



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

on board
M/V Ortelius
June 20th – June 27th, 2022



M/V *Ortelius* was named after the Dutch cartographer Abraham Ortelius (1527-1598) who published the first modern world atlas, the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (Theatre of the World) in 1570. MV *Ortelius* was built in 1989 in Gdynia, Poland, as a research vessel for the Russian Academy of Science and was named *Marina Svetaeva*. In 2011 she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions. The vessel was re-flagged and renamed *Ortelius*. Now the ship is sailing as a 108-passenger vessel. *Ortelius* is 91 m long, 17,6 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5,80 m, with an Ice Strength rating of UL1/1A, top speed of 12 knots and one diesel engine generating 3200 kW.



Captain Mika Appel

and his international crew of 54 (17 Nationalities)

Including

Staff Captain:	Per Andersson	[Finland]
First Officer:	Jacob Preuss	[Denmark]
Second Officer:	Anika Albrecht	[Germany]
Third Officer:	Eline Schuurman	[Netherlands]
Chief Engineer:	Aleksandr Bondarev	[Lithuania]
Hotel Manager:	Carlos Fernandez Gomora	[Mexico]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Volodymyr Cherednychenko	[Ukraine]
Head Chef:	Heinz Hacker	[Austria]
Sous Chef:	Ivan Ivanovic	[Serbia]
Sous Chef:	Norman Estrada	[Fillipines]
Ship's Physician:	Joris Kromhout	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Rinie van Meurs	[Netherlands]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Christophe Gouraud	[France]
Lead Kayak Guide:	Adam Burke	[UK]
Kayak Guide:	Hella Martens	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Pierre Gallego	[Luxembourg]
Expedition Guide:	Barbara Post	[Austria]
Expedition Guide:	Charlotte Taplin	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	Laura Somerville	[Scotland]
Expedition Guide:	Juan Berenstein	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Alexander Romanovski	[Russia]

Welcome you onboard!

Day 1 – June 20

Embarkation, Longyearbyen

GPS position at 1600: 78°14.1'N, 015°37.8'E

Air Temp: 4°C Sea Temp: 2°C Weather: cloudy Wind: SE5 Sea state: Wavy

After a long-awaited departure (a few years for some of us) we finally land in Longyearbyen, the largest settlement in the Arctic Archipelago of Svalbard. The pull of the Arctic; its varied landscapes, history, the fascination of ice, flora and fauna plagued by a harsh climate, the anticipation of encountering wildlife and birds only seen in the Arctic draws visitors from all corners of our planet. Our ship for the next 8 days, the *M/V Ortelius*, brings us together to explore the pristine environment of the high Arctic.



The *Ortelius* lays at anchor in the middle of the bay, so our voyage starts off already in expedition mode. The Expedition Team is waiting for us at the jetty and we get a first taste of wet and cold Arctic weather during our first zodiac ride to the ship in choppy conditions.

The welcoming Hotel Team is waiting for us however and we soon settle in to our comfortable and warm cabins. When everyone is

onboard and we have had the chance to get a warm drink and meet some of our fellow passengers, we gather in the lecture room for the mandatory safety briefings quickly followed by the safety drill.

At 18.30 we come together for an introduction of the Expedition Team, and a glass of champagne and welcome toast with our Captain Mika Appel. The energy is high and the excitement for the upcoming voyage is palpable. After a delicious first dinner and some last moment provisioning of the ship, *Ortelius* finally leaves the port and takes us away from civilisation. Most onboard, except for some night owls, are ready for a good nights' rest after all travel and first impressions. While our sturdy vessel makes her way out of sheltered waters to start the journey North, we have no other choice but to acquaint our bodies with the movement of the waves. Not everyone will sleep calmly, but this will soon be forgotten when we arrive at our first destination the following morning.

Day 2 – June 21

Camp Zoe, Fanciullipynten - Lilliehöökreen

GPS position at 0800: 79°08.3'N, 011°41.08'E

Air Temp: 13°C Sea Temp: 4°C Weather: Overcast Wind: ESE 5 Sea state: 2

We awake to a very windy morning, with low clouds hanging over the mountains. As we enter the magnificent Krossfjord the mandatory AECO and Zodiac briefings take place. The landscape of Krossfjord is dominated by middle Proterozoic metamorphic rocks which date to over one billion years old.

