X				
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X		
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>			X													
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>													X			
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides (urinatrix) berard</i>		X														
Magellanic Diving Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>													X	X		
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	X															

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Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X								
South american Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax olivaceus</i>																	
Pale-faced Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>				X	X	X		X									
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	X																X
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>			X	X	X	X			X								
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>								X	X								
Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>																	
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>																	
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	X																
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	X			X	X	X	X	X	X								
Olrog's Gull	<i>Larus atlanticus</i>																	X
Brown-hooded Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus maculipennis</i>																	
Grey-headed Gull	<i>Croicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>																	
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	X																
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>			X														
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>																	
Brown Booby	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>																	
Magnificent Frigatebird	<i>Fregata magnificens</i>																	

Other types of birds that we could see further north

Marine mammals		Other types of birds that we could see further north																
		9-mrt	10-mrt	11-mrt	12-mrt	13-mrt	14-mrt	15-mrt	16-mrt	17-mrt	18-mrt	19-mrt	20-mrt	21-mrt	22-mrt	23-mrt	24-mrt	
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>																	
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>				X		X		X									
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>				X		X	X	X									
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>																	
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>			X														
Strap-toothed Whale	<i>Megaplodon layardii</i>																	
Cuvier's beaked Whale	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>		X															
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>			X								X						
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>																	
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>			X														
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>														X	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										
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>					X	X		X	X								
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>																	
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>			X	X	X		X	X	X								
Southern Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>	X																
South America Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus australis</i>	X																
Sei Whale																	X	

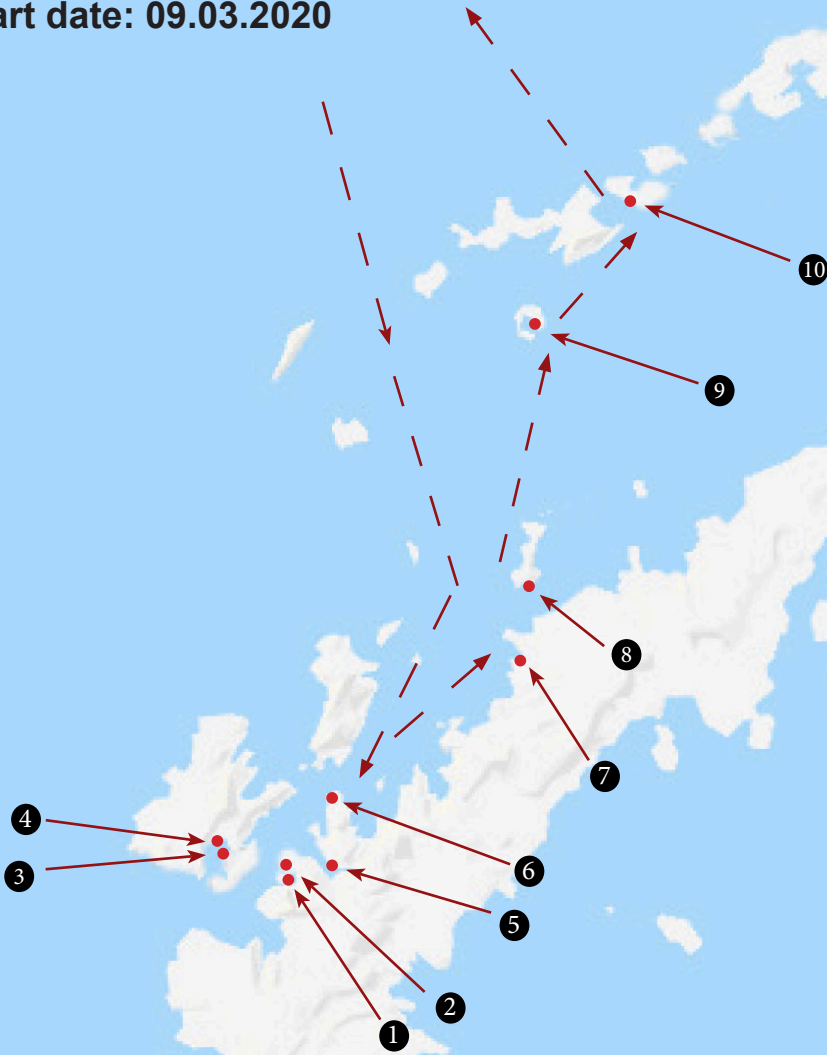
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# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Antarctic Base Camp Expedition  
M/V PLANCIUS  
Start date: 09.03.2020



