



**OCEANWIDE**  
EXPEDITIONS

**North Spitsbergen**  
**In search of the Polar Bear & Pack Ice - Birding**  
**M/V Hondius**  
**9<sup>th</sup> June 2022 – 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022**



The MV Hondius was built in 2019 in Brodosplit, Croatia, as an expedition vessel for Oceanwide Expeditions. Hondius is 107.60m long, 17.60m wide and has a maximum draught of 5.3m and has an exceptionally high Ice class of PC6, a top speed of 15 knots and 3 diesel generators. The Hondius sails on LSMGO. Now the ship is sailing as a 176-passenger vessel with 83 cabins. Our beautiful, modern ship carries 369m<sup>3</sup> of fresh water and has a water plant producing 70m<sup>3</sup> per day. Hondius is the perfect vessel for a true polar adventure!

# **Captain Artur Iakovlev**

**and his international crew of 72**  
**including:**

Chief Officer:	<b>Matei Mocanu</b>
Staff Officer:	<b>Elizbar Kadarja</b>
Second Officer:	<b>Kirill Buriachek</b>
Second Officer:	<b>Sven Holzhausen</b>
Third Officer:	<b>Don Buren</b>
Chief Engineer:	<b>Florian Cretu</b>
Hotel Manager:	<b>William Barnes</b>
Assist. Hotel Manager:	<b>Andrius Juodvirsis</b>
Head Chef:	<b>Ralf Barthel</b>
Sous Chefs:	<b>Milos Simeunovic</b> <b>Mihai Melinte</b>
Ship's Physician:	<b>Rogier Steins</b>
Expedition Leader:	<b>Eduardo Rubio-Herrera</b>
Assist. Expedition Leaders:	<b>Sara Jenner</b> <b>George Kennedy</b> <b>Claudio Ghiglione</b>
Expedition Guides:	<b>Meike Sjoer</b> <b>Hazel Pittwood</b> <b>Koen Jongerling</b> <b>Lothar Kurtze</b> <b>Andrew Crowder</b> <b>Laura Mony</b> <b>Juan Berenstein</b> <b>Georgina Strange</b> <b>Fritz Hertel</b> <b>Dorette Kuipers</b>

**We welcome you on board!**

# Day 1: 9<sup>th</sup> June 2022

## Embarkation, Longyearbyen

GPS position at 1200: 78°14.0' N, 015°37.4' E

Wind: W 2 Sea State: Port Weather: Overcast

Air Temp: +5°C Sea Temp: +6°C

Today our Arctic adventure began and as it was raining guests were even more keen to hurry on board to commence our journey! The Expedition Team lifted luggage aboard and then greeted guests as they walked up the gangway of our lovely ship, M/V Hondius.

With guests and their luggage happily aboard Expedition Leader (EL) Eduardo, and Chief Officer Matei commenced the mandatory ship safety briefing at 17:30pm. Dr Rogier Steins also introduced himself; he too had been scheduled to come on board a few years ago so shared the guest's joy at being on board!



During the safety briefing guests were shown how to put on life jackets and shown the floatation suits which are stored in all cabins for use in an emergency situation. As part of the briefing an abandon ship alarm was sounded so we all made our way to our muster stations, either in the Observation Lounge (station B) or Restaurant (station A). Once all guests had arrived wearing their lifejackets correctly, we proceeded to the lifeboat boarding area on deck 6. We were directed to our lifeboats and given further information by Second Officer Kirill Buriachek and Third Officer Don Buren, who would be the masters of these vessels in the (very unlikely) event of us having to use them. Afterwards, at 18:15pm, guests received a welcome and orientation briefing from our Hotel Manager William and EL Eduardo.

After this was the important matter of dinner time (a wonderful buffet provided by head Chef Ralf and his team) it was time for the third and final briefing of the evening, a video presentation from AECO (the Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators) which informs visitors regarding correct behaviour towards the environment, people and wildlife of the Arctic. After a day of travel and lots of important information many of us headed to bed to be well rested for our first full day of expedition tomorrow.

**Day 2: 10<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

## **Lilliehöökreen and Fjortende Julibukta ship cruise; Ny-Ålesund**

**GPS position at 1200: 79°03'.9 N, 011°30'.3 E**

**Wind: N 5 Sea State: Moderate Weather: Overcast**

**Air Temp: +2 °C Sea Temp: 6.5 °C**



After our first night on the ship, we started our morning looking at a gigantic glacier, Lilliehöökreen. This glacier is 11 km wide and surrounded our ship like an amphitheater. After breakfast everybody was invited to enjoy the beautiful surroundings and even though it was quite chilly outside many people were to be found on the decks taking photographs. During this morning we had several mandatory briefings including the zodiac briefing and the AECO animation movie explaining the 'do's and don'ts' in the Arctic. The expedition staff also handed out the muck boots this morning and we did a

bio-security check to make sure we all had clean clothing before landing. On our way back towards the afternoon landing, Ny-Ålesund, we made a stop in the bay that was originally planned, Fjortende Julibukta. Here we made a short ship's cruise to observe the cliffs situated at the water level and high up in hills to spot a wide diversity of birds. Here we have been able to see **Atlantic Puffin, Black Guillemot, Brunnich's Guillemot, Kittiwake, Glaucous Gull and Barnacle Geese**. After this short stop we made our way to Ny-Ålesund through the wide Kongsfjorden while enjoying our lunch in the restaurant.

The afternoon activity started out a little bit splashy with 20 knots winds and relatively high waves. It was a great first experience to see how well everybody had listened to the Zodiac briefing! Nobody fell in to the water so we can surely say that everybody did an excellent job! Arriving at Ny-Ålesund we had some free time to explore the most northern research town in the world. There were several attractions to see like the museum, green harbor house, Amundsen's villa and statue and the dog kennel. There was also enough time to look around in the Kongsfjordbutikken, the settlement's store, where they had many different souvenirs available. Many people took this opportunity to buy a postcard to send to friends and family. In the old post office there was a chance to have your passport marked with a unique stamp stating the latitude and altitude of the town.