Although our first landing this afternoon is scheduled in this area, we have to reassess in true expedition style, as very strong wind gusts prevent us from lowering the zodiacs and disembark the ship. From the ship we enjoy a beautiful view on Tinayrebreen and after lunch, Juan, our photography guide gives an introductory lecture on photography filled with tips and tricks.



Soon after, the first groups leave the ship in zodiacs and head for our new, more sheltered landing site. Those wanting a more strenuous hike head straight up to the ridge and follow it around. Here they encounter Reindeer with calves, and lots of flowers as it is the best time of the year to find purple saxifrage and many more.

The second group for a less strenuous hike follows closely behind and has some more time to

take in the scenery and appreciate the more intimate details of the flora and the many mosses and lichens. The third group takes a stroll along the scenic shoreline adjacent to the hut and dip into the rugged terrain at the upper part of the coastline with views of Krossfjord and the steep mountains in the background.

After dinner we have a scenic ship cruise of Lilliehöökfjorden and the spectacular Lilliehöökreen, the glacier at the end of the fjord. This large glacier is a beautiful sight, with its' 11km wide semi-circular glacier front (5.5km in a straight line across the fjord). It is estimated that over 40% of the total ice volume of the glacier has been lost within a century, which means the water in which we sail is uncharted. After this dramatic and scenic highlight, we turn around, head out of Krossfjord and continue our voyage North.



Day 3 – June 22

Virgohamna & Smeerenburg - Indre Norskoya

GPS position at 0800: 79°43.8'N, 010°51.3'E

Air Temp: 9.8 °C Sea Temp: 2°C Weather: overcast Wind: N 1 Sea state: 1

This morning as we are having breakfast, we enter into Virgohamna. Low lying clouds reside above the bay giving it an eery, quiet feel. The expedition team are in the bridge trying to locate the Walrus we hope to see later this morning. Another ship is anchored in the Bay, so we call them on the radio to ask what their intentions are. They confirm they will be departing at 11 am and the Walrus are there. Fantastic!



We disembark everyone into the zodiacs at 0930, eager to not only see Walruses, but also the local population of Harbour Seals. Harbour Seals are typically not seen this far North, but the West coast of Spitsbergen is home to a separate population of the species. A rare opportunity therefore to see this seal species away from its' usual environment. The water is beautiful and glassy as we motor over to the

colony of seals. They are lying on rocks in the water, a behaviour mainly seen in this species. Seal pups play in the water and near the zodiacs.

We encounter a Walrus in the water feeding on clams in the sandy bottom, occasionally surfacing for air and then going back down. We spend the next two hours following the coast observing Arctic Terns, Harbour Seals and the rarely seen Great Northern Diver! The dramatic landscape echoes in the background with great mountains plummeting up from the sea and glaciers oozing out from between the mountains.

We manage to land at Smeerenburg, also known as the most famous whaling station in Spitsbergen. 200 men worked at this station up until the late 17th Century. There were 250 whaling ships operating in Spitsbergen 1630s which processed 25-750 whales per year.

As we walk along the beach we can see 10 male Walruses all huddled together, while 4-5 are in the water feeding in the



shallows. At 1250 it is time to head back to the vessel for lunch. What a great morning!

The kayakers enjoy an excellent paddle around the coastline and into the bay at Virgohamna. We see the remnants of the 17th century Dutch whaling station when the bay was called Houker Bay, and the remnants of the old balloon hanger.

We are greeted by curious birds as we make our way around the bay to the Harbour seal colony. The seals and pups are happy to see us and even come over for a closer look. With the glassy water and spectacular scenery, we couldn't have asked for much more.

Our second destination is Indre Norskoya at which we arrive at 1600. Dressed up to the eyeballs in warm gear the expedition staff is kitted up with their rifles and prepare the zodiacs for the passengers. We drive to the Northern side of Indre Norskoya in anticipation of seeing wildlife. A report of a polar bear sighting has reached us and we search for a carcass that has been seen on the shore. We find the carcass, but no bears are near. Until, low and behold, Babara our expedition guide calls over the radio 'I can see two, potentially three bears above on the snow field!!' Everyone quickly grabs their binoculars and sights a mother with two cubs sleeping 400 metres on the hill above us. The mother pops her head up occasionally and sniffs the air to check for other bears in the area. We all watch quietly in our zodiacs as the cubs stand up and start nursing. It is a beautiful and intimate sight to watch the female being so gentle with them.