- ① Orne Harbour
- ② Danco Island
- ③ Port Lockroy
- ④ Damoy Point
- ⑤ Neko Harbour
- ⑥ Portal Point
- ⑦ Cierva Cove
- ⑧ D'Hainaut Island
- ⑨ Deception Island
- ⑩ Yankee Harbour

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## Iain Rudkin - Expedition Leader

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A love for travel alongside a passion for mountains, wild places and photography has allowed Iain to fulfil many a childhood dream.

Equally at home in his native Scottish mountains as in the polar regions, Iain has been fortunate enough to be able to combine his enthusiasm for the wilderness with a real-life job - a privilege not lost on him!

This 'work' has led him to over winter three times in Antarctica, climb unclimbed peaks as well as getting covered head to toe in penguin guano...it's not all glamorous!

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# Pippa Low - Assistant Expedition Leader

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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.

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## Tom van Hoof - Expedition guide

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Tom is geologist with a biological background. He studied palaeontology at the University of Utrecht. He fell in love with the polar regions when visiting the University of Svalbard in 2000 as a PhD student studying Climate Change. During his PhD research he spent a lot of time doing fieldwork all over the world. After finishing

his PhD at Utrecht University in the Netherlands he spent a year as a post-doctoral researcher at the University of Arizona. When getting back to the Netherlands he got a job at the Dutch Geological Survey, working as a consulting palaeontologist. Here he got the chance to start organising geological sampling expeditions in the Arctic again. After fifteen years working for the Survey and doing fieldwork in the polar regions, Tom started a geological consultancy company in 2018 where he applies his knowledge of fossils in commercial projects for the subsurface energy industry. He combines this worldwide consultancy work with expedition guiding, as he loves to be out in the wild and share his knowledge of rocks.



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## Felicity Johnson – Expedition Guide

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I am a marine biologist, skipper and guide with a strong passion for marine mammal conservation. Working on the water for 6 years has allowed me to observe a wide variety of marine life in their natural environment.

During my master's in Marine Biology at University of Southampton, I gained certifications as a marine mammal observer, advanced diver and commercial skipper.

I have worked in the marine conservation and research field in Scotland, South Africa, New Zealand, and Canada.

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## Stefanie Liller - Expedition guide

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Steffi Liller was born in Offenbach, Germany in 1978. After completing her apprenticeship as a biology lab technician at the Paul-Ehrlich Institute in Langen, Germany, she earned a degree in Biology and Meteorology at the Universities of Darmstadt and Freiburg in Germany. Alongside her studies and her love of nature, Stefanie developed an interest in and a passion for skydiving. This eventually changed from being a hobby to her profession. While working at drop-zones and indoor skydiving facilities throughout central Europe, Stefanie enjoyed sharing her passion for the sport with other people.

A large part of her career was spent as a coach. It was always very important to her to make her own skills available to people curious and interested, and to look after their safety and lasting enjoyment in the sport. Starting in 2011 she managed several indoor skydiving facilities in Germany and Austria. In addition to her professional career, Stefanie is an avid world-traveler by foot or public transport. While exploring various landscapes and communities on all seven continents, she enjoys sharing her experiences and unique moments with others. Since 2017 Stefanie has been working as an independent coach in skydiving and indoor skydiving and guide or lector on several vessels in remote areas. Stefanie has chosen Vienna, Austria as her home base, and lives there in between trips.

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# Dorette Kuipers - Photography Guide

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As a director Dorette produces documentaries and as commissioning editor she's responsible for many programs (mainly art programs as the Dutch Antique Roadshow) at the Dutch Public Broadcasting company AVROTROS. Dorette used to be a teacher in audio-visual skills while nowadays she's more focusing on using smartphones to make photos and to film.

Dorette loves to be on the water (liquid or frozen;). In Holland she has two small boats; one for the canals of Amsterdam, one to sail with. All her sports are water related (rowing, swimming, sailing, skating and skiing). She prefers to travel in 'cold area's' and has visited both the Arctic and the Antarctic. Being again the photography guide on the Plancius means for her the ideal

combination of visiting her favorite landscape with supporting passengers in making visual stories of their 'once in a life time-trip'.



