



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## Antarctic peninsula - Basecamp

22<sup>nd</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

*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 Torry Sakkariassen

and his international crew

including:

Chief Officer:	Romanas Vicas	[Lithuania]
Second Officer:	Yaroslav Pyetukhov	[Russia]
Third Officer:	Martin Hansson	[Sweden]
Chief Engineer:	Daniel Liliac-Zajontz	[Romania]
Hotel Manager:	Oleksander Lyebedyev	[Ukraine]
Asst. Hotel Mgr:	Volodymyr Cherednychenko	[Ukraine]
Chef:	Khabir Moraes	[India]
Sous Chef:	Ivan Ivanovic	[Serbia]
Sous Chef:	Mihai Melinte	[Romania]
Ship's Physician:	Joris Uijt de Haag	[Netherlands]
Ship's Physician:	Marrigje Hofmeester	[Netherlands]

***and***

Expedition Leader:	Eduardo Rubio	[Guatemala]
Asst. Exped. Leader:	Pippa Low	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	George Kennedy	[Australia]
Expedition Guide:	Maricel Grilli	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Stefanie Liller	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Pierre Gallego	[Luxembourg]

Kayak Guide:	Zet Freiburghaus	[Sweden]
Camping Guide:	Koen Jongerling	[Netherlands]
Camping Guide:	Pelin Asfuroglu	[Turkey]
Mountaineering Guide:	Richard Mansfield	[UK]
Mountaineering Guide:	Calum Muskett	[UK]

**Social Science**

www.happywhale.com

[www.penguinwatch.org](http://www.penguinwatch.org)

www.penguinmap.com

**Welcome you on board!**

# Day 1 – 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021

## Embarkation – Ushuaia, Argentina

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 55°53'S / 067°42'W

**Wind:** WNW 4 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Part. clouds **Air Temp:** +20°C **Sea Temp:** +8°C

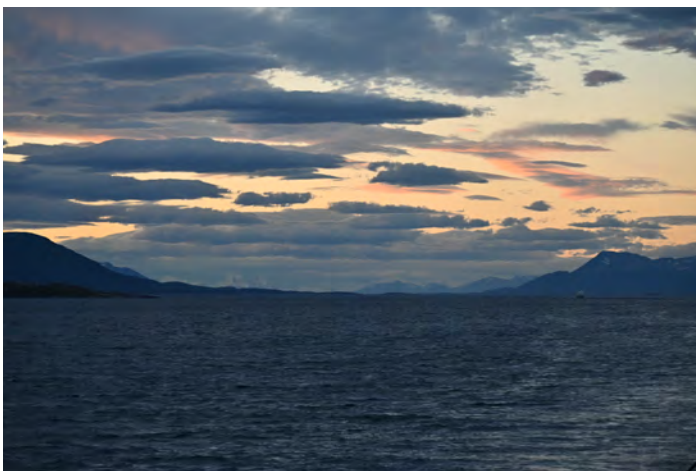
So here we are at last in Tierra del Fuego, at the bottom of the world. Well, from Ushuaia we'll be going south...a long way south. But for today, we ambled about this lovely Patagonian city, savouring the local flavors and enjoying the sights. Ushuaia marks the end of the road in Argentine Tierra del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



Sitting in the bus, in front of *MV Plancius*, our home for the next 19 days, we are thrilled to

be so close to get on the ship. Eduardo, our expedition leader for the voyage, called us in group to get onboard where we met Aleks, the hotel manager, and all his team. It was time for us to discover our cabins and the ship, which is quite of a maze...

Everyone was on board and for the first time we heard, on the PA system, an announcement. We had to meet in the lounge or the dining room for the security presentation. 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. Romanus and Martin gave the different instruction in case something happen, even if it is unlikely, better safe than sorry. We were standing outside waiting for the ship to leave Ushuaia when the alarm announcing the SOLAS (Safety Of Life At Sea) Safety and Lifeboat Drill rung. Everyone went to their cabin picking their life jacket and gathering in their respective muster stations.



Let's the trip begin, *Plancius* was slowly leaving the port under Ushuaia's sunset. Even with the overcast weather, the light was beautiful. Shortly after, around 8pm, Alex called us in the dining room for our first dinner onboard. We could feel the excitement in the air while everyone was enthusiastically chatting waiting for the meal to be served. After dinner, some of us went to the lounge to enjoy the end of the evening, but most of us went directly to bed after an exhausting but oh long-awaited day. Knowing that we had a long crossing

toward us, we went to bed hoping that tomorrow we will be out of the Beagle channel. The real journey just started, and everyone is excited to arrive in Antarctica.

## Day 2 – 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2021

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

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 56°44.8'S / 065°43.8'W

**Wind:** W 5 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +6°C **Sea Temp:** +7°C

Our first night in the Drake was a little shaky but not too bad. Eduardo woke us up at 7:30 with one of his mysterious musics that will be part of the the final cruise quiz. After a delicious breakfast our guests were invited to the lounge for a series of mandatory briefings.

The first briefing was the IAATO briefing during which the expedition staff presented itself. Because of our Covid measures we split our passengers into two groups in order to reduce the number of passengers in the observation lounge. The swell was quite big and our passengers had to brave their seasickness to attend the briefings. We then had lunch in the dining room. Our chef and his team spoilt us with a delicious menu.

Right after lunch the weather improved as well as the swell, and the captain opened the upper outer decks. We were able to enjoy the sun while looking for wildlife. There were many prions around, some Wilson's storm petrel, and a couple of Southern Royal albatrosses. We looked very hard but no whales around yet.

In the afternoon we had to attend the basecamp activity briefings. The first one was about camping by our camping guide Koen, followed by the kayaking briefing by Zet. Right after that we attended the mountaineering and snowshoe briefings given by Martin and Calum, and Maricel respectively.

Eduardo gave us the recap in the observation lounge, explaining tomorrow's program, the weather for the final day in the Drake, and Maricel gave us a short talk about how albatrosses manage to fly so easily. Pippa gave us a recap about the Antarctic convergence, and Steffi about glaciers.

Our plated dinner was fabulous, and most of the guests mingled in the observation lounge to watch the amazing sunset while sipping a drink from the bar. We are entering the Antarctic convergence as we go to bed, and there should be many more animals around the ship tomorrow morning. We keep our fingers crossed for our first whales, and who knows, maybe the first icebergs of this voyage. There is a distinct Christmas mood growing onboard, and we all look forward to celebrate tomorrow evening as we should be cruising by the Southern Shetland Islands.

## Day 3 – 24<sup>th</sup> December 2021

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

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 61°17.2'S / 063°22.9'W

**Wind:** NW 3 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +2°C **Sea Temp:** +2°C

It is amazing to think that we are arriving in Antarctic waters on Christmas Eve! Eduardo woke us up to another one of his enigmatic songs. After a copious breakfast we jumped right into our zodiac briefings in two groups.

Right after that our guests were invited deck by deck to the boot room where they were handed out the rubber boots that will accompany them on each and every landing during this epic voyage. We manage to expedite this task very efficiently thanks to Steffi's legendary managing skills.

But the day was only beginning. As the swell in the Drake was still quite challenging, we invited our guests to the observatory lounge to proceed with our biosecurity procedure. Everybody had to bring their outer layers (waterproofs) as well as their gloves, hats, backpacks and walking sticks, not to forget the mountaineering boots to be inspected for biological or mineral residues. Any residues had to be vacuumed in order to avoid importing anything into Antarctica. This task was carried out quite expeditiously as well.

Time for lunch, where we had our first buffet lunch. Everybody was quite ecstatic about the garlic rice our Chef Khabir had prepared for us, and the dessert was just sublime!

In the afternoon we started by our mandatory second Covid testing. Our two doctors from the Netherlands ran the entire procedure swiftly, assisted by Maricel, Pelin, Steffi and Pierre. We were all very much relieved to know that all our passengers, staff and crew still tested negative. We will still be enforcing the use of face masks in all public areas, social distancing, as well as the washing and disinfecting of hands as often as possible.

During the afternoon we enjoyed lecture from George on photography, or "Perfecting Pingu's Portrait. This was then followed by the activity sign up, where our passengers were able to choose which activities they plan on joining during our time on the Antarctic peninsula. They can choose between mountaineering with our guides Richard and Calum, Kayaking with Zet, photography with George, and/or camping with Koen and Pelin.

The day was very foggy, but around 18pm as we reached the South Shetland Islands the fog lifted and we passed next to Smith Island. First penguins swimming, first humpback whales, and fulmars, snow petrels, storm petrels flying around the ship.

Eventually we all met up again in the lounge to listen to the daily recap where Eduardo gave us all the necessary information about tomorrow's weather forecast, and the different plans for the first day of activities. Koen gave us an introduction on the evolution of penguins and the different species we can expect to see during our voyage. Pippa then gave us an overview of the different marine mammal species we might encounter as well.

Right on time for our Christmas dinner, we all met in the dinner lounge where we savoured our Chef's menu for Christmas Eve. We all then met in the observatory lounge where we could observe humpback whales while listening to Christmas carols and watching snowflakes fall on Plancius. Some passengers went to the outer deck to have the first snowball fight of the cruise, and we also had our first icebergs passing next to us.



## Day 4 – 25<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### Orne Island / Neko Harbour

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 64°28.2'S / 062°26.3'W

**Wind:** NE 2 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +0°C **Sea Temp:** +2°C

We finally made it to the Antarctic Peninsula. The views this morning are breathtaking and are definitely worth the Drake crossing. Eduardo woke us up early because we have big plans for our first day on the first continent. The crew and staff surprised us with a personal delivery to the passenger rooms of chocolates for Christmas.

After a delicious dinner we all got dressed to go on our first landing on Orne Island, while our mountaineers went climbing on George Point, and our kayakers circumnavigated Orne Island. The weather was overcast but with little wind. It was a white Christmas and the snowfall made it all look even more beautiful. On land we were able to visit several penguin colonies in which we observed mixed groups of gentoo and chinstrap penguins. On the landing beach there were even a couple of Adelie penguins. We all enjoyed our first landing until the very last minute.



We came back to the ship to get warm before our second planned landing for the afternoon in Neko harbour. The cruise there was absolutely amazing with snowcapped mountains, huge glaciers and icebergs along the way. Unfortunately upon a delayed arrival in Neko because of the amount of the ice, the density of the sea ice prevented us to carry out the landing. Eduardo then decided to take the ship back to an area of less ice cover, and we went for a zodiac cruise through the ice. Our kayakers were also able to explore this

fantastic maze of sea ice and icebergs. We were able to observe different types of icebergs, we witnessed some glacier calvings, and found some seals and penguins on ice floes.