Everybody also had the chance to make a walk to the historic mast which was built to anchor down the air ships 'Norge' and 'Italia'. This was a short hike starting at the Chinese research station. This had to be offered as a guided hike because we would be situated beyond the city limits and this is considered polar bear territory which could be dangerous. Luckily we met no polar bears on the trail and the only mammals we did see were three harmless **Svalbard Reindeer**. Several bird species were seen including **Snow Bunting** and **Ruddy Turnstone**



and an incredibly interesting story, explained by the expedition staff, about the mast. It certainly was a successful and beautiful hike. On our way back the weather had luckily died down a bit and we could get back to the ship without too much water on our faces.

To end our day we had a visit from our Captain Artur Iakovlev to give a small speech to welcome us on the ship during our daily Recap. After our Expedition Leader, Eduardo, explaining what our plans were for the next day together with the weather forecast. Some of the staff also held short lectures about some interesting subjects like Sara speaking about beach clean-ups, Claudio talked about his studies regarding the diet of Svalbard reindeer and George about which countries are classed to be part of the Arctic. All together this made for an excellent first day ending it all with a delicious dinner from our Head Chef Ralf.

## Day 3: 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### Smeerenburg and Indre Norskoya

GPS position at 1200: 79°44.9' N, 011°01.2' E  
Wind: Variable 1 Sea State: Ice 1 Weather: Overcast  
Air Temp: +1°C Sea Temp: +5°C

This morning we heard the usual morning 'bing bong' expecting Expedition Leader Eduardo's voice to then tell us the plan of the day. But wait... he actually told us to get out of bed as soon as possible because Fritz from the Expedition Team, just spotted three **Polar Bears** on Smeerenburg, our proposed landing site of the morning! Wait, what?! We couldn't believe our ears! Yes, a female and her two cubs were feeding on a seal right in front of the bow of the ship. Everyone quickly walked (because we don't run on ship, for safety) outside to try to see them. What a show for this early morning! As we were called for breakfast, Eduardo was already



creating plan B, because with the bears present we were unable to go to land at Smeerenburg. It was decided to do a zodiac cruise to get a closer view of the bears. We were careful not to approach too closely with our zodiacs but they were the shore was obstructed by sea ice anyway so we could not get too near. 9:30am we all jumped into a zodiac and started to make our way towards these iconic Arctic animals. The sea was a bit rocky due to the wind, but we did not care to get wet as we knew we would have an amazing sighting! The two large cubs, at least in their second year, were playing and feeding with their mum keeping an eye on them from closeby. We spent around an hour there just trying to take the perfect photo! Before heading back to the ship the Expedition Team decided to go see the **walrus** that were hauling on the other site of the landing site, near the historic blubber ovens. What a cruise: walrus and polar bear during the same morning! We went back to the ship as the wind was picking up and the weather was getting colder. We were happy to get back to get a warm drink, shower and a delicious lunch. Most of the conversation revolved around the animals we witnessed that morning! After lunch astronomer Lothar gave his lecture about the Arc of Meridian which was an expedition that measured the length of the meridian in the polar region and to confirm the shape of the earth.



In the meantime, the ship was sailing toward our afternoon landing and most of the staff were scouting the shore to find more majestic wildlife. Thanks to Expedition Guide Meike we were treated with another **Polar Bear** on shore! AMAZING! As we knew the drill by now, we were called to get in the zodiacs to go for a closer look. The wind had calmed down, the sea had flattened and the temperature had risen. We

were in for an exceptional afternoon! As we arrived, the bear was sleeping in a little pit it had dug in the snow. We were distracted by a very unusual sighting: a **Black Kite** feeding on some blubber! It is extremely abnormal to see this species of bird so far north and all the birders were very excited. Finally, the bear awoke up and started to have a little stroll around. After enjoying a bit more bear action we proceeded to the other side of the island towards some bird nesting cliffs. We were still a bit early in the season and most of the birds were not there yet. However, we could still see some **Atlantic Puffins** in the water with their colorful beaks, some **Brünnich's Guillemots** with their penguin-like shape and black and white colouration, and some **walrus** in the water and on the ice. The soft light helped us to get some beautiful shots. The time went by so fast and after two and a half hours of cruising we returned to the ship. We could not believe how lucky we had been with this amazing wildlife filled day!

During the evening's recap, Expedition Leader Eduardo informed us about the plan for tomorrow. This was followed by Fritz who talked about the Arctic Tern, the bird with the longest migration of any bird species and Koen who talked about the history of Smeerenburg. This old Dutch whaling settlement on a small sandy piece of land had numerous homes and blubber ovens when it was operational. After dinner, we all went to bed with beautiful memories of the day and excitement for what would follow for the rest of our trip!

## Day 4: 12th June, 2022

### Crozierpynten and Kinnvika

GPS position at 1200: 79°55.4' N, 016°44.6' E

Wind: Variable 1 Sea State: Calm / Glassy Weather: Overcast

Air Temp: +3°C Sea Temp: +3.5°C

At the recap yesterday Expedition Leader, Eduardo, had been summarizing the incredible wildlife encounters we had that day and finished by saying that he hoped we could make it even better during the rest of the trip. Everybody smiled, some even laughed; it just *couldn't* get better, could it? Well...



The Expedition Staff scouting team had gone ashore at Crozierpynten and were covering the area inland from the landing site. On the bridge two more team members were also scouting from there, scanning the whole area with binoculars, when Hazel spotted a **Polar Bear** swimming towards the bow of Hondius! It was about 500 metres ahead of the ship to Starboard and heading in the general direction of the landing site. On the shore, Eduardo was urgently informed and he ordered an immediate evacuation. The team then undertook a calm, controlled removal in line with our protocols and training.

With everybody safe and the bear now ashore, a plan was put together to launch a full ship zodiac cruise to hopefully get better views. The first zodiac launched quickly resighted the bear and, amazingly, it had killed a **Harbour Seal** and was feeding on the carcass! This was in perfect view of the now assembled flotilla of zodiacs. We believe this very malnourished bear was a young male and he was heartily tucking in to his meal.