# Mal Haskins

**New Zealand**

**IFMGA / NZMGA**

**Mountain and Ski Guide**



I've been calling the mountains and high ranges of the world my home now for the last 20 years. I really enjoying sharing my passion and enjoyment being outdoors with others so guiding was a natural progression for me. I work in various parts of the world in both summer and winter conditions taking people mountaineering and skiing and call Wanaka, New Zealand my home.

Over the years I've had a number of very memorable expeditions and have had the opportunity to summit a few of our 8000m Peaks, Lhotse (8516m) and Manaslu (8156m).

I had the chanceto come down to work and experience the Antarctic Peninsula a few years ago and have been coming down each season now for the past 3 years.

I find all mountain ranges around the world special but with Antarctica there is extra magic – the wildlife, amazing glaciers, weather and the people you meet on these journeys – it's an experience you can't match anywhere else in the world.

I'm looking forward to sharing my joy of the mountains with you in this special place.

# Dave McKinley - Mountain Guide



Dave McKinley is an IFMGA Climbing and Ski Guide with 25 years of professional experience.

He lives in the small town of Twizel, just south of Aoraki/Mt Cook with his wife, 3 kids (when they're home) and 4 dogs and spends much of the year sharing adventures in the NZ Southern Alps with guests. Either mountaineering or Heliskiing/touring.

Dave has worked and climbed in NZ, Europe, Alaska, Nepal, Tibet and South America including ascents of Everest, Lhotse, Manaslu, Denali (which with his last name of McKinley originates his nickname of "Narly") and Aconcagua amongst many others.

He is passionate about sharing his experience and joy in exploring the more remote parts of our world with people and, having a previous life as a chef, he has a belief that guiding is a part of the "hospitality" industry at its heart.

Dave has also been involved in the Search and Rescue aspect of the outdoors environment, and in particular with the use and deployment of dogs in Avalanche and wilderness/Open Area searching.

Dave is a guide with a strong skill-set and an even stronger desire to enable and assist others to engage and learn from our natural and wild spaces.

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## Adam Harmer – Kayak Guide

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Adam currently calls North Wales in the UK home but works around the globe often using the 'outdoors' as his office.

Currently juggling a variety of jobs Adam works in the field as an Instructor Trainer and Adventure Sports Coach across a variety of areas. From Kayaking and Canoeing to Mountaineering and Climbing he teaches individuals but also trains and assesses instructors.

He currently works for both Plas y Brenin the National Outdoor Centre in Wales and Lectures in Outdoor Education at Liverpool John Moores University.

Adam loves to use the outdoors and the variety of venues is endless. In his work he has made first descents on Kenyan rivers, sea kayaked in Chile or under the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco, ski toured in Norway but he's also just as happy at home sea kayak surfing the tide races of Anglesey.

Adam has a passion for exploring new places and sharing those experiences with the people he meets along the way.

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# Rustyn Mesdag - Camping Guide

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Rustyn was born in Seattle, Washington where he grew up in the mountains of the Pacific Northwest.

He quickly discovered his love for snow and ice which led to climbing and then travelling abroad. After working as an alpine guide in the United States, in 2004 he relocated to Patagonia where he started a guide service outside of Torres del Paine National Park.

For 15 years he has been leading climbers, travellers and trekkers through the most extreme terrains of Southern Chile.

Aside from the guide service, he operates an equipment rental centre, backpackers' hostel and conducts daily lectures to eager Patagonian backpackers looking for tips and pointers about trekking in the wild. He also moonlighted as a travel writer, focusing on Southern Chile, and for many years he published an English-speaking travellers newspaper in Patagonia and this led to his first trip to Antarctica - writing about his experiences there.

Always looking for the next adventure, Rustyn now finds himself working for Oceanwide Expeditions and helping others explore this incredible region. When Rustyn isn't travelling or working in the outdoors, his other passion is his love for old motorcycles and long rides through Southern Chile and Argentina.

Rustyn is fluent in English, Dutch and Spanish and is more than happy to sit and spend time discussing world travels, alpine climbing and the in's & out's of cold weather equipment management

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# Céline Clément – Camping guide

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Celine was born in the south west of France, in the vineyard region of Bordeaux. She grew up with a passion for travel, the natural world especially ocean wildlife, outdoor activities... and wine!