Back on the ship we hurried to the dinner lounge where we enjoyed yet another delicious dinner prepared by our chef Khabir and his team. And just as we thought our first day in Antarctica could not have been better and came to an end, the bridge announced that they had spotted killer whales around the ship. We all hurried to the outer decks with our cameras, and we could not believe what we saw... There were about 50 killer whales spread around the ship, some of them





traveling calmly, some other hunting penguins in the distance. And in between this killer whale soup, some humpback whales surfaced close to the ship to display an interesting behaviour of collaborative lunge-feeding. The literally came so close to the ship that they touched it. The orcas came and went to bowride Plancius in small groups, and we spent about an hour with them, until they left, but the humpbacks stayed around the ship feeding. Around midnight another group of orcas came close to the ship. There were adult females and males, but also a couple of orca babies.

This was definitely the best Christmas present anyone of us could have wished for, and we cannot believe that this is only day one...

### **Mountaineering Orne Island George Point.**

0830am departure from Plancius.

2 Guides 12 clients

Weather: Overcast and cloudy.

After a rough crossing on the Drake passage with quite a lot of seasickness on the ship we arrived in the Antarctic Peninsular near Orne Island. For the first mountaineering day of the trip we had a short Zodiac transfer to the shore at George Point with 12 guests and two guides.

Our landing was onto rocks about 30m to the left of a Gentoo penguin rookery.

We encountered very deep rotten snow so stamped out an area to work in and make it easier for the guests to change from their rubber muck boots into mountaineering boots.

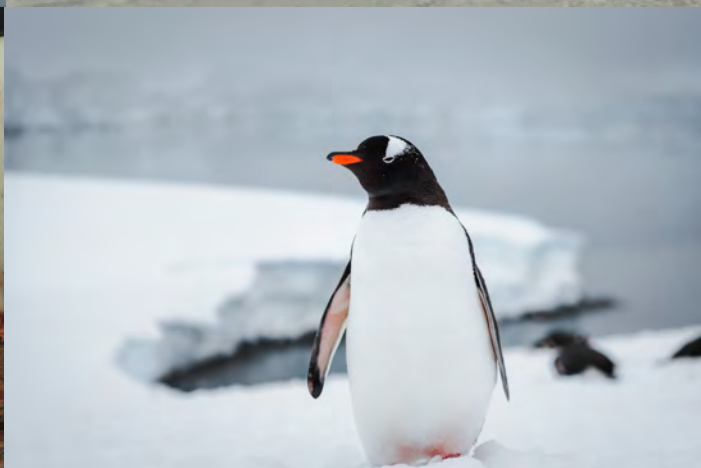
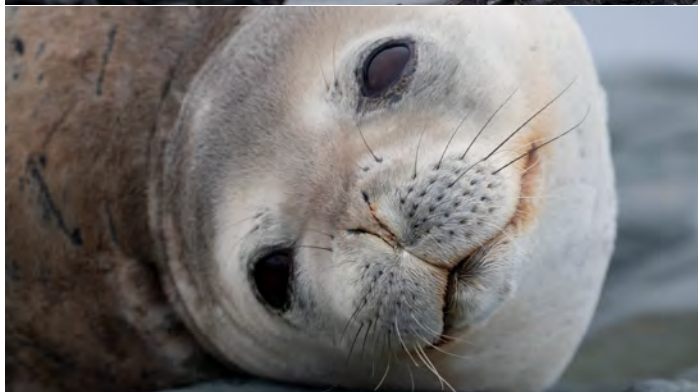
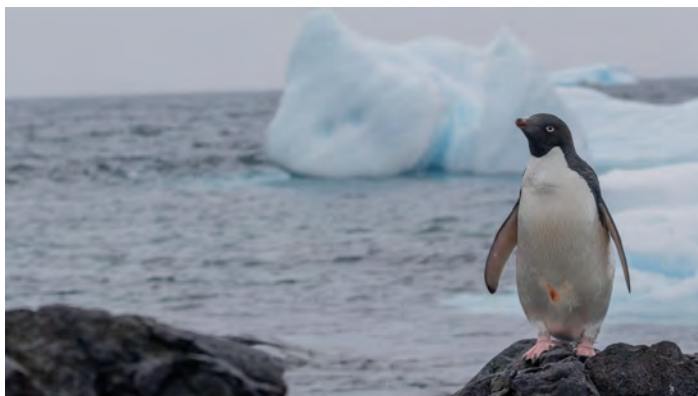


We ensured that there were no deep foot holes left that could cause a problem for the nearby penguins.

Because of the deep snow we used snowshoes to travel. The terrain by the landing is probably not glaciated but as we would move onto a glacier higher up and with the deep snow cover we decided to rope up from the start. We ascended the glacier in overcast, cloudy conditions for about 1.5 hours to gain a col on the right-hand side of the glacier in the direction of travel, (true left).

Because of the snow conditions we took a conservative route avoiding slopes over 30 degrees. At the col we had views back down to the ship and of large icebergs on the water in the other direction. At the col we dug a test snow pit and found an icy layer about 30cm down and then faceted snow from about 60cm down.

We returned to the landing area in about 45 minutes and observed and took photos of the Gentoos then transferred back to the ship.





# Day 5 – 26<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## Paradise Bay / Orne Harbour

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 62°53.6'S / 062°52.7'W

**Wind:** NNE 5 **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** - **Air Temp:** 4°C **Sea Temp:** 0°C

Today we were woken up to a different kind of event: one of our passengers tested positive for Corona virus. This led our entire ship crew and staff to enter into safety mode following the protocol that was established by the company in case this situation arose. It was put into effect in a swift and professional manner. All passengers were informed of the situation and we proceeded to the testing of the entire ship. Fortunately enough there were only few positive cases and the appropriate measures were put into place in order to try to keep everybody onboard safe.



The entire staff, hotel management, and crew worked tirelessly to reorganise everything, from activity groups, daily program, lunches and dinners, separating our guests in two groups in order to reduce the risk of spreading. Even though it was an intense time for staff and crew, the ship was directed to a ship cruise through the beautiful scenery of Paradise Bay and our passengers were able to enjoy the incredible scenery and wildlife.



After lunch our normal activities restarted with a double zodiac cruise in Orne harbour, a fabulous place to explore, with its majestic mountain peak dominating a cove filled with glaciers and icebergs. While our intrepid mountaineers were busy climbing this cone-shaped mountain, our kayakers explored the sea-ice and icebergs looking for wildlife amidst the calving glaciers. Our zodiac cruises took us to a mixed colony of gentoo and chinstrap penguins, flanked by nesting blue-eyed shags. Several pairs of Antarctic tern were flying over our heads. The flanks of the mountain were covered in green, yellow and orange lichen.

We stopped our zodiacs amidst the floating ice to savor the sounds of Antarctica, and we witnessed several glacier calvings, feeling the subsequent long-amplitude waves from a safe distance. There were interesting ice formations floating on the sea, with some intense specimen of blue ice. It took our mountaineers 4 hours to climb the mountain, and on returning to the ship they were all both exhausted and ecstatic from their adventure.

Back on the ship we all enjoyed the warmth and the delicious dinner prepared by our kitchen staff. Eduardo gave us the recap on the weather forecast and the program for tomorrow, and we enjoyed the landscapes a little more from the observatory lounge, with some whales feeding around the ship. The camping activity had to be cancelled because there was a forecast of wet snow and 15mph winds, which would have made it very uncomfortable for our campers. Instead Koen our camping guide decided to move it to tomorrow. Another beautiful day in Antarctica comes to an end.

### **Mountaineering Orne Harbour Spigot Peak**

Afternoon 1430 depart from Plancius

2 guides 4 Clients

Weather: cloudy with occasional sunny spells.

Due to a considerable amount of sea ice in Orne Harbour we landed approximately 200m to the right, closer to the entrance of the bay, than normal. The snow at the beachhead was very wet. From the landing area we traversed across on snowshoes until we were above the usual landing point and then ascended to the ridge. We continued along the ridge observing the chinstrap penguin rookeries. Skuas were also in attendance and were succeeding in stealing eggs from the penguin nests.



As the ridge became steeper, we removed the snowshoes and used crampons. The snow slope from this point to the summit was on good snow, approximately 10cm of soft snow on a firm base. We had experienced quite strong winds up to and along the ridge to the end of the penguin rookeries. But from that point to the summit were in the lee of the summit ridge and the air was calm. The ridge was heavily corniced so the track was put in well away from the edge. We made good progress to the summit and were rewarded with magnificent views in all directions. The ascent took around 1 hour 15 minutes including some photography on the way up and the change over from snowshoes to crampons. We descended back to the penguin rookeries and took advantage of the photo opportunities that the position gave us. From here we descended in snowshoes again to the landing area.

## Day 6 – 27<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### Lemaire Channel / Pleneau Island / Port Charcot

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 65°02.8'S / 063°53.3'W

**Wind:** NNE 1 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** 5°C **Sea Temp:** 0°C

Eduardo woke us up to one of his mysterious musics and announced that we would be entering the famous and idyllic Lemaire Channel at 7am. We all rushed to the outer decks to witness this incredible monument of nature. Snow-capped hills and mountains on both sides, flanked by gigantic glaciers. We were very lucky that it was actually completely ice free and that we could navigate it up to our first destination, Peterman Island.

Only to find that all the ice was concentrated in front of Peterman Island where we had planned to carry out our landing. During the crossing, our expedition staff and doctors had been carrying out Covid tests on the entire crew, staff and passengers.

Eduardo, Pippa and the captain then decided to move to a zodiac cruise through the ice, while Plancius repositioned itself to Port Charcot, our second destination for the day. Our zodiac cruise was difficult at first because the ice was quite dense, but while finding our way through the sea ice, we noticed that underneath the ice there was an incredible abundance of krill right at the surface. These tiny crustaceans were swimming in huge numbers, busy doing what they do. No one on the expedition staff had ever seen anything like

it, and it was incredible to be able to observe these tiny creatures which really are the stars of Antarctica. They represent the largest biomass of animals on this planet, and are the base of the entire ecosystem in Antarctica. Everything here in and around the white continent either feeds on krill, or on an animal that feeds on krill. Small by the size, huge by the importance.



huge icebergs. Our mountaineers had a short hike on land during which they found an immature

We then visited some gentoo penguin colonies, which harboured a couple of Adelie penguins as well. It was delightful to observe these gracious animals in the water as they cleaned themselves, porpoised through the water, and occasionally jumped on top of some ice floes. You never get tired of observing these magnificent birds. We then found a crab eater seal and everybody had the opportunity to take a good picture of this amazing marine mammal. We then had a long zodiac cruise to the ship, meandering around endless numbers



emperor penguin, what an incredible discovery!!! Zet took our kayakers on an Odyssey through the ice.