After an hour or so of enraptured gazing at this bear (and taking thousands of photos) we decided to cruise the bay and found a **Svalbard Reindeer** and a swimming **Walrus**. We thought the morning could not get any better, but then yet another **Polar Bear** was spotted! This one was swimming in the drift ice. All the zodiacs kept a respectful distance as it made its way to shore, clearly heading



straight for the beach where the first bear was feeding on his seal kill. As the second bear hauled itself ashore it was immediately obvious that this was a much larger, healthier individual (we believe this was an adult female). Bear number two easily drove the first bear off the kill and began to feed. The smaller bear, desperately hungry, made several attempts to get back to the seal but the larger bear repeatedly chased it away. Eventually it lay down in the snow a little way from the kill and seemed to be waiting in the hope that some scraps may be left once bear two had had its fill. Even the most experienced among our Arctic Expedition Guides were left amazed by what we had just witnessed.

After lunch there was a split landing planned. Whilst half the guests enjoyed a presentation from Laura on 'Sea Ice' in preparation for our day amongst it tomorrow, the other half were shuttled ashore to view the remains of the research station at Kinnvika, the site of a joint Swedish/Finnish venture to measure the curvature of the world and to prove that the earth is not perfectly spherical, but flattened at both poles. Given all the bear activity that had scuppered our landing plans, this was our first 'proper' walk on wild Svalbard...at least for some! Towards the end of the first walk a **Polar Bear** was sighted in the distance by the guide team and confirmed by the bridge team. An evacuation was immediately ordered by the expedition leader, our first involving guests. An orderly, controlled evacuation took place to the great credit of both the staff and the guests involved, who were calm and followed orders throughout. Back onboard they were rewarded with a warm drink whilst listening to a repeat performance of Laura's lecture on sea ice. Unable to now land because of the bear, the second group were offered a zodiac cruise to see the station from the water and were treated to a cute seal pup rolling on the ice. A nice gentle end to a mega exciting day!

## Day 5: 13th June 2022

### A Day in the Sea Ice

GPS position at 1200: 80°38.0' N, 011°17.7' E

Wind: NE 2 Sea State: Ice 5/10 Weather: Overcast

Air Temp: 0°C Sea Temp: +1.8°C

Today M/V Hondius brought us into the pack ice. This felt like another world; you really got the feeling that we were floating around in the middle of nowhere in an area that is completely hostile towards humans. Everywhere you turned there was ice, right to the horizon. Many people allowed their minds to wander, pondering the beauty of the natural world and thinking of historic exploration; those brave souls who ventured into the ice in wooden ships and may have experienced a long winter of darkness in the North polar region. We felt entirely safe and secure with our Ice Class 6 ship with all the necessities and luxuries on board, including healthy food to avoid scurvy and a warm lounge to avoid frostbite!



Binoculars were raised throughout the day as we spotted numerous birds including **Ivory Gull** and a juvenile **Sabine's Gull** and marine mammals such as **Bearded Seals** hauled out and resting on the ice. We also had multiple lectures given





by the expedition staff covering the following subjects: the Arctic Megafauna (Polar Bears and Walrus) by Hazel, Fulmars and Skuas by Meike and Andrew and finally geology and politics of the Arctic by Laura and George.

We saw many footprints of polar bears around on the ice, however we were not able to spot one on this day. Hot chocolate with rum and cream on the bow of our ship definitely helped to ease the grip of the cold weather!

## Day 6: 14th June 2022

### Magdalenafjorden

GPS position at 1200: 79°35.8' N, 010°58.3' E  
Wind: N 2 Sea State: Calm Weather: Overcast  
Air Temp: +3 °C Sea Temp: +6°C

We woke up under a grey sky with snow falling, but the wild landscape compensated for this true Arctic weather. While we were slowly waking up, the Expedition staff were already getting ready for the day ahead. At 7:30am Hotel Manager William called us for breakfast and, whilst eating, we were admiring the beautiful landscape that Magdalenafjorden had to offer outside the windows. Beautiful, dark mountain peaks up to 900 metres surrounded us, white snow melting away as the spring takes hold and replaces it with patches of green mosses. At



At 8:30am we were invited to meet at the shelf door to board zodiacs to our landing site, Gullybukta. The landing was split between a small walk toward the walrus haul out and a zodiac cruise. As we got outside, we could feel the cold air of the Arctic Ocean. On shore around twelve **Walrus** could be seen; these giant beasts were playing and hunting in the water and they were surprisingly active for such big mammals that usually like to just sleep on the beach! We could have spent the whole day there watching their antics but we then swapped groups and enjoyed a zodiac cruise. We took some time journeying along the shore to observe the different birds of the area and the beautiful glacier opposite the landing site. As a finale to the zodiac cruise we were back around the walrus, this time viewing them from the water. Some curiously swam around the zodiacs but we made sure to keep a safe distance; sharp tusks and inflated boats do not mix!

Those not ashore or zodiac cruising listened to Eduardo's talk about GPS (Global Positioning Systems) and how this small

piece of equipment, that is so useful, was created. This was followed by lunch. Even though we were always well fed on board, we were still famished as we stepped into the dining room after the morning's excitement! The restaurant was buzzing as everyone was discussing our adventure of the morning with our fellow passengers.

After lunch and a well-deserved rest, we were called back to the zodiac for another cruise deep into the fjord. The overcast sky was actually fantastic for photographing bright blue glacial ice that had drifted down from Waggonwayreen glacier at the end of the fjord. We also enjoyed seeing beautiful birds, like **King Eider Ducks** and **Arctic Terns**, in addition to a delightful encounter with **Harbour Seals** swimming playfully around our zodiacs. As much as we admired the glacier, we could see it was not in the best shape with some brown and grey patches that are indicative of a retreating glacier. When a glacier retreats it erodes the rocks around it leaving a large amount of rock dust on the ice. While we were driving back to the ship we began to feel the cold so we all began dreaming of the warm shower that awaited us back in our cabins.

Back on board everyone met in the lounge for the penultimate recap. It was almost the end of the trip, but we were still excited to think of the fauna, flora and landscape we might still encounter on our final day of exploration. At 6:30am Eduardo, our Expedition Leader, invited us in the lounge to show tomorrow's plan. This was followed by a video made by guide Dorette showing what is achievable in terms of filming your travels using a smart phone and Hazel delivered a lighthearted short talk about sailor's tattoos and their traditional symbolic meanings. The day ended with a delicious BBQ outside on Aft deck 5 prepared by Head Chef Ralf and his team and the dining staff. This was the perfect way to finish the day! We enjoyed the fantastic food surrounded by the beauty of the wild Arctic then finished the night with some dancing for those who still had the energy at the end of this full day of excitement!