As student, she was part of a Sea Rescue Unit which gave her a good knowledge of navigation and first aid as well as a deep respect for the ocean.

Celine was then Research Manager at the Department of Geography of the University of Bergen, Norway, investigating fisheries management issues in the Barents Sea.

Since 1998, various contracts for France's national scientific research center (CNRS) have led this cartographer to participate in around twenty scientific missions in the Arctic (Northern Norway, Bear Island, and Spitsbergen) and Antarctic Peninsula. This work was primarily conducted as part of research programs funded by the French Polar Institute (IPEV) and focused on the adaptations of polar seabirds to changes in their environment. She knows all the ins and outs of capturing, bird banding, biometric measurements, blood sampling, and activity recorders.

During the same period, Celine has been a hiking guide in Spitsbergen and has regularly accompanied cruises in the Polar Regions, which has given her a taste for science outreach programs. She works for Oceanwide Expeditions since 2007.

When she is in France, she currently works as Scientific Mediator and teaches in high schools. She ensures the coordination and the carrying out of communication events in scientific culture and contributes to communicating the latest scientific discoveries in the polar world.



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## Nelleke Ernsting - Ships Doctor

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Nelleke is a GP in Amsterdam and works as a locum. In her spare time, she tries to make time for more exciting things though, like crossing the Atlantic Ocean as a ships' doctor and giving courses for Greenpeace in different parts of the world.

Before she became a GP, she was a military doctor, where she learned practicing medicine in less than ordinary circumstances. She did a Diploma in Mountain Medicine (UK) to learn even more.

She loves to be in the mountains in her spare time, hiking alpine routes, in remote regions. Besides this she plays water polo and is a keen runner.



**OCEANWIDE**  
EXPEDITIONS

## **Basecamp Antarctica**

**Embarkation - Ushuaia**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

**Your luggage should already be in your cabin. Please check that you are not missing any luggage and if there is luggage in your cabin that does NOT belong to you or your cabin mate please tell a member of staff or crew.**

**Feel free to explore the ship. Tea and coffee are always available in the Lounge on Deck 5**

~1715 **Mandatory Safety** in the Lounge. **ALL** passengers **must** attend this very important safety briefing.

~1800 Approximate sailing time. As we leave Ushuaia, we recommend that you enjoy the views from the outside decks.

**The Bridge and Bridge wings will be closed this evening.**

~ 1815 **Lifeboat drill.** Please listen for alarms and announcements and make your way to the Muster Station, the Lounge, on Deck 5.

~1845 After our departure, we would like to invite you to the **Lounge** (Deck 5) for a welcome from Expedition Leader **Iain Rudkin** and an introduction to the ship by Hotel Manager **Alex Lebedev**. Afterwards Captain **Artur Iakovlev** invites you to join him for a welcome drink in the Lounge, where you will also meet the Expedition Team.

1930 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room located on Deck 3 (behind reception). Bon appétit!

If you think you may require sea sickness medication then please take it at this time! Dr Nick will be available in the lounge after dinner if you require any additional medication or advice.

**Tonight, at around midnight we will be in open waters. Please secure your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) in your cabin, keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship and be careful with the heavy doors.**



## Antarctic Peninsula Basecamp

Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020

0730 **Wake up call.**

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room (Deck 3).

***Basecamp Activity Briefings.** This morning we will be running our basecamp activity briefings. If you plan on participating in Mountaineering, Kayaking and Camping, please ensure you come along to learn more about the activities and sign up process.*

0930 Please join Mal and Dave in the Observation Lounge (Deck 5) for the **Mountaineering briefing**. If you have brought them, please bring your mountaineering boots along with you to be checked.

1100 Please join Adam in the Observation Lounge for the **Kayaking briefing**.

1145 Please join Rustyn and Celine in the Observation Lounge for the **Camping briefing**.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room (Deck 3).

1400 **Basecamp Activities Sign up.** This afternoon we will call you to the Observation Lounge by letter group – please see group lists at Reception and outside the Lounge. This process will be explained further in the morning briefings. **Please listen out for announcements.**

1630 Please join Rustyn in the Lounge for his lecture on the **Antarctic Treaty and IAATO**.

1830 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Recap**. This is where we look back upon our day and towards future plans.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.