Back on the ship we had a quick but delicious lunch, and then we got ready for our second activity, a landing on Port Charcot. This is one of the most beautiful sheltered places on the peninsula, and the water was flat calm, even though there was some snowfall. Our kayakers found a leopard seal resting on an ice floe, and we were able to take our guests to see it after the landing.



But the day was not over yet... it was then time after dinner for our first group of campers to follow Koen and Pelin, our camping guides, on land for their first night on the ice. Our zodiac drivers abandoned them on a tiny island and we will be picking them up tomorrow morning at five. What an incredible experience lies ahead of them!

### **Mountaineering Pleneau Island**

0930 departure from Plancius

2 Guides 12 Clients

Weather overcast and cloudy with some snow showers.

After a stunning journey through the Lemaire channel we arrived to find large amounts of sea ice making it impossible to land at Petermann Island. We tried to break through the ice in Zodiacs to Hovegaard Island, this also proved impossible but our amazing Zodiac drivers managed to find a way to Pleneau Island. We landed on rocks and had a short steep snow climb where we stashed all the safety equipment. Once again we encountered very soft wet snow so we used snowshoes to make our way up to the flat summit. From here we began traversing towards a penguin rookery on the far side of the island, to our right we observed a very large penguin making its way to the same rookery. Once there we realised that this was a juvenile Emperor penguin visiting the Gentoos. This was a rare sighting of an Emperor penguin this far north, there are usually only a handful of such sightings each season.

After plenty of photos we traversed back via more penguin groups and back to our landing area.

The ice had become considerably thicker and it was only due to the incredible driving skills of Pippa and Steffi that we were picked up. The journey back was great watching them manoeuvre the Zodiacs through leads in the ice, occasionally pushing large blocks out of the way. A late arrival back at Plancius was well worth it for all the excitement of the day.

### **Mountaineering Port Charcot**

1530 departure from Plancius.

2 Guides 8 Clients



Weather overcast and cloudy with snow showers. The shore team went ahead and from the landing point cut a steep track in snow with large steps and a fixed rope as a handrail to help us up from the rocky beach onto the island.

Once ashore again snowshoes were needed to make any progress in the deep wet snow. We left the marked trails put in for the rest of the ships guests and climbed up onto a broad ridge descending a short way on the other side where we had great views out to sea and the enormous icebergs in the bay. We then ascended to a cairn and memorial to some members of the British Antarctic Survey who had died in this place some years before. The cloud became thicker and with the views disappearing we descended to the rest of the shore party and spent the remaining time observing the Gentoo and Adele penguins. Some were lucky enough to see a large Leopard Seal on the journey back to the ship.

### Camping Port Charcot

Here we go! After a cancelled night we finally could go camping. The camping guide had found a beautiful island just next to Port Charcot, Booth Island and further then all three species of Pygoscelis penguins (Chinstrap, Gentoo and Adelie) we were going to be utterly alone. We left the ship around 20:30 and had everybody on the island by 21:00. The landing was some big rocks on the northern edge of the island and luckily they were not so slippery. The guides had done an assessment seeing if we needed snow



shoes or not and they had decided not to. However, the idea was that everybody had to stay on the trails to avoid making too many deep footsteps on the island. Everybody started building their holes shortly after arriving on the island. Holes of all sorts and sizes were built. Some even with some nice decoration on the side of their walls. At the time that people started to finish their holes we had a visitor that came to take a look what we were doing, a curious Gentoo penguin that came to find a nice hole to rest in.



Meanwhile people were busy making their hole the guides had built the bathroom wall and had made a trail that went to the top of the island to be able to walk a little loop before going to bed. During the night some had the chance to see some Minke whales in the channel in front of our island. We also had Giant petrels flying close by our holes together with a group of Antarctic terns sitting at the coast next to the group of penguins. Enough entertainment and action for our trip or so we thought...

The next morning started a little bit later than planned for. The guides had spoken with the ship to make sure that they were able to pick us up due to the amount of drift ice in front of us and around the ship. The ship had repositioned and the EI and AEL and made the choice to drop 5 zodiacs to be able to pick us all up in one go. This however seemed to be quite the undertaking to be able to reach us at our landing site. Meanwhile the Zodiacs were on their way we had started packing up and filling in all the holes. By the time we were ready to be picked up we could see the zodiacs although it didn't seem like they were able to find a way through the ice yet. While waiting, we had the change to spot several Minky whales, a Weddell Seal and a Leopard seal that got extremely curious swimming all the way up to the rocks we were standing on. Because people were starting to get a bit cold the guides had given the option to walk around on the circuit that we had sat out the day before. Not long after the Zodiacs had made their way through the ice and were able to pick us up. Although the adventure and expedition had not yet ended. The same as getting to the top of a mountain, we were only half way. While loading up the zodiacs we had 2 Crab eater seals laying on a piece of ice just in front of the landing site together with the return of the leopard seal that made another appearance looking what we were still doing there.

Our way back was luckily less adventurous then that we thought. We had another two zodiacs launched from the ship who had found a relatively easy and open way to get back to the ship. This had made the way back much faster which was a good thing because everybody was starting to get quite cold. During our way back the sun started to rise and made for some nice warm thoughts and feelings whilst getting closer to the ship. By the time we had arrived at the ship it was already 7:20 in the morning. We had woken up at 4:30 that morning which meant this whole operation had taken us almost up to 3 hours in total. If this doesn't show us that we are an expedition ship were everything can change primarily due to the weather, I don't what will. My complements to the camping group that kept themselves calm during the whole time and to the zodiac drivers that made it all happen even though the ice was telling them otherwise. Great job everybody!!



## Day 7 – 28<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### Lemaire Channel / Damoy Point

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 65°01.3'S / 063°49.3'W

**Wind:** W 4/5 **Sea State:** Calm/Ice **Weather:** P. clouds **Air Temp:** 0°C **Sea Temp:** -1°C

First things first, we had to go pick up our passengers who went camping overnight on a little island close to Port Charcot. The ship had to reposition because the wind had blown in a lot of sea ice in the area. So our pick-up team set out on 5 zodiacs to go and collect our intrepid campers. But as they got within eyesight of our campers, our zodiacs got caught in the sea ice because the wind was pushing it in their direction. Usually we are able to navigate our way through this type of sea ice, but the wind was just about strong enough to immobilize our efforts to escape. So there we were, trying to push the ice away, but not moving at all.



At some point the ice was moving so fast from all sides that our zodiacs were lifted onto the ice, losing all contact with the water. And out of nowhere appeared an inquisitive leopard seal who looked like it was choosing which one of our zodiac drivers it would have for breakfast. Eventually, the wind pushed the entire ice further in the direction of our campers, and by joining forces pushing one large piece of ice with 3 zodiacs we managed to get out of this trap. Once at our campers, we collected them all as well as the gear, but we still had to find a way back to the ship. Thankfully we had 2 other zodiacs coming our way and exploring possible passages. We all made it safe and sound back to Plancius, but what should have taken us half an hour became a 3 hour adventure. This is Antarctica!

Back on the ship, the rest of the staff had already started our Covid testing protocol. We all went for breakfast, got tested and then enjoyed our way back North through the Lemaire Channel. Because of the extensive ice, it took us longer to reach our next destination, and our morning landing had to be cancelled. We then made it to Jouglia Point where we started our afternoon activities after lunch. We took all our passengers on land to visit the penguin colonies, as well as the British shelter which is part of the Antarctic Heritage. This shelter is open to anybody visiting the area and needing a place to stay. There are beds, a kitchen with provisions etc...

While disembarking our passengers, a humpback whale surfaced right next to the gangway, and we were able to observe it for a couple of breaths before it dove down showing us her impressive tail. The landing site is beautiful, with a sheltered cove, and is surrounded by magnificent mountain peaks. We even had the sun making its appearance. George took his group on a zodiac for a photography workshop, and the mountaineers went for a hike. At 6 pm we were all back on the ship for a delicious dinner, and our campers got ready for another night out on the ice. They were brought to Jouglia Point where they would spend the night sleeping with penguins and a

breathtaking view. This was quite an exhausting day, and we all went to bed filled with amazing pictures of snow-covered landscapes, penguin colonies, and whales.

### **Mountaineering Damoy Bay**

Afternoon departure 1500hrs

2 Guides 9 clients

Weather overcast with sunny spells.

On observation our primary objective showed signs of avalanche activity on nearby slopes. The main slope we intended to climb also had large cornices above it indicating potential snow loading and again an avalanche risk. We therefore chose to change objectives and opt for a safer but shorter circuit.

We transferred to shore and had a wet landing as the Zodiacs could not manage to reach the beach due to the shallow water. The ships muck boots kept everyone dry as they waded to shore.

After putting on snowshoes and roping up we walked up past the old Argentinian and British Antarctic Survey huts to the ridge above, a little further on we could look down into Port Lockroy and the lonely looking BAS huts. These are usually occupied for research in the summer months. Our viewpoint used to be a small icy runway for twin otter planes to bring supplies into the area.

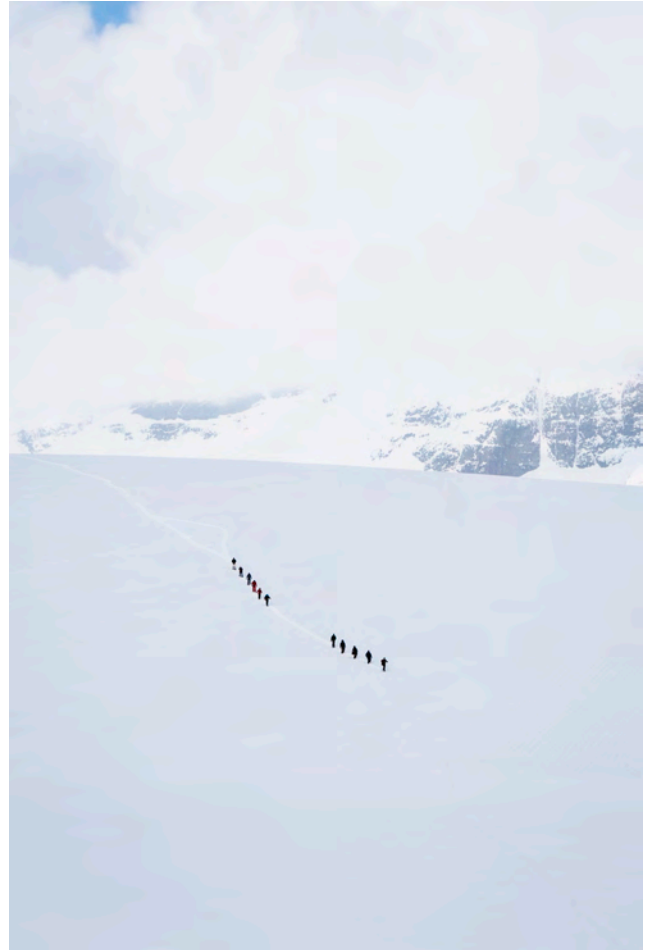
We then followed the edge of the ice cap round and up to a small summit containing a Gentoo

rookery. Here we met the marked trails the shore guides had put in for all passengers visiting the landing site. We observed Skuas trying their best to steal eggs from the nesting Gentoos. After following the trails back to the huts and visiting the one designated as an Historical Monument we returned to the Zodiacs and back to Plancius.