## Day 7: 15th June, 2022

### St. Jonsfjorden and Isfjorden

GPS position at 1200: 78°30.7' N, 012°49.2' E

Wind: NW 2 Sea State: Slight Weather: Overcast

Air Temp: +3 °C Sea Temp: +6°C



So began our final full day around Svalbard, starting with a split landing. Half the guests remained on board Hondius to enjoy its fabulous facilities and take in an informative presentation by Georgina on Arctic photography. The other half were taken ashore for the longest planned walk of the whole cruise (providing that no polar bears showed up to change our plans!) Firstly, there was a trek up from the beach landing site to view a trapper's hut (still in use and available for hire!) where we learnt about how it was originally a base for trapping polar bear and arctic fox for their fur. From there we continued to walk to higher ground to enjoy the views of this hugely impressive fjord. Wildlife seen included many

confiding **Purple Sandpipers**, which really attracted the photographers, **Snow Bunting**, **Reindeer**, **Arctic Tern**, **Arctic Skua** and a flyover of **Pink-footed Geese**. When the guests swapped over from ship to shore and vice versa, one walking group was enchanted when a stunning male **Rock Ptarmigan** dropped in, landing almost at their feet. Modelling its finest all

white winter plumage, it was an irresistible avian super model for every 'paparazzi' camera around. Finally came the opportunity for the infamous 'Polar Plunge': a brief dip into icy cold Arctic water from the beach. Were those who took part brave or mad? You decide!

After lunch, Head Chef Ralf was kind enough to give up his time to give a presentation on how to provision and cater for polar expedition cruises. As always, it is one of the most informative and pleasurable talks for guests, who come away with a new understanding and appreciation of the amazing logistics that go on out of sight until it is presented so beautifully on the plate in front of them. Later, everyone presented themselves at reception to settle their bills and then popped down to the equipment store to return their muck boots. All the while Hondius was cruising down the fjord, eventually turning south enter open water towards our final destination of Longyearbyen, via the magnificent peak of Alkhornet and beautiful Tryghammna fjord. In the evening we gathered for a final time to join the Captain's farewell party with cocktails and to view photographers Georgina & Juan's superb slideshow. This was made available to be copied and taken home as a unique momento of our incredible expedition cruise!

## Day 8: 16<sup>th</sup> June 2022

### Longyearbyen - Disembarkation

**GPS position at 1200: 78°14.0' N, 015°38.0' E**  
**Wind: NW 4 Sea State: Slight Weather: Overcast**  
**Air Temp: +8°C Sea Temp: +7°C**

Surely our Arctic adventure was not over already?! Sadly yes, after our final wake-up call at 7:00am by Expedition Leader Eduardo it was time for our last breakfast on board M/V Hondius. Passengers disembarked via the gangway and were reunited with their luggage before boarding the awaiting coaches or strolling into the town. Everyone said goodbye to the friendly Expedition Team and departed, smiling and reflecting upon a wonderful expedition cruise!



**Thank you all for travelling with us on this voyage; for your enthusiasm, support and good company. We very much hope to see you again in the future, wherever that might be!**

**Total distance sailed on our voyage: 821.5 nautical miles**

**Furthest North: 80°42.00' N, 11°00.98' E**

**On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Artur Iakovlev,  
Expedition Leader Eduardo Rubio Herrera, Hotel Manager William Barnes  
and all the crew and staff of M/V Hondius, it has been a pleasure travelling with you.**

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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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# Sara Jenner – Assistant Expedition Leader

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

Back in the UK when she was only 10, she remembers trading in her favourite pink bicycle for the money to start her travel fund. Every birthday and Christmas she added a little more in the kitty and finally, at 18 she realised her dream of diving at the Great Barrier Reef! At that point the travel addiction was born. Ever since Sara has been travelling the globe in search of wild and remote places and has spent many

months volunteering on wildlife conservation projects in a bid to help some of our most iconic and endangered species.

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

During 2020-2021 she worked extensively on a leopard seal identification project and took the opportunity to fulfil a lifetime dream of visiting South Georgia in winter by working on the M/V Pharos, which is deployed by the South Georgia Government as a fishery patrol vessel.

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

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# George Kennedy – Assistant Expedition Leader

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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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# Claudio Ghiglione – Assistant Expedition Leader

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Claudio was born in Italy in 1983. He is a marine ecologist specialised in polar regions, expedition guide and nature photographer.

Interested in science and nature since he was very young, he graduated first in *Marine Environmental Sciences* (BA) and then in *Marine Science* (MA). In March 2017 he obtained a *PhD in Earth, Environmental and Polar Sciences* run in cooperation with the Italian National Antarctic Museum (Italy) and the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge (UK).

For several years he worked as a polar researcher focusing his work mainly on the South Pole (Antarctica); his objective is to analyse and evaluate information used for ecological modelling and possible future scenarios following global warming. During his academic career, he actively takes part in some scientific expeditions both in Arctic and in Antarctica in cooperation with Norway and England.

His passion for travel, mainly to cold and often inhospitable places, and his career as a photographer led him to travel a lot, creating and managing – often in complete autonomy – itineraries and logistics. In 2017 – thanks to his professional experience, the skills acquired over the time and the need to spend more time on the field – he starts working full time as a guide Oceanwide.

Specialised in nature, scientific and travel photography, Claudio uses his photos as a means of telling stories to draw attention mainly to his main subjects, namely animals, nature and environment. In the 2019 he published his first book ‘Polar Lights’ with whom he shares the passion for nature photography.



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# Meike Sjoer - Expedition Guide

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From early on Meike has been a passionate naturalist and traveller who just loves birds.

At the age of 7 she bought her first bird book. Being outdoors all the time, she wanted to learn more about the amazing creatures she encountered. Investigating and learning about nature and wildlife has been a passion ever since.

Meike has a master degree in film and television from the University of Utrecht. For the last 25 years she has been working as a television director. Her stories involve nature, wildlife and environmental topics. If not travelling, she is directing the prime-time wildlife television program Vroege Vogels.