# Basecamp Antarctica

## Drake Passage

### Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020

- 0730 **Wake up call.**
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.
- 0930 **IAATO Briefing.** This is a mandatory briefing for all passengers who wish to go ashore during this voyage. It will outline the guidelines regarding our expedition to Antarctica.  
**Zodiac Briefing.** This is a mandatory briefing for all passengers who wish to go ashore during this voyage. It will outline our Zodiac operations on board Plancius. **Please join us in the Lounge.**
- Rubber Boots.** This morning we will give out your rubber boots from the boot room which is on Deck 3 forward. We will do this by deck so please listen for announcements. Please bring your socks!*
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1400 This afternoon we will begin our **Bio-security** procedures on board which will involve vacuuming your outer clothing, particularly Velcro fastenings as well as camera bags and back packs. You then need to sign a bio-security declaration. We will call you to the Lounge by deck number/cabin number so **please listen for announcements.**
- 1630 Please join Dorette for a presentation on **Photography and Videography** followed by an introduction to her workshops.
- 1830 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Recap.** This is where we look back upon our day and explain plans for tomorrow. There may also be stories from staff.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
- 2030 Please join Celine in the Lounge for an evening talk on **Everything you need to know about Penguins!**



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## Basecamp Antarctica Orne Harbour & Danco Island Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020

- 0630 **Wake up call.**
- 0700 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.
- 0730 **Mountaineers** meet Mal and Dave near the Boot Room on the starboard side, dressed and ready to go.
- 0800 This morning, we will have our first taste of Antarctica on a Zodiac cruise in the stunning **Orne Harbour**. Please listen for announcements before making your way to the gangway.
- 0800 **Kayakers** please meet Adam in the Lounge.
- 1200 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1315 **Mountaineers** meet Mal and Dave near the Boot Room on the starboard side, dressed and ready to go.
- 1400 This afternoon we plan to land at **Danco Island**. This is a small island in the Ererra Channel with spectacular views of the surrounding Antarctic scenery, and a nesting site for Gentoo Penguins. Please listen for announcements before making your way to the gangway.
- 1400 **Kayakers** please meet Adam in the Lounge.
- 1800 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Recap**. This is where we look back upon our day and explain plans for tomorrow.
- 1830 **Buffet Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
- 1930 **Campers** please be ready to go ashore for your night of camping! But please listen for announcements before making your way to the gangway. Remember: You will collect your sleeping kits at the Boot Room and please remember to use the toilets onboard before leaving!

## **Basecamp Antarctica**

### **Port Lockroy & Damoy Point**

#### **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

- 0700 Wake up call.
- 0730 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.
- 0815 **Mountaineers** please meet Mal and Dave near the Boot room, on the starboard side, dressed and ready to go.
- 0900 This morning we plan to Zodiac cruise around and land at **Port Lockroy**. The island is home to a Gentoo Penguin colony and the site of British base 'A'; now a museum and Post Office. The Post Office is closed for the season, but we can still post postcards (these will be processed in November 2020). Due to site restrictions this will be a split cruise and landing.
- 0900 **Kayakers** please meet Adam in the lounge, dressed and ready to go.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1315 **Mountaineers** please meet Mal and Dave near the Boot room, on the starboard side, dressed and ready to go.
- 1400 This afternoon we hope to land at **Damoy Point** where there is a small British base that was closed in 1990's and many Gentoo Penguin rookeries.
- 1400 **Kayakers** please meet Adam in the lounge, dressed and ready to go.
- 1800 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our **Daily re-cap**.
- 1830 **Buffet Dinner** in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
- 1930 **Campers** please be ready at the gangway to go ashore for your night of camping!