### **Camping in Damoy Point**

Camping out in the Antarctic peninsula is by far one of the most unique experiences one can ever have. The moment one's ship sails away, one starts to feel the silence and chill in his bones. Together with few fellow travellers appreciating the sublime beauty and the real wilderness of the white continent is simply priceless.

For our second night camping with our guests from the Blue group, we chose the Damoy Point in Wiencke island. Our camping spot has a significant historical importance. One almost feels the





souls of the people that once occupied this place. Damoy Hut which is a humble but cosy shelter was frequently used between 1973-1993 by the members of British Antarctic Survey. Small airstrip build on the island helped to move British scientists to the further south bases during the early spring months when sea ice made the access to these bases very difficult. To handle the airstrip operation, three to four people occupied the Damoy Hut throughout the spring and summer months. Today Damoy Hut is preserved as a historical monument and maintained by UK Antarctic Heritage Trust.

Around 20.45 our first guests started to land to the Damoy point. Everyone seemed very excited for the night ahead of them. First group led by Camping Guide Koen started to prepare their igloos on the snow behind the Damoy Hut. Then the second group following Pelin arrived to the camping spot. For some minutes everyone was working hard digging the snow to build the most comfortable shelters for the night. Soon, some pretty impressive castle-like snow structures began to appear. One snow castle even had a small window for the wildlife watching.



While everyone focused on their work, several very curious Gentoo penguins started to show up around the camping ground. They seemed quite surprised about these uninvited guests taking over their island for the night. After a curious inspection, they gave us their blessing to spend the night in their territory.

Towards midnight Antarctic sky also offered us its best colors. We witnessed a wonderful sunset with orange, yellow and pink colors just before tucked in our sleeping bags.

At 4.15 am after an early morning wake up call from the guides everybody went back to the work of covering up the holes to leave the camping ground exactly as we found it. Then around 05.00 am our zodiacs started to come to pick us up for a journey back to Plancius. We sadly left the place with unforgettable memories that will accompany us until the end of our lives.

# Day 8 – 29<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## Cuverville / Danco

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 64°40.5'S / 062°37.6'W

**Wind:** SE 2 **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Part. Clouds **Air Temp:** +6°C **Sea Temp:** -1°C

What a beautiful day to wake up to! The sky is blue, there is zero wind, and the sea is flat. Our campers spent a beautiful night on the ice and they were picked up at 5am.

Back on the ship, pastries, juices and hot drinks were waiting for them. The ship then repositioned to get close to our first landing site of the day. After a delicious breakfast we all boarded the zodiacs to Cuverville. The conditions were ideal. There was not a single cloud in the sky and the scenery was beautiful. In front of our landing site a multitude of icebergs of different shapes, textures and colours were grounded. On land we had several colonies of gentoo penguins to visit.



Our kayakers had an amazing experience

paddling around the icebergs and spotting crab eater seals. Our mountaineers also went for a climb in this magnificent weather. We all had to be reminded to put on some sun screen because the sun is very intense in Antarctica during the summer.

We all came back to the ship for lunch and for another round of Covid testing. But soon after that we were already at our second landing site. This time we were at Danco. Another breathtaking site with incredible mountain peaks surrounding glaciers and waterways. We climbed to different colonies of gentoo penguins to enjoy the beautiful views and the nice sun. There was even a solar halo around the sun. At the end of our landing we all gathered at the landing beach to perform our

polar plunge, and almost everybody participated.



We were all rewarded by a hot chocolate with some rum, which warmed both our bodies and hearts. Back on the ship we all enjoyed a great dinner. It was barbecue night with ribs, grilled chicken, beef and sausages. And we all had free drinks as well! What an incredible day in this beautiful weather in Antarctica. Just when you thought it could not get any better, nature astounds you again!



## **Mountaineering Cuverville Island**

Morning departure 0900

2 guides 9 clients

Wether sunny and warm with blue skies.

A beautiful transfer on the Zodiacs past icebergs and swimming penguins took us to the island.

Snowshoes were again needed in the wet snow at the start, we climbed diagonally to the right of the landing above Gentoo rookeries until the slop steepened and we ascended a broad ridge back up left to the large flat summit. The snow underfoot became firm as we ascended but the snowshoes were able to grip sufficiently.

On the summit we were rewarded with the most spectacular 360 degree panorama with amazing glaciers and high alpine peaks in every direction. After photos and time to soak in the awe inspiring vista we retraced our steps to the landing point.

## **Mountaineering Danco island**

Afternoon departure 1430

2 guides 14 clients

Weather sunny and warm.

Calum left ahead of the ice climbing group to begin setting up some top ropes for the afternoons ice climbing session. Once we arrived on the beach the group spent some time putting on crampons and helmets and then learning some belaying techniques to safeguard each other while they were ice climbing.

We had three separate ropes each one or route slightly harder than the one before from left to right. The team had a great deal of fun, in some cases battling up the climbs, in other cases showing a surprising amount of skill and excellent ice climbing technique. Either way the afternoon was a great success, and everybody was smiling in the warm afternoon sunshine.

After three hours the team walked 100 metres or so round to the main landing area where they took part in the Polar Plunge before jumping on a Zodiac for a quick hot chocolate, in some cases laced with rum before returning to the ship and hot showers.



## Day 9 – 30<sup>th</sup> December 2021

### Mikkelson Bay / Cierva Cove

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 63°54.3'S / 060°46.0'W

**Wind:** Calm **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Part. clouds **Air Temp:** +10°C **Sea Temp:** +1°C

Eduardo woke us up with another of his psychedelic musics, and invited our guests to go for breakfast. At that time our Covid testing team was already set up in the lounge and we were all called by groups to undergo our daily covid test. Fortunately enough there were no new cases today.

Our daily activities started at Mikkelson Bay where we had a split zodiac cruise and landing. The landing site is beautiful, with a small Argentinian hut, a couple of gentoo penguin colonies in which we also found a chinstrap, and at the back of the island there were the remains



of the ancient whaling activities: whale bones scattered all over the place and the remains of an old wooden whaling boat. There were a couple of Weddell seals hauled out on the snow. At the same time our zodiac cruisers explored icebergs and found a huge group of crab eater seals, and some Weddell seals. Our mountaineers went on a long climb and we had to wait for them to return in order to relocate the ship for our afternoon activity.

But first we enjoyed another delicious lunch prepared by the kitchen crew. Because we were a little delayed and because there was a lot of ice on the way, we arrived at Cierva Cove quite late, and Eduardo decided to make a short landing on the Antarctic continent. It took us a little while to reach land because of the extensive sea ice cover, but it was a lot of fun trying to find our way through the ice. Upon arrival we were greeted by a subadult humpback whale which surfaced right next to our zodiacs. The landscape was amazing! Giant glaciers surrounded by impressive mountain peaks, and the beauty of the sea ice and the sun. On our way back to the ship we came across a leopard seal resting on an ice floe. Even though we were already late for dinner, we could not miss this opportunity to observe this majestic predator.

Back on the ship we headed straight for dinner, and after that Eduardo updated us all on the current Covid situation, as well as on the program for tomorrow, our last day in Antarctica, and the last day of 2021! We all enjoyed the sunset surrounded by countless humpback whales feeding around the ship. We should stay here forever!!!

#### **Mountaineering Mikkelson Harbour**

Morning departure 0930

2 guides 11 clients

Weather warm, overcast with some sunny spells.

The Zodiacs took us to a rocky landing point where we were able to scramble up the rocks to a large, protected ledge above the sea. Here we left our lifejackets and muck boots before climbing up onto the snow and fixing the snowshoes to our feet. We roped up from the start as there were obvious crevasses on the slope above. Callum chose a great line up the peak avoiding the crevasses although we did have to step over one large deep hole in the snow. The long stretches of rope between each member of the group meant we were safe and we could protect each other as we stepped over the crevasse. The ascent was straightforward but quite long, about 90 minutes saw us standing on the summit with fantastic views in all directions. We could see the Zodiacs cruising in the bay below and a spouting whale in the middle of the harbour. The descent took about an hour for one group but a little longer for the second group due to some tired and sore knees.





# Day 10 – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

## Deception Island / Elephant Point

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 63°00.2'S / 060°30.5'W

**Wind:** NE 8 **Sea State:** Rough **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +2°C **Sea Temp:** +2°C

On the last day of 2021 Eduardo woke us up with his usual music greeting. At 8 am We heard through the PA system that we would be entering Deception Island through Neptune Bellows, the narrow passage leading into the volcanic caldera. This is one of the 3 only calderas in the world that can be entered on a ship.

Once inside the caldera, Plancius dropped anchor in Whaler's Bay. Even though it is a sheltered bay, there was a cold wind blowing from shore, and there was no possibility for Plancius to give lee on the gangway. We all then stepped into the zodiacs and took a short but wet ride to shore.



We all then stepped into the zodiacs and took a short but wet ride to shore.

There we could see the old remains of the whaling station, rusty and deformed by the harsh weather and past volcanic eruptions. On the far left side is the plane hangar from which the first flights over Antarctica took place. And of course the ruins of the former British Antarctic Survey station. Right next to the landing site we discovered a leucistic chin strapped penguin. This animal has an abnormal pigmentation which gives all the black feathers a yellowish color, and makes it look very different from its conspecifics. At the very end of the beach there was a leopard seals hauled out on the sand sleeping. It seemed to have an old injury as one of its back flippers was



missing. But he seemed to be in good condition, which means he is still able to feed properly. Everybody climbed up to Neptune's window to have a look at the Bransfield Strait. But the wind would not stop blowing strong and cold. Our mountaineers went all the way up the hill and back. Bay noon we were all back on the ship, but soaked by the bumpy zodiac ride and the climbing up of the swelly gangway.

The ship the exited Neptune's bellows and took its course towards the second destination of the day, Elephant Island. It took us 3 hours to reposition the ship. On site, the wind was at 25 knots, which is very close to the limit of our operation capacities with the zodiacs. We launched our zodiacs but very soon noticed that there were gusts of wind over 30 knots, and the conditions at the gangway made it impossible for our guests to disembark. Even though the zodiacs were already in the water, Eduardo decided to call the landing off, and instead we stayed anchored in front of Elephant Point observing the many humpback whales feeding around the ship.