When time permits, she volunteers as a nature guide for the Dutch institute for nature and education. As a teenager Meike started sailing the oceans but her true love for the life in the oceans began 14 years ago when she started working with Sea Shepherd on the mediateam.

Meike is thrilled to be your guide on this trip and looking forward to sharing knowledge and the passion for this magical polar world with you.

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# Hazel Pittwood - Expedition Guide

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Hazel grew up in the county of Dorset on the South coast of the UK. A childhood spent pond dipping, bug hunting and exploring the countryside and coast nurtured her love of the natural world.

She has worked in practical conservation and community engagement roles for a variety of habitats, including heathland and coastal nature reserves. Hazel also has experience surveying rare protected species and is a trained wildlife rescue volunteer and marine mammal medic

Whilst she is broadly learned about the natural world, Hazel has specialised in marine mammals and seabirds since 2014. At that time she began volunteering as a marine mammal and seabird surveyor, collecting sightings data regarding these animals for UK based conservation charities. In 2017 she worked on a passenger ship travelling between the UK and Spain across the Bay of Biscay for six months, delivering talks and leading wildlife watching sessions out on deck.

Hazel has been working as a guide and lecturer on cruise ships for over three years. This role has taken her to Norway and Svalbard, Iceland, Alaska, Canada, the Faroe Islands, the Canary Islands, the Caribbean and Central America. She is a World Cetacean Alliance certified responsible whale watching guide, championing the highest standards of wildlife experiences.

The polar regions host an incredible diversity of seabird and marine mammal species and Hazel looks forward enhancing your encounters with these incredible animals with her knowledge, skills and enthusiasm.

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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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# Lothar Kurtze - Expedition Guide

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Lothar Kurtze, born 1972 in Germany, has a PhD in mechanical engineering (TU Darmstadt) and works as consultant for acoustics in Germany and Austria.

He is interested in astronomy, has his own observatory and is the CEO of the non-profit FTP-Europlanet gUG focussing on astronomical education and outreach.

In 2005, he became elected as Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, London.

He is a key member of the astronomy group of the scientific museum 'Haus der Natu' in Salzburg, which has built the VEGA-Observatory in 2018.

Since 1993 he is also working as lecturer and travel guide, mainly for voyages with astronomical background. He has observed auroras in the arctic, total solar eclipses in Madagascar and Libya and led expeditions to the Galapagos Islands and Bhutan. With Oceanwide Expeditions, he has visited both, the Arctic and the Antarctic.

In 1999 the Minor Planets Committee of the International Astronomical Union named the asteroid (7688) Lothar in his honor.

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# Andrew Crowder - Expedition Guide

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Andrew is an experienced naturalist with a lifelong history of observation, study and sheer enjoyment of wildlife. His interest in natural history started as a young boy watching birds and they remain his first passion. Focusing mainly on UK and European species, he has travelled extensively and accrued a wealth of knowledge. As part of that journey of discovery, he has also developed self-taught skills in wildlife photography.

Andrew has always been drawn to the sea and is a CMAS Class 2/BSAC qualified Advanced Scuba Diver; he has had the privilege of experiencing incredible marine life which few others get to see. Time spent exploring the underwater world helped spawn his other main interest: cetaceans. Andrew has over twenty years of experience with these animals, including undertaking scientific surveys and guiding on cruise ships in the Arctic and UK waters.

Andrew recognizes that few wildlife encounters spark such an emotional reaction in humans as when they see whales and dolphins. He uses his knowledge and enthusiasm to help more people share such inspirational experiences and thereby promote the conservation of our precious natural world.

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# Laura Mony – Expedition Guide

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The ocean had always been part of Laura's life. She started spending time on sailboats when she was a baby and she sailed around the world crossing several oceans when she was between 12 and 14 years old. That trip increased her passion for the ocean because she discovered its vastness and its importance on the earth's dynamic.

Laura had the chance to start traveling very young and has been all over the world alone, with a backpack, with family or friends. These trips gave her the opportunity to develop an open mind and an intellectual curiosity about the

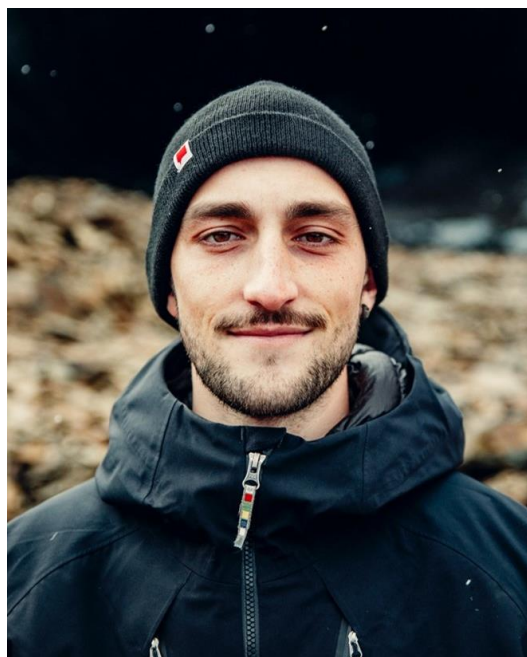
climate phenomena that govern our planet.

Born in France, she grew up in the French part of Canada where she did her bachelor's degree in Geological Engineering. During her bachelor's degree, she became fascinated by the polar regions and wanted to continue her studies in that field. That is why, at the end of her degree, she left Canada for Tasmania, Australia, to do her Master in Marine and Antarctic Science. During that degree she deeply studied this fascinating continent with a specialization in geophysics and glaciology. When she is not guiding, she explores the world with her camera, or she is discovering the backcountry of Quebec with her skis. She likes to discover remote area and meet with local populations.

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# Juan Berenstein – Expedition Guide

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Juan is a professional photographer and drone pilot born in Ushuaia, Argentina. He is embarking on his first Antarctic Expedition Cruise with Oceanwide Expeditions.

He is a young and highly motivated person, who loves enjoying outdoors and on the mountains. His hobbies are trekking, camping, FPV drone flying and photography.

His passion for nature started at an early age with his family, who enjoyed the weekends camping at the end of the world and travelling around the country

on holidays. Nowadays he enjoys discovering new landscapes around the end of the Andes chain with his friends.

He studied photography in Buenos Aires and decided to return to his hometown to start his career and develop an independent way of life.