#### **Port Lockroy Information**

**If you would like to send a postcard at Port Lockroy, please write them onboard before boarding the zodiacs in the morning. The Post office is closed at this time of the season; however, we can post Postcards to be processed in November 2020. Postage will be \$1 per postcard – this will be cash only.**



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## Basecamp Antarctica Neko Harbour & Andvord Bay Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> of March 2020

- 0700 **Wake up call.**
- 0730 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.
- 0815 **Mountaineers** please meet Mal and Dave near the Boot Room, starboard side, dressed and ready to go.
- 0900 This morning we plan to land at **Neko Harbour**. This will be a **Continental Landing!** It is home to a Gentoo penguin colony and the site of a very active glacier!
- 0900 **Kayakers** please meet Adam in the Lounge.
- 1230 **Buffet Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1315 **Mountaineers** please meet Mal and Dave near the Boot Room, starboard side, dressed and ready to go.
- 1400 This afternoon we plan to Zodiac cruise into **Andvord Bay**. The bay is surrounded by calving glaciers so we will see what we find as we cruise about!
- 1400 **Kayakers** please meet Adam in the Lounge.
- 1815 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our **Daily re-cap**.
- 1900 Tonight will be a **Special Antarctic Dinner**... You may wish to dress warmly!
- 1930 **Campers** please be ready at the gangway to go ashore for your night of camping!



## Basecamp Antarctica

### Portal Point & Graham Passage

### Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2020

- 0700 **Wake up call.**
- 0730 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.
- 0815 **Mountaineers** please meet Mal and Dave near the Boot room, starboard side. Dressed and ready to go.
- 0900 This morning, explore **Portal Point**. Portal Point is a beautiful peninsula with spectacular views over Charlotte Bay, and the chance to spot seals and whales.
- 0900 **Kayakers** please meet Adam in the Lounge.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1315 **Mountaineers** please meet Mal and Dave near the Boot room, starboard side. Dressed and ready to go.
- 1400 This afternoon we plan to Zodiac Cruise and explore **Graham Passage**, surrounded by stunning glaciers and of course the chance for more wildlife!
- 1400 **Kayakers** please meet Adam in the Lounge.
- 1800 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Daily Recap**.
- 1830 **Buffet Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.
- 1930 **Campers** please be ready at the gangway to go ashore for your night of camping!





## Basecamp Antarctica

### Cierva Cove and Mikkelsen Harbour

#### Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

- 0700 **Wake up call.**
- 0730 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.
- 0815 **Mountaineers** please meet Mal and Dave near the Boot room, starboard side, dressed and ready to go.
- 0900 This morning we plan to Zodiac cruise around **Cierva Cove** exploring the icy landscape and as always, looking to see what wildlife we can find!
- 0900 **Kayakers** please meet Adam in the Lounge.
- 1230 **Buffet Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1345 **Mountaineers** please meet Mal and Dave near the Boot room, starboard side, dressed and ready to go.
- 1430 This afternoon we plan to land in **Mikkelsen Harbour**. Here there is remains from the sealing and whaling days as well as a Gentoo Penguin colony, and beautiful views of Trinity Island.
- 1430 **Kayakers** please meet Adam in the Lounge.
- 1830 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our **Daily re-cap**.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room.

# **Basecamp Antarctica**

## **Deception Island & Yankee Harbour**

### **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

0630 **Wake up call.**

**At approximately 0715 we will be approaching the entrance to Deception Island known as Neptune's Bellows. It is a narrow entrance and quite dramatic. If you are on the Bridge please keep quiet as the navigation is challenging. Thank you!**

0700 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.

0800 **Deception Island.** This morning we hope to be able to take you ashore at Whaler's Bay on Deception Island. You can explore the whaling station remains but please do not enter any of the buildings.

**Polar Plunge.** We hope to give those who would like the offer of an Antarctic Swim. Please wear your swimwear under your expedition clothing, and bring your sense of adventure!! We will provide the towels.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

1400 **Yankee Harbour, Greenwich Island.** This afternoon we plan to land at Yankee Harbour, where we hope to see some Fur and Elephant Seals, as well as some interesting geological and glacial landscape.

**After we are all back on board, we will start to sail into the Drake Passage. Please secure your cabins and valuables.**

**If you would like seasick medication then meet Dr Nelleke in the Lounge, please listen for announcements.**

1830 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our **Daily re-cap.**

1900 **Dinner** is served. Bon appétit.

2030 **Please join Dorette and the Expedition team in the Lounge for a look back at our adventures this week...**



# Basecamp Antarctica

## Drake Passage

### Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

0730 **Wake up call.**

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.