In the afternoon we had an extended recap where Eduardo gave us all the information about weather and timings for our next days crossing of the Drake, Pippa talked about the different citizen science projects in which our passengers can participate, Steffi showed a video on Deception Island, and Pierre talked about killer whales.

Later in the evening we had a small new year's eve celebration with bubbles and finger food, and some of us lingered a little longer at the bar celebration with social distancing.

### **Mountaineering Deception Island**

Morning departure 0930

2 guides 6 clients 2 Doctors

Weather cloudy and very windy.

Deception island is an incredible place, a Caldera with entry into the volcanic crater through some narrow straights. Once Plancius had anchored we took the Zodiacs ashore and having changed into mountaineering boots we began a steep ascent up a broad ridge on volcanic ash and then onto rock slabs. We reached a small summit where it was very windy. From here we descended to a small col where thankfully we were out of the wind. This allowed us to comfortably put on our crampons to begin the ascent of the firm snow slope to the summit.

Callum led the group upwards while I descended with one of the team members. Eduardo walked up to meet us and having safely delivered the descending guest I retraced my steps back up to the snow-line put on my crampons and carried on up. After a short distance I met Callum and his team returning from the summit and we all descended back down to the beach.

We had time to walk over and view the old whaling station further along the beach and visit a sleeping and snoring leopard seal at the other end of the beach before transferring back to the ship.



# Day 11 – 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022

## Sea day toward Ushuaia

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 61°09.6'S / 063°07.6'W

**Wind:** ENE 3 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** P. clouds **Air Temp:** +4°C **Sea Temp:** +3°C

Today everybody was allowed to have a late sleep. The Drake was not too bad and the weather was even a little sunny. We were able to observe some seabirds: storm petrels, prions, southern giant petrel, and even some wandering Albatross. Eduardo then drew our attention to some fin whales swimming next to the ship.

During lunch we all went through the routine Covid testing, and we were all happy to learn that we all tested negative. Then it was time to return our boots to the boot room, and the staff made it all happen very swiftly.

Eduardo and Pippa gave us a lecture each simultaneously in the lounge and in the dinner lounge, on Science in Antarctica, and , respectively. In the afternoon we then had a lecture by Koen on Explorations in Antarctica, and by George on the Antarctic Treaty.

Before dinner Eduardo gave us a recap on the coming weather in the Drake for tomorrow, and it looks like we will experience the Drake in all its terrible glory by tomorrow late afternoon, when getting close to Cape Horn. But once we enter the sheltering waters of the Beagle Channel we should be in safe waters again.

We then enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by Khabir's team, and most people went to bed early to escape the rolling of the ship.



## Day 12 – 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022

### Sea day toward Ushuaia

**GPS 08.00 Position:** 56°27.6'S / 065°38.8'W

**Wind:** W 8 **Sea State:** Rough **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +6°C **Sea Temp:** +3°C

Today we had a normal start as we were still crossing the Drake Passage towards Ushuaia. Eduardo had warned us that the sea conditions would get worse during the day, and we woke up to serious rolling. We nevertheless attended our daily Covid testing during breakfast.

After that the sea conditions got even worse, and we had to cancel all the lectures in the morning because it was actually too rough to invite people in the lounge. We all battled to stay alive, some of us lying in bed, others sitting in the lounge watching the impressive waves. At some point we had winds of 70 mph and some waves were up to 12 meters.

This was even too rough to have lunch in the dinner lounge, and during breakfast lots of cutlery had been flying around. So the hotel management made the call to have food delivered to our passenger's rooms, and our crew and staff were mobilised to deliver it.

In the afternoon we had to endure these conditions up until about 5pm, when we finally entered the Beagle Channel and the wind dropped. We were finally able to walk in the corridors. Our passengers had been watching some documentaries in the lounge. Afterwards, Eduardo gave us the latest updates concerning what would happen tomorrow.

We then had an extensive recap and we watched the trip slideshow produced by George. It was the occasion to revisit all the amazing moments we have experienced together during this amazing trip. It is hard to believe that we have seen and done so many things in such a short time. All these moments were very special to all of us, and having this photographic memory is a very nice souvenir. We were all very fortunate to visit Antarctica, to have had such favourable weather conditions, and to be able to carry out all of our activities.

**Total distance sailed on our voyage:**

**1726 NM**

**Furthest South:**

**65°10.6'S / 064°06.3'W**

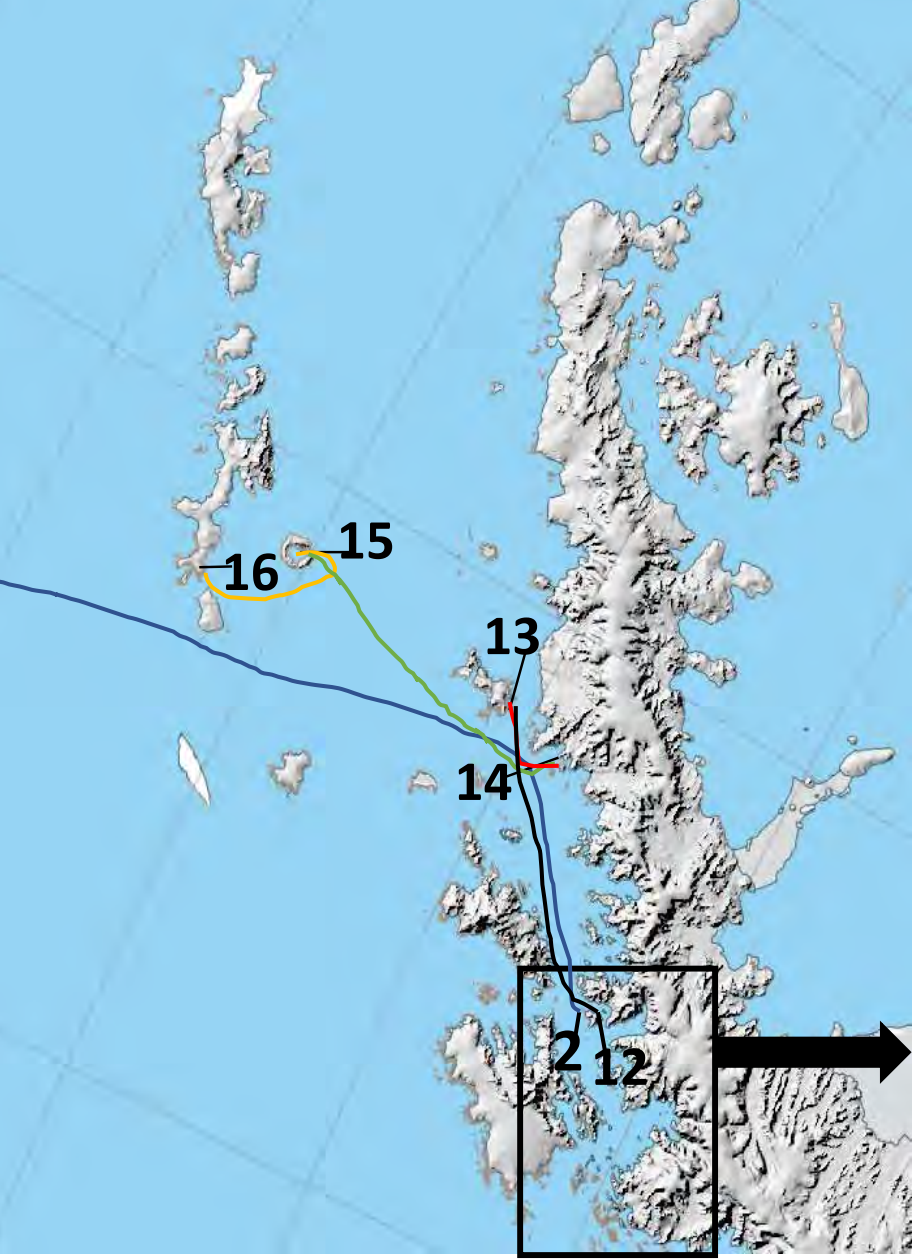
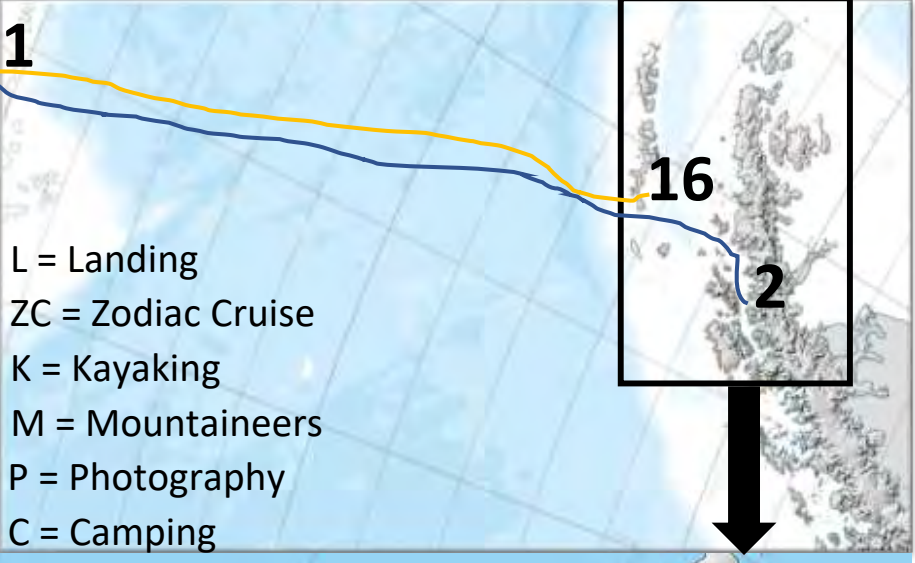