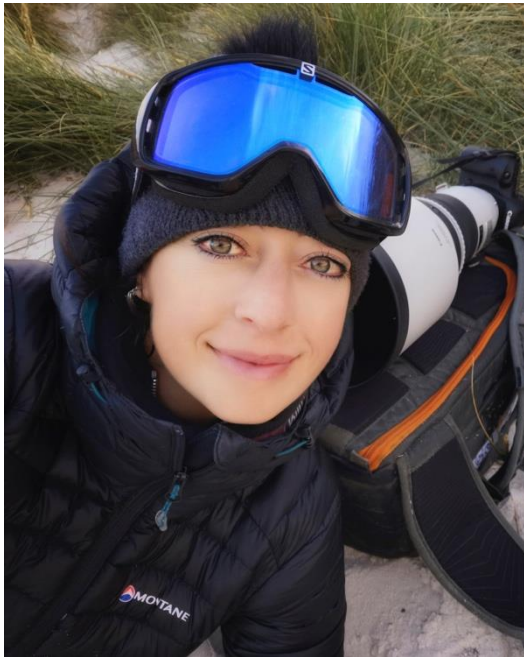
Juan has been working in tourism for more than 5 years in Ushuaia and has amazing skills related to guest management, being a sociable and talkative person. He speaks natively Spanish, English and some German as he did an exchange back in 2014 after finishing high school.

Going to Antarctica has been a lifetime dream of his, as being born at the southernmost city in the world and the nearest city to the white continent really set the path for the years to come. He plans on starting a Polar career learning from every aspect, from wildlife to history, and someday become an Expedition expert.

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# Georgina Strange - Expedition Guide

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Georgina is a professional nature photographer and general wildlife enthusiast from the Falkland Islands. Her rather unique upbringing on a very small and remote island nature reserve has instilled a deep passion for wild places, and you'll most likely find her out on a cliff edge in a storm, revelling in the gales of wind that frequent the Falklands!

Georgina studied in England for sixth-form college, followed by an adventure to Australia for her university degree in Photography.

After managing her family's conservation trust on New Island in the Falklands for many years, regularly working with the many visiting expedition ships shoreside, Georgina swapped a land-based life for an ocean-based one and started as expedition photographer to South Georgia and the Antarctic in 2017, and to the Arctic in 2019, often switching roles to work as the on-board ornithologist to share her love of the winged creatures of the world, too!

During her off-ship season, Georgina runs her own wildlife photography tours at home to fulfil her passion for making captivating images of nature. Whenever possible, she most enjoys balancing out the time spent guiding in cold and windy places for quality time in the hotter and sunnier climes of the world!

Georgina's photography has made it to Outdoor Photographer of the Year, Bird Photographer of the Year, Wild Art Photographer and the finals of the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year, as well as several well-known nature photography magazines and smaller competitions. Always happy to share knowledge and techniques, maybe you will go home with some competition-worthy images of your special trip, too!



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# Fritz Hertel - Expedition Guide

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Fritz Hertel from Germany is an enthusiastic bird watcher with almost worldwide birding experiences.

Throughout his life he has had a deep passion for nature and its conservation. Fritz is an ecologist (M.Sc.) and he has been working for more than ten years as a governmental environmentalist for the German Federal Environment Agency where he is responsible for the protection of the Polar Regions. This job already led him in the maritime part of the Antarctic while supervising a research project and to remote scientific stations in East Antarctica as member of

an international inspection team.

Since several years Fritz has casually been working as a guide and lecturer on different cruise ships in the Arctic and Antarctic.

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# Dorette Kuipers - Expedition Guide

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

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

Being again the photography guide on the Oceanwide fleet means for her the ideal combination of visiting her favorite landscape with supporting passengers in making visual stories of their 'once in a lifetime-trip'.

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## Rogier Steins – Ship's doctor

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He was born in Utrecht, The Netherlands. He studied medicine in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. As a part of his education he went to Calgary, Canada for research in orthopaedics and Cape Town, South Africa for an internship trauma surgery in Groote Schuur Hospital. After he graduated medical school, he worked at the emergency department in the Hague and the surgery department in Utrecht. He decided to specialise in family medicine because he has a broad medical interest and likes human psychology. 3 years later he finished his specialisation as a general practitioner.

He is currently working as a general practitioner in his hometown Utrecht and also temporarily working for the public health service (GGD) in Utrecht during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Besides working as a family doctor in Utrecht, he likes to combine his work as a doctor with his passion for adventure. In 2019-2020 he worked as a family doctor on Aruba and spent a lot of time on the water kitesurfing. In the beginning of 2020, he helped out at camp Moria in Greece as a medical volunteer for the Boat Refugee Foundation.

In his spare time, he likes to go kite(surfing), snowboarding, travelling and read about personal growth. He is really looking forward to exploring the Arctic region together with you.

If you have any (medical) questions, don't hesitate to ask!

1. Longyearbyen
2. 14 Julibukta
3. Ny-Alesund
4. Zodiac Cruise Smeerenburg
5. Zodiac cruise Indra Noaskoya
6. Crozierpynten
7. Kinnvika
8. Northernmost point
9. Gullybuykta
10. Waggonwaybreen Glacier
11. Gjertsenodden, St Jonsfjorden
12. Longyearbyen