*Today we plan to run a lecture program. Depending on conditions these may change.*

1000 Please join Pippa in the Lounge for her lecture on the **History of Antarctic Whaling.**

1130 Please join Rustyn in the Lounge for his lecture on **Equipment Evolution.**

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

1500 Please join Steffi in the Lounge for her lecture on **Weather Extreme – How animals adapt to the Polar regions.**

1830 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our **Daily re-cap.**

1900 **Dinner** is served! Bon appétit.



# Basecamp Antarctica

## Drake Passage

### Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020

0730 **Wake up call.**

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.

*Today we plan to run a lecture program. Depending on conditions these may change.*

1030 Please join Tom in the Lounge for a lecture entitled **The Geological and Climatological History of Antarctica.**

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

1500 Please join Celine in the Lounge for her lecture about **Tracking seabirds and sea mammals around Antarctica** – how animals help produce oceanographic data

1830 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our **Daily re-cap.**

1900 **Dinner** is served! Bon appétit.

**After dinner if conditions allow, we would like to collect in your rubber boots.  
Please listen for announcements.**



# Basecamp Antarctica

## East Argentinian Coast

### Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020

0730 **Wake up call.**

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.

**During the morning, if conditions allow, we would like to collect in your rubber boots. Please listen for announcements.**

1030 Please join Steffi in the Lounge for her talk on **'Weather Extreme – How animals adapt to the polar regions'**

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

1430 Please join Iain in the Lounge for his talk on **'Overwintering in Antarctica'**

1600 Please join us in the Lounge for a showing of the film **'Around Cape Horn'**

1830 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our **Daily re-cap.**

1900 **Dinner** is served! Bon appétit.

***After dinner please join the expedition team in the lounge for a Slideshow of our Antarctic Expedition.***

## **Basecamp Argentina**

### **East Argentinian Coast**

### **Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2020**

0730 **Wake up call.**

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.

0915 **IT Support** – In order to keep the WIFI working for everyone, we need to make sure everyone has the correct settings in place on their mobile devices. Please join Mal in the Lounge if you are having trouble with this.

*A reminder: Please only use the WIFI for messaging, emails and contacting those you need to – please do not use it to download or update your devices.*

0945 **Bird ID workshop** – If you would like to know more about the birds we are seeing as we sail North, please join Celine in the Lounge. Bring a coat; the workshop will take place somewhere outside.

1030 Please join Pippa in the Lounge for her Lecture on **‘An Ocean of Sound; Acoustics of the Southern Ocean’**

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

***During the afternoon, if conditions allow, we would like to collect in your rubber boots. Please listen for announcements.***

1430 Please join Felicity in the Lounge for her Lecture on **‘A Licence to Krill; Threats to Antarctic Marine Life’**

1600 **Fire Drill.** The Officers and Crew will be running a Fire drill – all passengers will be included in this drill. Please listen for announcements and follow instructions given.

***After the drill, Rustyn would like to meet all those who have signed up for the ‘Murder on Plancius’ game. Please listen for announcements.***

1830 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our **Daily re-cap.**

1900 **Dinner** is served! Bon appétit.

***After dinner we will have a Movie Night! Time and Venue TBA***



# Basecamp Argentina

## East Argentinian Coast

### Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020

0730 **Wake up call.**

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.

*Today we will begin our Chess competition – please check the notice board behind the lounge to see what time your game will commence.*

0930 **Bird ID Workshop** – Please join Celine to spot and identify the birds we are seeing.

1030 Please join Mal in the Lounge for his Lecture on **'Climate Change – Anthropogenic Challenges and Opportunities'**

1200 **A Special Pirate Lunch** will be served. If you would like to, please do your best to dress up as a Pirate!

1600 Please join us in the Lounge for a screening of **'As the Crow Flies'**, a film starring our **Kayak guide, Adam.**

1830 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our **Daily re-cap.**

1900 **Dinner** is served! Bon appétit.

*If you would like to take part in the upcoming production of 'Plancius' Got Talent' please sign up behind the Lounge.*



# Basecamp Argentina

## East Argentinian Coast

### Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020

0730 **Wake up call.**

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.

0930 Please join Pippa in the Lounge for her Lecture on **'An Ocean of Sound; Acoustics in the Southern Ocean'**

#### Passenger Lecturers take over!!

1100 Please join Don Jorgensen in the Lounge for his talk on **'He said, She said; Gender Differences'**

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

1400 Please join Nick Gamble in the Lounge for his talk on **'Snowology'**

1530 Please join Dave Dempsey in the Lounge for his talk on **'The weather on the Antarctic Peninsula'**

1815 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for our **Daily re-cap.**

1900 **Dinner** is served! Bon appétit.