**Your Expedition Team!**

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

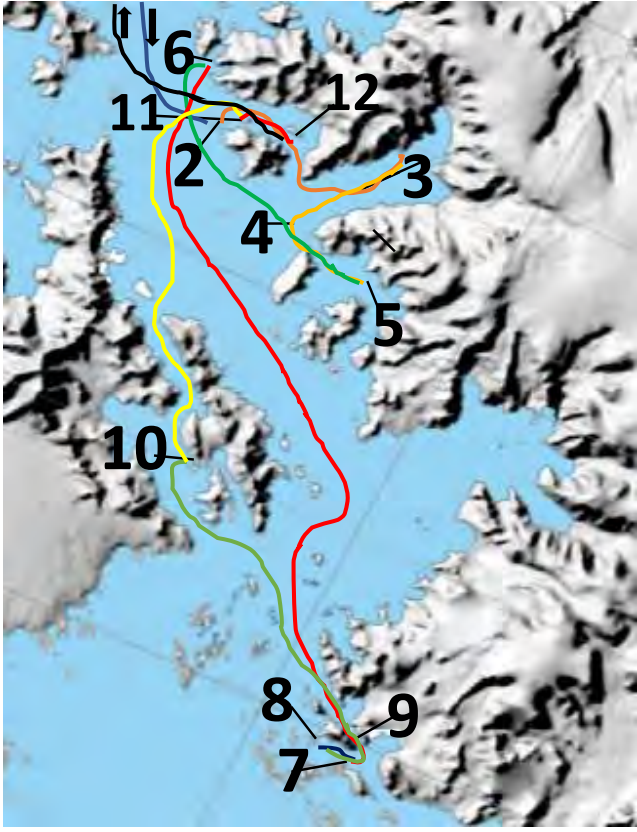
# An Oceanwide Voyage to the Antarctic Peninsula

## Ship Plancius | Expedition 25 | 22<sup>th</sup> Dec- 03<sup>th</sup> Jan



### Visited locations

- 1 Ushuaia Start/End
- 2 Orne Islands L, K, M, P
- 3 Neko Harbour Zodiac cruise
- 4 Orcas and Humpbacks ships cruise
- 5 Brown station/ Cancelled
- 6 Orne Harbour ZC, K, M, P
- 7 Pleneau Island ZC, K, M, P
- 8 Port Charcot L, ZC, K, M, P, C
- 9 Lemaire Channel Ships Cruise
- 10 Damoy Point L, K, M, P, C
- 11 Cuverville Island L, K, M, P
- 12 Danco Island L, K, M, P +  
iPolar Plunge!
- 13 Mikkelsen Harbour L, ZC, M,
- 14 Cierva Cove / Continental Landing
- 15 Deception Island / Whalers Bay
- 16 Hannah Point / Cancelled





## Birds and Marine Mammals of the Antarctic region

22.December 2021-3.January 2022

English	Latin	German	French	Dutch	22-dec
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>	Kaiserpinguin	Manchot Empereur	Keizerpinguïn	
King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>	Königspinguin	Manchot royal	Koningspinguïn	
Adélie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>	Adéliepinguin	Manchot Adélie	Adélie-pinguïn	
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>	Eselspinguin	Manchot Papou	Ezelspinguïn	
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>	Kehlstreifpinguin (Zügelpinguin)	Manchot à jugulaire	Kinbandpinguïn	
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>	Goldschopfpinguin	Gorfou doré / Gorfou macaroni	Macaroniepinguïn	
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>	Magellanpinguin	Manchot de Magellan	Magelhaenpinguïn	
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Wanderalbatros	Albatros hurleur	Grote albatros	
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>	Nördlicher Königsalbatros	Albatros royal du Nord	Noordelijke koningsalbatros	
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>	Königsalbatros	Albatros royal du Sud	Zuidelijke koningsalbatros	
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	Schwarzbrauenalbatros	Albatros à sourcils noirs	Wenkbrauwalbatros	
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>	Graukopfalbatros	Albatros à tête grise	Grijskopalbatros	
Light-Mantled Sooty Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>	Graumantel-Rußalbatros	Albatros fuligineux à dos clair	Roetkopalbatros	
Northern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Nördlicher Riesensturmvogel	Pétrel géant subantarctique	Noordelijke reuzenstormvogel	x
Southern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Südlicher Riesensturmvogel	Pétrel géant antarctique	Zuidelijke reuzenstormvogel	
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Silbersturmvogel	Fulmar antarctique	Zuidelijke stormvogel	
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>	Kapsturmvogel	Damier du Cap	Kaapse duif	
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>	Weißflügelsturmvogel	Pétrel Antarctique	Antarctische stormvogel	
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>	Schneesturmvogel	Pétrel des neiges	Sneeuwstormvogel	
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>	Blausturmvogel	Pétrel bleu	Blauwe stormvogel	
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Weißkinnsturmvogel	Pétrel à menton blanc	Witkinsturmvogel; Witkeelstormvogel	
Soft-Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>	Weichfedersturmvogel	Pétrel Soyeux	Donsstormvogel	
Great-winged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma macroptera</i>	Langflügel-Sturmvogel	Pétrel noir		
Atlantic Petrel	<i>Pterodroma incerta</i>	Schlegelsturmvogel	Pétrel de Schlegel		
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	Dunkelsturmtaucher	Puffin fuligineux	Grauwe pijlstormvogel	
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>	Großer Sturmtaucher	Puffin majeur	Grote pijlstormvogel	
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>	Taubensturmvogel	Prion de la Désolation	Antarctische prion	
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>	Feensturmvogel	Prion colombe	Duifprion	
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>	Belcher-Sturmvogel	Prion de Belcher	Dunbekprion	
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	Buntfußsturmschwalbe	Océanite de Wilson	Wilson stormvogeltje	
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>	Schwarzbauchmeerläufer	Océanite à ventre noir	Zwartbuikstormvogeltje	
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>	Graurücken-Sturmschwalbe	Océanite à croupion gris	Grijsrugstormvogeltje	
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides (urinatrix) berard</i>	Lummensturmvogel	Pétrel plongeur commun	Alkstormvogeltje	
Magellanic Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>	Magellan-Lummensturmvogel	Pétrel plongeur de Magellan	Magelhaen Alkstormvogeltje	
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	Blauaugenscharbe	Cormoran impérial	Keizeraalscholver; Blauwoogaalscholver	x
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>	Antarktikscharbe	Cormoran antarctique	Keizeraalscholver; Blauwoogaalscholver	

Snowy (Pale-faced) Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>	Weißgesicht-Scheidenschnabel	Chionis blanc	Poolkip	
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	Chileskua	Skua du Chili	Chileense skua	
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>	Südpolarskua	Skua antarctique	Zuidpooljager	
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta lonnbergi</i>	Braune Skua (Subantarktiskua)	Skua subantarctique	Subantarctische Grote Jager	
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	Blutschnabelmöwe	Goéland de Scoresby	Dolfijnmeeuw	x
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	Dominikanermöwe	Goéland dominicain	Kelpmeeuw	x
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	Falklandseeschwalbe	Sterne hirundinacée	Zuid-Amerikaanse visdief	x
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>	Antarktisseeschwalbe (Antipoden-)	Sterne subantarctique	Zuidpoolstern	
Arctic tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Küstenseeschwalbe	Sterne arctique	Noordse stern	
<b>Marine mammals</b>		<b>Meeressäuger</b>	<b>Mammifères Marin</b>	<b>Zeezoogdieren</b>	22-dec
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>	Südkaper	Baleine franche australe	Zuidkaper	
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>	Zwergwal	Petit Rorqual antarctique	Antarctische Dwergvinvis	
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Buckelwal	Mégaptère (Baleine à bosse)	Bultrug	
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Blauwal	Baleine bleue	Blauwe Vinvis	
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Finnwal	Rorqual commun	Gewone Vinvis	
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Seiwal	Rorqual boréal	Zuidelijke Noordse Vinvis	
Southern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>	Südlicher Entenwal	Baleine à bec australe	Zuidelijke Butskop	
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	Grindwal	Globicéphale noir	Griend	
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	Schwertwal	Orque (épaulard)	Orka; Zwaardwalvis	
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>	Stundenglasdelfin	Lagénorhynque sablier	Zandloperdolfijn	
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>	Pealedelfin	Lagénorhynque à menton noir	Dolfijn van Peale	
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>	Schwarzdelfin	Dauphin obscur	Donkergestreepte dolfijn	
Commerson's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>	Commersondelfin	Dauphin de Commerson	Kortsnuitdolfijn	
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>	Seeleopard	Léopard de mer	Zeelupaard	
Crabeater Seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophagus</i>	Krabbenfresserrobbe	Phoque crabier	Krabbeneter	
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>	Weddellrobbe	Phoque de Weddell	Weddell-zeehond	
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>	Südlicher Seeelefant	Eléphant de mer austral	Zuidelijke Zeeolifant	
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>	Antarktischer Seebär	Otarie à fourrure des Kerguelen	Antarctische Pelsrob	
Southern Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>	Mähnenrobbe	Lion de mer d'Amérique du Sud	Patagonische Zeeleeuw	







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# Eduardo Rubio - Expedition Leader

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I describe myself as an astronomer by profession with a passion for sharing nature with others.

After studying physics, I got my PhD in Astronomy from the University of Amsterdam in 2010. After a postdoctoral position I became a lecturer of physics and Astronomy as well as a guide in expedition cruise ships. In 2018 I decided to become a full-time guide for Oceanwide Expeditions in the Antarctic and in the Arctic.

My interests vary from history of exploration to the intricacies of astronomy. During the trips I have undertaken, I offer lectures about polar explorers, the science carried out in Antarctica (astronomy in particular), about our Universe, and the mysteries of our ocean's depths, to mention some. At sea, besides being an engaged guide and lecturer, I love to show constellations to people, pointing out their names and their lore. In every trip I made, I always aim to raise the enthusiasm of guests towards science, and their awareness towards the unique and fragile planet where we live. Born in Guatemala (1978), I speak English, Spanish and German.

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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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## George Kennedy – Ship's doctor assistant

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George is an anthropologist and political scientist currently studying at the Australian Institute of Marine and Antarctic Science. He has a keen interest in cultural identity and contemporary geopolitics in the polar regions. His current research focusses on the complex dynamics between indigenous, scientific and political stakeholders in their pursuit of environmental protection in Antarctica and the Arctic.

In his practice as an anthropologist, George has worked predominantly with community development organisations in Latin America. His work has focussed on identifying collaborative solutions to support environmental conservation and sustainable tourism in Patagonia and the Amazon basin.

Prior to his work in anthropology, George served as a paramedic in Australia, still occasionally throwing on the uniform to work with Ambulance Victoria in Melbourne.

Second only to expedition cruising, George's great passion is motorcycle travel. He has ridden from Mongolia to India, around Australia, and most recently from Patagonia to Mexico on his Kawasaki KLR650.



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# Maricel Grilli - Expedition Guide

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Maricel grew up in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where she studied biology and later completed her PhD at Universidad Nacional de La Plata.

Her research project on the ecology of brown skuas led her to spend 4 summer seasons trapping birds at King George Island, where she was caught by that peaceful and wild place.

Since 2015, she has lived in Patagonia, where she continues to research bird ecology and their conservation issues. There, most of the year, she combines work on the computer with outdoor life

in the beautiful Andean mountains and lakes.