It's a rare and wonderful moment to watch a polar bear family totally in their element.



With big smiles we leave the Polar Bear family and head back to the ship only to see 3 puffins on our cruise back, wow can it get any better!

Everyone fills their bellies with hot, hearty food and the glasses are topped up as the evening commenced as we sit at anchor. Now onto the sea ice we go!

Day 4 – June 23

In the pack ice

GPS position at 1200: 74°40.8'N, 007°30.6'E

Air Temp: 4,9°C Sea Temp: 4°C Weather: clear Wind: NE 6 Sea state: 4

Today our expedition team leader decides to take us into the sea ice in search of polar bears. The initial plan was to sail north in the area of the seven islands but the wind and the rough seas would not be very favorable there, and the ice seems to have melted considerably, which makes the ice edge much further away than expected. So instead we sail to the West of Spitsbergen where the ice edge is closer and in the lee of the archipelago, which should make it easier to navigate through the ice. After a delicious breakfast we all move to the outer decks and the bridge to scan the ice for traces of seals, ivory gulls and of course the king of the Arctic. The landscape is breathtaking but the amount of broken ice piled up on the ice floes makes it hard to find polar bears. The captain and his crew are doing a great job navigating the ice and Ortelius is just made for this kind of navigation.

Our expedition team leader Rinie is on the upper deck all day scanning for bears and his concentration level is impressive. He relentlessly searches the ice floes for polar bears, and seems oblivious to the cold and the movements of the ship. Our guests join him in this search with a lot of enthusiasm, even though we have already seen bears yesterday.

During the morning we enjoy a lecture by Barbara on sea ice ecology, where she explains to us the different types of ice we encounter, how it is formed and how it plays a significant role in this ecosystem. It is difficult to make a choice between joining her in the lecture room and staying outside on the outer decks with the beautiful landscape that is offered to us. In the afternoon Rinie gives us a fantastic lecture about polar bears. We are all mesmerized by the information he provides, always linked to some personal experience he has had during his decades spent in the Arctic observing polar bears.

We continue our journey through the sea ice throughout the day, but we do not find a polar bear. There are very few seals around, which maybe explains why there are no bears. Nevertheless, just witnessing this incredible icescape is so beautiful that nobody really regrets not seeing a bear. At the end of the day the captain navigates us out of the sea ice into a wavy sea and we make our way back towards Spitsbergen for tomorrow's activities.



Day 5 – June 24

Woodfjorden & Liefdefjorden

GPS position at 1200: 74°36.9' N, 014°10.8' E

Air Temp: 14°C Sea Temp: 4°C Weather: sunny Wind: NNW 2 Sea state: calm

It is a beautiful morning when Ortelius is entering the Woodfjorden, Andrée Land. This fjord is cutting about 65 kilometres into the north coast and has two side branches on the west side and two minor bays on the east side. The name Woodfjorden is referring to the large amounts of driftwood that cover some beaches. Whilst eating breakfast, we repositioned to Jakobsenbukta. Here we had three different hikes on offer; short, medium and long. No



matter which adventure you picked, you got to enjoy the beautiful landscape, the view over the fjord and flowers like mountain avens, purple saxifrage, moss campion, mountain sorrels and arctic bell-heather. We even found a blooming Svalbard poppy, the national flower of Svalbard! Several flocks of pink-footed geese were flying over our heads.

For the kayakers the day started off very peacefully. The morning at Jakobsenbukta is calm and slightly overcast, which added to the quiet beautiful surroundings. This bay was where we launched our kayaks and proceeded around its shores. There we saw a large amount of common eider and some king eider as we paddled the red sediment laden waters. Halfway around the bay we were able to paddle up into the calm shallow river that was running from the glacier and navigate its many winding trails through the ice and gravel.

Back on board, the crew again had an amazing lunch ready for us to enjoy before we arrived in the Liefdefjorden, Haakon VII Land. In the „Fjord of love“ we had the choice between a zodiac cruise in front of the magnificent Monacobreen or a hike at Idabukta. The Monacobreen, named after prince Albert I of Monaco, is a more than 4,5 km long glacier. The deck and expedition team launched all of the zodiacs to go on a cruise in the fantastic sunny weather, calm waters and peaceful surroundings. We discovered many kittiwakes and arctic terns feeding in front of the glacier and some of us even saw a nice fat bearded seal on ice. A small but keen hiking group set foot on land at Idabukta in front of the Idabreen. Just next to the landing site we were able to observe a male and female rock ptarmigan, not shy at all, feeding on leaves of mountain avens. While walking on the moraine we discovered an interesting stone. The frost had broken it into two very regular shaped parts.