*For those of you would like a bit more peace and quiet during the day, please feel free to enjoy some quiet time in the Dining room between the hours below;*

**10:00 - 11:30 & 14:00 – 16:00**

*Please use the unset tables near the starboard side door.*





# Basecamp Argentina

## Approaching Uruguay

### Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2020

0730 **Wake up call.**

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining Room.

0900 Please join Maria in the Lounge for her short talk on **TMJ Disorders**.  
After Maria, Maggie will present her talk on **Couples Communication 101**.

10:00 If you would like to take part in the '**Plancius Adventure Race**' (Scavenger Hunt)– please sign up in teams of two on the notice board. Please meet us in the Lounge for an explanation and game guidelines.

***This morning we would like to collect all rental gear. If you have rented any gear please listen for announcements for it to be collected.***

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

***This afternoon we will ask you to settle your accounts. Please listen for announcements.***

1400 Please join Jeff in the Lounge for his Lecture on **Neuromodulation**.

1530 Please join us in the Lounge for the '**Plancius has Got Talent Show**' – an afternoon of fun and entertainment.

1830 Please join Iain and the Expedition team in the Lounge for the **Recap and briefing**.

1900 **Dinner** is served! Bon appétit.



# Basecamp Antarctica & Argentina & Uruguay

## Disembarkation Day 1 - Montevideo - Uruguay

### Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2020

0630 Wake up call.

**If you are scheduled to disembark today:** please place your large **check-in luggage** outside your cabin door and return your key rings and card holders to Reception. You may leave your hand luggage in your room.

***For anybody with rental gear, please leave outside your cabins before going to breakfast.***

0700 **Breakfast Buffet** is served in the Dining Room.

We will try to give departing passengers a briefing when we receive confirmation from authorities – so please be ready to disembark on an announcement.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ALL YOUR BELONGINGS AND DOCUMENTS – THERE WILL BE NO OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN TO VESSEL AFTER DISEMBARKING.**

For those not disembarking – please do not approach the gangway and remain clear of disembarking areas.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the Dining Room.

1900 **Dinner** will be served in the Dining Room.

**Please note – the bridge will be closed for the majority of the day, please do not go to the bridge.**



# **Basecamp Antarctica & Argentina & Uruguay**

## **Disembarkation Day 2 - Montevideo - Uruguay**

### **Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2020**

0730 Wake up call.

**If you are scheduled to disembark today:** please place your large **check-in luggage** outside your cabin door and return your key rings and card holders to Reception. You may leave your hand luggage in your room.

0800 **Breakfast Buffet** is served in the Dining Room.

We will try to give departing passengers a briefing when we receive confirmation from authorities – so please be ready to disembark on an announcement.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ALL YOUR BELONGINGS AND DOCUMENTS – THERE WILL BE NO OPPORTUNITY TO RETURN TO VESSEL AFTER DISEMBARKING.**

For those not disembarking – please do not approach the gangway and remain clear of disembarking areas.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the Dining Room.

1900 **Dinner** will be served in the Dining Room.



# Basecamp Antarctica & Argentina & Uruguay

## Disembarkation Day 3 - Montevideo - Uruguay

### Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2020

0630 Wake up call.

**If you are scheduled to disembark this morning:** please place your large **check-in luggage** outside your cabin door before going for breakfast. You may leave your hand luggage in your room.

0700 **Breakfast Buffet** is served in the Dining Room.

0730 We will call you to the lounge when we have confirmation of bus arriving – so please be ready to disembark on an announcement.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ALL YOUR BELONGINGS AND DOCUMENTS.**

For those not disembarking in the morning – please do not approach the gangway and remain clear of disembarking areas.

**If you are scheduled on the 1500 bus today:** please place your large **check-in luggage** outside your cabin door before going to lunch. You may leave your hand luggage in your room.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the Dining Room.

1500 We will call you to the lounge when we have confirmation of bus - so please be ready to disembark on an announcement.

**PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ALL YOUR BELONGINGS AND DOCUMENTS.**