Every summer Maricel returns to Antarctica to enjoy its beauty and discover new places. She looks forward to sharing what she has learned and her love and respect for this wonderful place with you.

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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-EhrlichInstitute 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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# Pierre Gallego - Expedition Guide

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

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

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# Zet Freiburghaus - Kayak Leader

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

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

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

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

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



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# Koen Jongerling - Expedition Guide

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

Combining his love for nature and the desire to learn more, he started guiding expeditions through the mountain ranges of Patagonia. Travelling back and forth to Europe for additional mountain courses - every time feeling more at home in the rough conditions of Patagonia. In 2017 he started his own guide company, introducing travelers to the beauty of Southern Chile.

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

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# Pelin Asfuroglu – Expedition Guide

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Pelin was born and raised in Istanbul, Turkey.

Growing up in a very big city, she was amazed by the stories she read about the adventures of early explorers and mountain climbers who travelled to the most remote places in the world.

She discovered her real passion for great outdoors at age 17 when she first started paragliding.

Thanks to the great extracurricular student activities offered in her University, she ended up spending most of her time paragliding, mountain climbing, caving and sailing. During the long summer holidays, she worked as a trekking/mountain guide in diverse locations throughout Turkey.

Her love of outdoors has taken her so many wonderful places in the world; from the Himalayan Mountains to the Amazon rainforests. Pelin finally settled in Chilean Patagonia in 2013 where she has worked as an outdoor guide leading multi-day hiking and wildlife trips.

Her interest in Polar Regions was kindled when she first travelled to Antarctica. In other words, she caught the Polar Fever.

Pelin holds a Master's degree in History from the University of Leiden. She specially is interested in Polar Exploration history and loves to share her knowledge with the guests.

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# Richard Mansfield - Mountain Leader

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

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

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

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# Calum Muskett – Mountain Guide

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Calum Muskett is an IFMGA qualified British Mountain Guide with over ten years of experience guiding in challenging conditions in environments around the world from arctic Norway to the Southern Alps and Patagonia. Hailing from Snowdonia in Wales, Calum learnt his craft in the local mountains from an early age whilst moving on to achieve a Masters in Sport Science.

Calum is also a professional rock climber and alpinist, having travelled and established difficult first ascents on peaks and rock faces in four continents.

He now divides his time between his home area of Wales and the French Alps.

In his spare time, Calum enjoys paragliding, kayaking and playing the piano as well as spending as much time as possible with his young family. Calum is passionate about sharing his passion for the outdoors and nature with a real enthusiasm for introducing fresh faces to the outdoor environment.





# Antarctic Peninsula - Basecamp

Embarkation - Ushuaia

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021

## Welcome on board!

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

~1730 **Mandatory Safety briefing and Lifeboat drill.**

**ALL** passengers **must** attend this very important safety briefing and drill. Please listen for announcements.

~1800 **Approximate sailing time.**

After departure, we would like to invite you for a welcome from Expedition Leader **Eduardo Rubio** and an introduction to the ship by Hotel Manager **Aleks Lyebyedev**.

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! The doctors 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.**

0730 **Your first Wakeup call** from your Expedition Leader, Eduardo. Good morning!

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining room (deck 3).

*During the morning we will be sailing South in the Drake Passage. Take some time to get your 'sea legs' and enjoy the seabirds that will follow us on our voyage.*

0930 **Blue group - Expedition Introduction and IAATO Briefing.** Please join us in the lounge (deck 5) for this mandatory briefing.

1100 **Red group - Expedition Introduction and IAATO Briefing.** Please join us in the lounge (deck 5) for this mandatory briefing.

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

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

1430 **Blue group - Camping & Kayaking Briefings.** Please join the activity guides in the Lounge (deck 5).

1430 **Red group - Mountaineering & Snowshoe Briefings.** Please join the activity guides in the Dining room (deck 3).

1600 **Red group - Camping & Kayaking Briefings.** Please join the activity guides in the Lounge (deck 5).

1600 **Blue group - Mountaineering & Snowshoe Briefings.** Please join the activity guides in the Dining room (deck 3).

1800 **Blue Group - Daily recap.** Please join Eduardo and the Expedition team in the Lounge. This is where we look back upon our day and towards future plans.

1830 **Red Group - Daily recap.** Please join Eduardo and the Expedition team in the Lounge. This is where we look back upon our day and towards future plans.

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

- 0730 **Wakeup** call from Eduardo. Good morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.
- 0900 **Rubber Boots.** 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.
- 1000 **Red Group - 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.**
- 1000 **Blue Group - 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 Dining room.**
- 1100 **Biosecurity.** Before we land in Antarctica, we must ensure your clothing and gear is clean of any biological material. This 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 in groups so please listen for announcements. Bring with you: outer clothing, backpacks, and camera bags.**
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining room.
- 1330 **Covid Testing** – This afternoon we will run our next round of testing in the **Library.** We will call you in groups – **please listen for announcements.**  
***If all our tests come back negative, we will drop the colour grouping system.***
- 1430 **Perfecting Pingu's Portrait.** If you would like to find out more about Photography and the workshops we will offer then please join **George in the Lounge.**
- 1600 **Activity Sign up.** Now that you know all about the activities, we will run our activity sign up session. We will call you in groups to the Lounge. These groups are based on your booking date and can be found on the doors to the Lounge. **If you have them, please bring your mountaineering boots**
- 1830 **Daily recap.** Please join Eduardo and the Expedition team in the Lounge.
- 1900 **Christmas dinner** is served in the Dining room. **Merry Christmas!**



**Happy Christmas from all the Staff and Crew on Plancius!**



0630 **Wakeup** call from Eduardo. Good morning!

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

***This morning we hope to land at Orne Island – situated in the Gerlache Strait and home to nesting Chinstrap and Gentoo penguins.***

0830 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area, dressed and ready to go.

0830 **Kayakers** – Please meet Zet in the boot room to collect your gear.

~0900 **Orne Island Landing. Please listen for announcements** – we will call you to the zodiac boarding area.

1215 **This afternoon mountaineers** – Please meet Richard and Callum in the boot room (deck 3) to get your gear for your afternoon activity.

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

***This afternoon we hope to land at Neko Harbour – a continental lanfing with views of an active glacier and nesting Gentoo penguins.***

1430 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area, dressed and ready to go.

1430 **Kayakers** - Please meet Zet in the boot room to collect your gear

~1500 **Neko Harbour landing. Please listen for announcements** – we will call you to the zodiac boarding area.

1815 **Tomorrow morning mountaineers** – Please meet Richard and Callum in the boot room (deck 3) to get your gear for **tomorrow morning's** activities.

1830 **Daily recap.** Please join Eduardo and the expedition team in the Lounge for the daily recap and briefing for tomorrow's plan.

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



0700 **Wakeup** call from Eduardo. Good morning!

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.

***This morning we hope to zodiac cruise in Paradise Bay; an area of outstanding Antarctic scenery, ice and the chance of seals, penguins and whales.***

0830 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area, dressed and ready to go.

0830 **Kayakers** – Please meet Zet in the boot room to collect your gear.

~0900 **Paradise Bay Zodiac Cruise. Please listen for announcements** – we will call you to the zodiac boarding area.

***Photographers** – Please meet George at the gangway to join his zodiac for the cruise.*

1215 **This afternoon's mountaineers** – Please meet Richard and Callum in the boot room (deck 3) to get your gear for your afternoon activity.

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

***This afternoon we hope to land and zodiac cruise at Orne Harbour – a beautiful glacial bay, with chinstrap and gentoo penguins, and the chance of whales and seals.***

1430 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area, dressed and ready to go.

1430 **Kayakers** - Please meet Zet in the boot room to collect your gear

~1500 **Orne Harbour Zodiac Cruise and Landing.** The first 4 zodiacs will go ashore, the next will cruise. We will swap half way through the afternoon. **Please listen for announcements** – we will call you to the zodiac boarding area.

***Photographers** – Please meet George at the gangway to join his zodiac for the cruise.*

1815 **Tomorrow morning's mountaineers** – Please meet Richard and Callum in the boot room (deck 3) to get your gear for **tomorrow morning's** activities.

1830 **Daily recap.** Please join Eduardo and the expedition team in the Lounge for the daily recap and briefing for tomorrow's plans.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining room – please let the campers go first. Bon appétit!

2015 **Campers** - Please meet at the gangway – dressed and ready to go for your night on the ice!

0630 **Wakeup** call from Eduardo. Good morning!

*This morning we hope to transit through the Lemaire Channel (ice conditions depending). A narrow strait to the Southern Peninsula, with steep glacial cliffs on either side, amid rugged peaks rising 1000m high – it is well worth getting out of bed for!*

0700 **Red group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.

0700 **Blue group – Covid Test**

0800 **Blue group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.

0800 **Red group – Covid Test**

*This morning we plan to do a split zodiac cruise and landing at Petermann Island. Home to nesting Adele and Gentoo Penguins. The red group will go to shore to land, and the blue group will go on a cruise – we will swap halfway through the morning.*

0900 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area.

0900 **Kayakers** – Please meet Zet in the boot room to collect your gear.

~0930 **Red group - Split zodiac cruise & landing.** Please listen for announcements.

~0945 **Blue group - Split zodiac cruise & landing.** Please listen for announcements.

*Photographers – Please meet George at the gangway to join his zodiac for the cruise.*

1300 **This afternoon's mountaineers** – Please meet Richard and Callum in the boot room (deck 3) to get your gear for your afternoon activity.

1200 **Red group - Lunch** is served in the Dining room.

1300 **Blue group - Lunch** is served in the Dining room.

*This afternoon we hope to zodiac cruise at Port Charcot in Salpetriere Bay. The bay is known as an 'iceberg graveyard' – filled with towering icebergs, surrounded by astounding scenery, with the chance of whales, seals and lots of penguins.*

1430 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area.

1430 **Kayakers** - Please meet Zet in the boot room to collect your gear

~1500 **Red group Zodiac Cruise.** Please listen for announcements for zodiac boarding.

*Photographers – Please meet George at the gangway to join his zodiac for the cruise.*

~1530 **Blue group Zodiac Cruise.** Please listen for announcements for zodiac boarding.

*Photographers – Please meet George at the gangway to join his zodiac for the cruise.*

1830 **Tomorrow morning's mountaineers** – Please meet Richard and Callum in the boot room (deck 3) to get your gear for **tomorrow morning's** activities.

1800 **Red Group - Dinner** is served in the Dining room – please let the campers go first.

1900 **Blue Group - Dinner** is served in the Dining room.

2015 **Campers** - Please meet at the gangway – dressed and ready to go for your night on the ice!