Up on our gorgeous view point we enjoyed three glaciers including the large Monacobreen and admired the small flowers of purple saxifrage, polar willow, mountain avens.



The kayakers in the afternoon disembarked at Idabukta, the snow-covered mountains rising in front of us as we paddled through its cold waters. We followed the shoreline interspersed with glacial ice that had worked their way into the shallows and become trapped by the falling tide. The two glaciers on the other side of the bay were a spectacular sight and held our attention until we reached the corner of the bay.

As we entered the bay the sight of Idabreen was there in front of us. This beautiful glacier glistened in the sun and its sheer size and scale was something to behold.

Back on board, a nice surprise was waiting for us! Carlos and his team were waiting us with a great Arctic Barbecue on the top deck, it turned into a big Arctic dancing PARTY!



Day 6 – June 25

Ny London - Blomstrandhalvoya

GPS position at 1200: 78°57.4' N, 012°02.2' E

Air Temp: 17°C Sea Temp: 3°C Weather: sunny Wind: NW1 Sea state: calm

This morning, we were greeted with glorious blue skies as we began the day with our



landing at Ny London. The hikers headed up the hill, to be rewarded with glorious views of the glacier over the ridge. The medium group enjoyed a leisurely walk around the plateau, exploring the remains of the mining operation which was begun by Mansfield in 1905, but abandoned shortly afterwards, in 1910. We also enjoyed the wildlife, such as a solitary reindeer, an arctic fox, as well as bird species including a long-tailed skua . The leisurely group took a zodiac cruise around the bay.

Beautiful blue skies with the sun glistening on the surface of the calm waters was also a fantastic way to spend the morning for the kayakers. We kayaked out to Blomstrandhalvoya just beyond the old mine and continued east weaving between intricate natural sculptures of glacial ice. As we made our way around the island, we had time to view the splendid scenery, the mountains and the distant glaciers. We were lucky enough to see several bird species including a sighting of the red throated diver.

The shoreline provided us with a chance to practice our kayaking skills as we navigated rock arches and pillars.

As we sailed towards our afternoon destination, we were lucky enough to encounter a group of three blue whales. These magnificent animals had come up to Spitsbergen to feed, and they were feasting on plankton while we watched in awe from the ship. Hearing the exhalations of those blue whales as they come up to the surface to breathe is an unforgettable experience. We even got to witness one of the whales showing the tail fluke as it dived, which is a very rare event for this species.



Some brave souls took part in the polar plunge in the afternoon, while the remaining passengers joined the fun by cheering them on from the upper decks. We had all styles: dives, leaps and somersaults; bikinis, a wetsuit and even a skinny dipper! A big cheer and a warm towel welcomed the polar plungers back on board.

Day 7 – June 26

Colesbukta

GPS position at 1200: 78°08.4' N, 014°32.9' E

Air Temp: 10°C Sea Temp: 4°C Weather: cloudy Wind: SSW2 Sea state: wavelets

The morning started out lazy. Our expedition leader Rinie woke us up only at 7:45. Ortelius was sailing along the Western coast of Prince Karl Foreland. The weather was a little overcast, but very still. Some of us were drinking their morning coffee standing on the outer deck and on the bow. After yesterday's fantastic observation of Blue whales in Kingsfjord we, of course, were hoping to spot some more of these giants of the sea, but mother nature decided to conceal them for someone else. Nevertheless, the morning was blissful.

At 10 AM our expedition guide Laura gave us a lecture called "New Perspectives on Sustainability" where she touched upon many problems and challenges humanity is facing these times. It was very thought provoking. Her lecture was followed by another interesting one. Hella, our kayak guide gave a talk about whales with more detailed information on Blue whales as she has been working with these creatures for many years.

Ortelius entered Isfjord and headed to the place of our afternoon activity – abandoned Russian coal mining village Coalsbay, located at the coastline of Colesbukta. After 2 PM we started the landing procedure. When everybody was ashore we divided into 3 groups and started our hikes. The long and the medium hikers headed to the valley inhabited by hundreds of Svalbard reindeers.



Though walking in the tundra was not easy and pretty energy consuming, the hikers managed to make quite a big loop and even reach the coast of a freshwater lake. The way back to the ship was beautiful, but exhausting.