## Birds and Mammals of Svalbard

English Name	Latin	German	Dutch	9-jun	10-jun	11-jun	12-jun	13-jun	14-jun	15-jun
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Eistaucher	Ijsduiker							
Red-throated diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Sternaucher	Roodkeelduiker		x		x			
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Eissturmvogel	Noordse stormvogel	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Bean Goose	<i>Anser fabalis</i>	Saatgans	Taigarietgans	x	x	x				x
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Kurzschnabelgans	Kleine rietgans		x		x			
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	Weisswangengans	Brandgans	x	x	x	x			x
Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Ringelgans	Rotgans							x
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Spießente	Pijlstaart							
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Eiderente	Eidereend	x	x	x	x		x	
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	Prachteiderente	Konings eider		x				x	x
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Eisente	Ilseend				x			
Rock Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus hyperboreus</i>	Alpenschneehuhn	Alpensneeuwhoen		x					x
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Sandregenpfeifer	Bontbekplevier		x					
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Meerstrandläufer	Paarse strandloper			x	x			x
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Steinwäzler	Steenloper		x					
Arctic skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Schmarotzerraub-möwe	Kleine jager	x	x	x			x	x
Long-tailed Skua	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	Falkenraubmöwe	Kleinste jager		x					
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	Skua	Grote jager			x			x	
Sabine's Gull	<i>Xema sabini</i>	Schwalbenmöwe	Vorkstaartmeeuw					x		
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Eismöwe	Grote Burgemeester	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Lesser black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Heringsmöwe	Kleine mantelmeeuw						x	
Great black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Mantelmöwe	Grote mantelmeeuw							
Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Dreizehenmöwe	Drieteenmeeuw	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	Elfenbeinmöwe	Ivoormeeuw					x		
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Küstenseeschwalbe	Noordse stern	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Brunnich's Guillemot	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Dickschnabellumme	Dikbekzeekoet	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	Gryllteiste	Zwarte zeekoet	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Little Auk	<i>Alle alle</i>	Krabbentaucher	Kleine alk	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Papageitaucher	Papegaaiduiker	x	x	x				
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Schneeammer	Sneeuwgor		x	x	x	x	x	x
BLACK KITE						x				

## MAMMALS

English	Latin	German	Dutch	9-jun	10-jun	11-jun	12-jun	13-jun	14-jun	15-jun
Walrus	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>	Walross	Walrus			x	x		x	
Bearded seal	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>	Bartrobbe	Baardrob				x	x		
Ringed seal	<i>Phoca hispida</i>	Ringelrobbe	Ringelrob							
Common /Harbour seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Seehund	Gewone zeehond							x
Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Zwergwal	Dwergvinvis			x				
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Seiwal	Noordse vinvis							
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Blauwal	Blauwe vinvis							
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Finnwal	Gewone vinvis							
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Buckelwal	Bultrug			x				
Sperm Whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	Pottwal	Potvis							
Northern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	Entenwal (Dögling)	Butskop							
Orca (Killer Whale)	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	Schwertwal (Orca)	Orka							
White-beaked Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	Weisschnauzendelphin	Witsnuitdolfijn							
Beluga	<i>Dephinapterus leucas</i>	Weisswal	Beloega							
Polar Bear	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	Eisbär	Ijsbeer			x	x	x		
Arctic Fox	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>	Polarfuchs	Poolvos							
Spitsbergen Reindeer	<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus</i>	Svalbard Renntier	Rendier	x	x	x	x		x	x



**North Spitsbergen**  
**In search of Polar Bear & Pack Ice - Arc of Meridian**  
***Welcome aboard M/V Hondius!***

**9<sup>th</sup> June 2022**  
***Day 1 – Embarkation, Longyearbyen***

Please make yourselves at home in your cabins and check you have received all your luggage!

Tea/coffee is available in the lounge located on Deck 5.  
***PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS***

- 17:30 Ship safety briefing, in the Observation Lounge on Deck 5. Attendance to this is **MANDATORY**.
- After the briefing the emergency alarm will be sounded, and you will need to go back to your cabin and get your life jacket.
- All guests accommodated on Deck 3 (Cabins 301-337) will go to MUSTER STATION A which is the Restaurant on Deck 4  
All guests accommodated on decks 4, 6, and 7 (Cabins 401-414, 601-619, 701-714) will go to MUSTER STATION B which is the Observation Lounge on Deck 5.
- 18:15 +/- The Hotel Manager and Expedition Leader will do a Welcome Briefing, to orientate you to life on board and the plan for the forthcoming days.  
This will take place in the Observation Lounge on Deck 5.
- Please listen for announcements for exact timings as they will be determined by our departure time.
- 19:00 Buffet dinner in the restaurant on Deck 4.
- 20:30 We would like to invite you to the lounge for AECO safety briefing and staff introductions. Attendance to this is **MANDATORY** and will be checked.

*“It is not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves” -Edmund Hillary*



**North Spitsbergen**  
**In search of Polar Bear & Pack Ice - Arc of Meridian**  
***Welcome aboard M/V Hondius!***

**10<sup>th</sup> June 2022**  
***Day 2 – 14. Julibukta and Ny Alesund***

07:00 Wake- up call  
07:30-8:30 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

During the course of the morning, we will sail into 14. Julibukta so we encourage you to spend time on the outside decks looking for wildlife and enjoying the views of the magnificent glacier, 14. Julibreen.

09:30 Muck Boot Distribution. Please listen for announcements, as you will be called deck by deck to Deck 3. Please bring your thick socks to find the best-sized boots for you!

10:30 A **mandatory** zodiac and safety briefing will take place in the Observation Lounge on Deck 5. Attendance will be checked. This will be followed by a briefing for the afternoons landing at Ny Alesund.

11:30-12:30 A biosecurity cleaning station will be set up on Deck 3, please bring your outdoor clothing if it needs additional cleaning, staff will be on hand to assist with this.

12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

14:00 The **Blue** Group to be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing at Ny Alesund.

14:15 The **Red** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing at Ny Alesund.

There will be a guided walk leaving from the Amundsen Bust for the **Blue** group at 15:00 and for the **Red** group at 16:00.

The shop will be open until 17:00 and accepts most credit cards and Norwegian Krone. If you wish to have your passport stamped with a souvenir stamp, please take it ashore with you.

18:15 Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for Captains Cocktail and daily Recap.  
19:00 Dinner will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

*We ourselves see in all rivers and oceans. It is the image of the ungraspable phantom of life; and this is the key to it all Herman Melville – Moby Dick.*



**North Spitsbergen**  
**In search of Polar Bear & Pack Ice - Arc of Meridian**  
***Welcome aboard M/V Hondius!***

**11<sup>th</sup> June 2022**  
***Day 3 – Smeerenburg and Indre Norskoya***

- 07:00 Wake- up call.  
07:30- 08:30 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.
- 08:30 Please can the **Red** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing at Smeerenburg.
- 10:30 Please can the **Blue** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing at Smeerenburg.

All groups will swap during the morning  
We will be encouraging a short beach clean-up at the end of the landing.

Lothar invites you to a lecture in the lounge titled an 'Introduction to the Expedition of the Arc de Meridian'. This will be offered twice during the course of the morning so both groups can attend, please listen to announcements for timings.

- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 13:45 Please join Georgina, in the lounge for her presentation about Photography.
- 15:00 Please can the **Blue** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a zodiac cruise at Indre Norskoya.
- 15:15 Please can the **Red** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a zodiac cruise at Indre Norskoya.
- 18:15 Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for Daily Recap.  
19:00 Dinner will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 21:00 Lothar will be offering a hands-on workshop on the use of a sextant in the lecture room, there will be a sign-up sheet at reception for this activity.

*"Superhuman effort isn't worth a damn unless it achieves results." — Ernest Shackleton.*





# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## North Spitsbergen In search of Polar Bear & Pack Ice - Arc of Meridian *Welcome aboard M/V Hondius!*

### 12<sup>th</sup> June 2022 *Day 4 – Crozierpynten and Kinnvika*

- 07:00 Wake- up call.
- 07:30- 08:30 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.
- 08:30 Please can the **Red** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing at Crozierpynten.
- 09:00 Please can the **Blue** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a zodiac cruise at Crozierpynten.

All groups will swap during the morning  
We will be encouraging a short beach clean-up at the end of the landing.

- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 14:45 Please can the **Blue** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing at Kinnvika.
- 16:30 Please can the **Red** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing at Kinnvika
- Laura will be giving a presentation about Sea Ice for those guests not landing, this will be repeated during the afternoon so all guests can attend. Please listen out for announcements for exact timings.
- 18:45 Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for Daily Recap.
- 19:00 A buffet dinner will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

*The difficult is what takes a little time; the impossible is what takes a little longer – Fridjof Nansen*



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## **North Spitsbergen** **In search of Polar Bear & Pack Ice - Arc of Meridian** ***Welcome aboard M/V Hondius!***

**13<sup>th</sup> June 2022**  
***Day 5 – Pack Ice- 80 degrees North***

07:30 Wake- up call.

08:00- 09:00 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

We hope to reach the ice edge in the early morning so please join the expedition team on the outside decks and help look for wildlife.

10:00 Sara welcomes you to her lecture about Polar Bears in the lounge.

12:30-13:30 A buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

15:00 Hazel would like to invite you to the lounge for her presentation on Pinnipeds (Seals and Walrus) of the Arctic.

16:30 Koen would like you to join him in the lounge for his lecture about 'The History of Svalbard'.

18:30 Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for Daily Recap.

19:00 Dinner will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

21:00 Lothar will be offering a hands-on workshop on the use of a sextant in the lecture room.

*"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world."We will require a substantially- Albert Einstein.*



**North Spitsbergen**  
**In search of Polar Bear & Pack Ice - Arc of Meridian**  
***Welcome aboard M/V Hondius!***

**14<sup>th</sup> June 2022**  
***Day 6 - Gullybukta and Waggonwaybreen Glacier***

- 07:00 Wake- up call.
- 07:30- 08:30 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.
- 08:30 Please can the **Red** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing and zodiac cruise at Gullybukta
- 10:30 Please can the **Blue** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing and zodiac cruise at Gullybukta
- During this morning's activities, Keon will give a presentation about the History of Svalbard. Keon's lecture will be repeated later in the morning so all guests can attend. Please listen out for announcements for exact timings.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 14:00 Please can the **Blue** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a zodiac cruise in Magdalenafjord, visiting the Waggonwaybreen Glacier.
- 15:45 Please can the **Red** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a zodiac cruise in Magdalenafjord, visiting the Waggonwaybreen Glacier.
- During this afternoon's activities, Meike will give a presentation about paintings of an ice-cold expedition in the 19th century. Meike's lecture will be repeated later in the afternoon so all guests can attend. Please listen out for announcements for timings.
- 18:00 Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for Daily Recap.
- 18:30 Dinner will be served.

*"I demolish my bridges behind me, then there is no choice but forward" Fridtjof Nansen.*



**North Spitsbergen**  
**In search of Polar Bear & Pack Ice - Arc of Meridian**  
***Welcome aboard M/V Hondius!***

**15<sup>th</sup> June 2022**  
***Day 7 – St Jonsfjorden and Isfjorden***

07:00 Wake- up call.

07:30- 08:30 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

09:00 Please can the **Red** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing at Gjertsenodden, St Jonsfjorden.

If you would like to participate in the polar plunge, please wear swimmers under your expedition clothing. We provide towels. The dip will be at the end of each landing for both **Red** and **Blue** groups.

During the morning activities, Georgina will offer a presentation on Arctic photography. Her lecture will be repeated later in the morning so all guests can attend. Please listen to announcements for timings.

11:00 Please can the **Blue** Group be ready at the shell doors on Deck 3 for a landing at Gjertsenodden, St Jonsfjorden.

13:00-14:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

During the afternoon we plan to cruise St Jonsfjorden and Isfjorden aboard Hondius.

15:00 Ralph's Kitchen! Our Head Chef will offer a special lecture about food preparation aboard Hondius and how provisions are ordered for expedition cruising in the Arctic.

16:15 We will collect your rubber boots on deck 3. Please listen for announcements.

18:30 Join the expedition team in the lounge for the Captains Farewell Cocktail and a viewing of the voyage slideshow.

19:00 Dinner is served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

During the afternoon/evening you can settle your accounts with the Hotel Department, they will announce when they are ready to process payments.

*"The greatest adventure of all is life itself" -Bertrand Piccard.*



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## **North Spitsbergen** **In search of Polar Bear & Pack Ice - Arc of Meridian** ***Welcome aboard M/V Hondius!***

**16<sup>th</sup> June 2022**  
***Day 8 – Longyearbyen***

- 07:00 Wake-up call
- 07:15 Please leave your large luggage in the corridor outside your room for the staff to collect. Crew and staff will bring it to the pier, where you will need to personally identify it and bring it your bus.
- 07:30-08:30 A breakfast buffet is served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 09:00 Buses will be departing from the quayside to Longyearbyen city centre. Please listen to announcements before approaching the gangway.

Thank you all for a wonderful voyage, for your company, good humour, and enthusiasm. We hope to see you again in the future and share more adventures with you.

*“Victory awaits him who has everything in order – luck, people call it.” Roald Amundsen.*