*This morning we will again transit through the Lemaire Channel to head North – we should reach the southern entrance at approximately 7am – if you would like to see all of it – you may need to get up earlier than the wake up call :)*

- 0700 **Wakeup** call from Eduardo. Good morning!
- 0730 **Blue group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.
- 0730 **Red group – Covid Test**
- 0830 **Red group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.
- 0830 **Blue group – Covid Test**

*This morning we plan to do a zodiac cruise and (potential) landing at Jougla Island. Home to nesting Gentoo Penguins and Antarctic Cormorants, with whaling remains.*

- 1000 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area.
- 1000 **Kayakers** – Please meet Zet in the boot room to collect your gear.
- ~1030 **Blue group - Zodiac cruise.** Please listen for announcements.  
*Photographers* – Please meet George on his zodiac for your photo workshop.
- ~1045 **Red group - Zodiac cruise.** Please listen for announcements.
- 1315 **This afternoon's mountaineers** – Please meet Richard and Callum in the boot room (deck 3) to get your gear for your afternoon activity.
- 1230 **Blue group - Lunch** is served in the Dining room.
- 1330 **Red group - Lunch** is served in the Dining room.

*This afternoon we hope to land at Damoy Point. More nesting Gentoo Penguins, fantastic scenery and an old British Antarctic Survey Hut.*

- 1430 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area.
- 1430 **Kayakers** - Please meet Zet in the boot room to collect your gear
- ~1500 **Blue group Landing.** Please listen for announcements for zodiac boarding.
- ~1530 **Red group Landing.** Please listen for announcements for zodiac boarding.  
*Photographers* – Please meet George on shore for your photo workshop.
- 1845 **Tomorrow morning's mountaineers** – Please meet Richard and Callum in the boot room (deck 3) to get your gear for **tomorrow morning's** activities.
- 1800 **Blue Group - Dinner** is served in the Dining room – please let the campers go first.
- 1900 **Red Group - Dinner** is served in the Dining room.
- 2030 **Blue Campers** - Please meet at the gangway – dressed and ready to go for your night on the ice!

0730 **Wakeup** call from Eduardo. Good morning!

0800 **Red group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.

0900 **Blue group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.

***This morning we plan to do a landing at Cuverville Island, home to one of the largest Gentoo Penguin colonies on the Peninsula!***

0930 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area.

0930 **Kayakers** – Please meet Zet in the boot room to collect your gear.

~1000 **Red group - Landing.** Please listen for announcements.

***Photographers** – Please meet George on shore for your photo workshop.*

~1030 **Blue group - Landing.** Please listen for announcements.

1315 **This afternoon's mountaineers** – Please meet Richard and Callum in the boot room (deck 3) to get your gear for your afternoon activity.

1230 **Red group - Lunch** is served in the Dining room.

1330 **Blue group - Lunch** is served in the Dining room.

***This afternoon we hope to land at Danco Island. The island is home to large colonies of Gentoo penguins and surrounded by spectacular Antarctic Scenery. If conditions allow, we will also offer a hike to the top of the island. Please follow the marked route and give penguins right of way at their highways.***

1430 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area.

1430 **Kayakers** - Please meet Zet in the boot room to collect your gear

~1500 **Red group Landing.** Please listen for announcements for zodiac boarding.

~1530 **Blue group Landing.** Please listen for announcements for zodiac boarding.

***Photographers** – Please meet George on his zodiac for your photo workshop.*

***At the end of the landing, we will offer the chance to do a 'Polar Plunge', an Antarctic swim. If you are doing another activity this afternoon – you will also have the chance to take part in the polar plunge after your activity! We'll bring the towels - you bring the insanity!***

1800 **Red Group - Dinner** is served in the Dining room.

1800 **Blue group – Covid Test**

1930 **Blue Group - Dinner** is served in the Dining room.

1930 **Red group – Covid Test**



- 0630 **Wakeup** call from Eduardo. Good morning!
- 0700 **Blue group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.
- 0700 **Red group – Covid Test**
- 0800 **Red group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.
- 0800 **Blue group – Covid Test**

*This morning we plan to do a split zodiac cruise and landing at D’Hainaut Island in Mikkelson Harbour. The island is surrounded by ice cliffs and has a long history of whaling – it’s also home to nesting Gentoo Penguins and resting seals. The blue group will go to shore first, the red group will cruise first. We will swap halfway through the morning.*

- 0900 **Mountaineers** – Please meet Richard & Callum at the zodiac boarding area.
- ~0930 **Blue group – Land then cruise.** Please listen for announcements.
- ~0945 **Red group – Cruise then Land.** Please listen for announcements.
- Photographers – Please meet George on his zodiac for your photo workshop.*

- 1230 **Blue group - Lunch** is served in the Dining room.
- 1330 **Red group - Lunch** is served in the Dining room.

*This afternoon we hope to do a zodiac cruise at Cierva Cove. A glaciated bay with incredible scenery and the chance of spotting seals, whales and, of course, penguins! We will need to split this cruise – so the blue group will cruise first, whilst the red stays on the ship, and we will swap half way through the afternoon.*

- ~1400 **Blue group cruise.** Please listen for announcements for zodiac boarding.
- ~1600 **Red group cruise.** Please listen for announcements for zodiac boarding.
- Photographers – Please meet George on shore for your photo workshop.*

*Eduardo will host his lecture on Science in Antarctica for each group whilst you are onboard and not cruising.*

- 1800 **Blue Group - Dinner** is served in the Dining room – please let the campers go first.
- 1830 **Red Group – Recap** – Please join us in the lounge for a recap on the day.
- 1900 **Red Group - Dinner** is served in the Dining room.
- 1930 **Blue Group – Recap** – Please join us in the lounge for a recap on the day.



# Antarctic Peninsula - Basecamp

## Whaler's Bay & Elephant Point

### New Years Eve

### Friday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021

0600 **Wakeup** call from Eduardo. Good morning!

*We will pass through the entrance of Deception Island, known as 'Neptune's Bellows' around 8:15am – please join us on the decks – we will do our best to work the testing around this.*

0630 **Red group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.

0630 **Blue group – Covid Test**

0730 **Blue group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.

0730 **Red group – Covid Test**

*This morning we plan to land at Whaler's Bay in Deception Island, the caldera of an active volcano! We will sail into the caldera and land at an old whaling station.*

~0915 **Red group – Landing.** Please listen for announcements.

*Photographers – Please meet George on shore for your photo workshop.*

~0930 **Blue group – Landing.** Please listen for announcements.

1230 **Red group - Lunch** is served in the Dining room.

1330 **Blue group - Lunch** is served in the Dining room.

*This afternoon we hope to land at Elephant Point on Livingston Island. This island is part of the South Shetland Islands and is home to Elephant seals, nesting Gentoo Penguins and Giant Petrels.*

~1615 **Red group - Landing.** Please listen for announcements for zodiac boarding.

~1630 **Blue group - Landing.** Please listen for announcements for zodiac boarding.

*Photographers – Please meet George on shore for your photo workshop.*

1830 **Blue Group – New Year's Dinner** is served in the Dining room.

1900 **Red Group – Recap** – Please join us in the lounge for a recap on the day.

1930 **Red Group – New Year's Dinner** is served in the Dining room.

2000 **Blue Group – Recap** – Please join us in the lounge for a recap on the day.

*New Year's Eve - Please maintain social distancing, mask wearing and sanitizing. We hope you can enjoy the New Year as best you can under the circumstances, however we must always think of ourselves and others to keep everyone safe and healthy.*



# Antarctic Peninsula - Basecamp

Drake Passage

New Year's Day

Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022

- 0745 **Wakeup** call from Eduardo.
- 0800 **Blue group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.
- 0900 **Red group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.
- 1030 **Blue group** – Please join Eduardo in the Lounge for his lecture on Science in Antarctica.
- 1030 **Red group** – Please join Pippa in the Dining room for her lecture on the Ocean of Sound – the bioacoustics of underwater Antarctica.
- 1230 **Blue Group – Lunch** is served in the Dining room.
- 1230 **Red Group – Covid Test**
- 1330 **Red Group – Lunch** is served in the Dining room.
- 1330 **Blue Group – Covid Test**
- 1430 **Rubber Boots** – This afternoon we will collect your rubber boots. We will call you in groups – please listen for announcements.
- 1500 **Red group** – Please join Eduardo in the Lounge for his lecture on Science in Antarctica.
- 1500 **Blue group** – Please join Pippa in the Dining room for her lecture on the Ocean of Sound – the bioacoustics of underwater Antarctica.
- 1630 **Blue group** – Please join Koen in the Lounge for his lecture on the Exploration of Antarctica.
- 1630 **Red group** – Please join George in the Dining room for his lecture on the Antarctic Treaty System – exploring the emergence of Antarctic governance.
- 1830 **Blue Group –Dinner** is served in the Dining room.
- 1900 **Red Group** – Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for our daily recap.
- 1930 **Red Group –Dinner** is served in the Dining room.
- 2000 **Blue Group** – Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for our daily recap.



# Antarctic Peninsula - Basecamp

Drake Passage

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022

0745 **Wakeup** call from Eduardo.

0800 **Red group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.

0800 **Blue Group – Covid Test**

0900 **Red group - Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.

0900 **Red Group – Covid Test**

1030 **Red group** – Please join Koen in the Lounge for his lecture on the Exploration of Antarctica.

1030 **Blue group** – Please join George in the Dining room for his lecture on the Antarctic Treaty System – exploring the emergence of Antarctic governance.

1230 **Red Group – Lunch** is served in the Dining room.

1330 **Blue Group – Lunch** is served in the Dining room.

***After Lunch we will take payment of your bills at reception. Please standby for announcements, we will call you in groups.***

1500 **Red group** – Please join Maricel in the Dining room for her lecture on Conservation.

1500 **Blue group** – Please join Pippa in the Lounge for her lecture on the History of Antarctic Whaling.

1700 **Red group** – Please join Pippa in the Lounge for her lecture on the History of Antarctic Whaling.

1700 **Blue group** – Please join Maricel in the Dining room for her lecture on Conservation.

1830 **Red Group –Dinner** is served in the Dining room.

1830 **Blue Group** – Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for our daily recap.

1930 **Blue Group –Dinner** is served in the Dining room.

1930 **Blue Group** – Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for our daily recap.



# Antarctic Peninsula Basecamp

Arrival in Ushuaia  
Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2022

- ~0600 **Arrival** in Ushuaia Port.  
0600 **Wakeup call** from Eduardo – Good morning.
- 0700 **Blue Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.  
0800 **Red Breakfast** is served in the Dining room.

*Please standby for announcements this morning.  
We will update you with further information about disembarkation as soon as we have  
received it.*

*Thank you for your patience and understanding.*

*“The wind and the waves are always on the side of the ablest navigators.”  
- Edward Gibbon*