We could see the abandoned settlement at Colesbukta as we approached with our kayaks. As we paddled past the dilapidated piers, now only inhabited by the birds, we could see a pair of Glaucous gulls on a nest, tending two chicks. We continued so as not to disturb them and passed barnacle geese and eiders, until we reached the delta where the glacial water meets the bay. Here we played in the channels until we could go no further so we returned to the bay and continued around its shores. Our group was joined by an inquisitive harbour seal who was just as interested in us as we were in them. The next port of call was another glacial stream which we navigated the turbulent waters of the entrance to the calm waters beyond. An incredible 2 hour paddle with an abundance

of wildlife and a good 3.5km journey around the bay was an excellent way to spend our final afternoon.



When back onboard we had a farewell glass of champagne with our captain. Juan, our expedition guide and photographer showed us the result of his work during the voyage – a very beautiful slideshow that featured the highlights of our wonderful cruise.

During the dinner Carlos, our hotel manager, introduced us all his colleagues from the galley, restaurant and also all the members of the housekeeping team. They all deserve applause and respect.

The last evening onboard Ortelius. Can't believe that tomorrow we have to go home.

Day 8 – June 27th

Disembarkation Longyearbyen

GPS position at 0800: 78°13.8'N, 015°36.2'E

Air Temp: 9°C Sea Temp: 3°C Weather: partly cloudy Wind: NW1 Sea state: calm

Unfortunately, every trip comes to an end. Disembarkation starts early, for some at midnight, as some fellow travellers are booked on the 2:30 a.m. flight. The rest of us leave in the morning. The *Ortelius* is docked at the pier. The crew takes care of our luggage, so all that rests is our goodbyes to our newly made friends, fellow travellers and all the welcoming faces of the *Ortelius* we have come to know so well. Some of us may have some days left in Svalbard or mainland Norway, others may have to get back to work when coming back home. Regardless, we all take home many great memories, thousands of photographs and new friends made. The Arctic is an incredible and unique part of our planet and we are grateful to have had the opportunity to observe and soak up this pristine and fragile environment!



Thank you all for joining us on this remarkable adventure, for your great company, good humour and enthusiasm. We hope to see you again in the future, wherever that might be!

Total distance sailed: 789 Nautical Miles

**On behalf of
Oceanwide Expeditions,
Captain Mika Appel,
Expedition Leader Rinie van Meurs,
Hotel Manager Carlos Fernandez Gomora
and all the crew and staff,
it has been a pleasure travelling with you!**



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

Birds and Mammals of Svalbard												
English Name	Latin	German	French	Dutch	20-jun	21-jun	22-jun	23-jun	24-jun	25-jun	26-jun	27-jun
Red-throated diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Sterntaucher	Plongeon catmarin	Roodkeelduiker						x		
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Eissturmvogel	Fulmar boréal	Noordse stormvogel	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Kurzschneiblgans	Oie à bec court	Kleine rietgans					x		x	
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	Weisswangengans	Bernache nonnette	Brandgans					x	x	x	
Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Ringelgans	Bernache cravant	Rotgans						x		
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Eiderente	Eider commun	Eidereend	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	Prachteiderente	Eider à tête grise	Konings eider			x		x		x	
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Eisente	Hareide boréale	Ilseend					x	x	x	
Black Scoter	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	Trauerente	Macreuse noire	Zwarte zee-eend								
Rock Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus hyperboreus</i>	Alpenschneehuhn	Lagopède alpin	Alpensneeuwoen		x			x	x		
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Sandregenpfeifer	Grand Gravelot	Bontbekplevier								x
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Sanderling	Bécasseau sanderling	Drieteenstrandloper								
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Meerstrandläufer	Bécasseau violet	Paarse strandloper		x	x		x	x	x	
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Knutt	Bécasseau maubèche	Kanoetstrandloper								
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Alpenstrandläufer	Bécasseau variable	Borte strandloper								
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Steinwäzler	Tournepierre à collier	Steinloper								
Grey Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	Thorshühnchen	Phalarope à bec large	Rosse franjepoot			x			x		
Red-necked Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	Odinshühnchen	Phalarope à bec étroit	Grauwe franjepoot								
Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	Spätelraubmöwe	Labbe pomarin	Labbe jager								
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Schmarotzenraub-möwe	Labbe parasite	Kleine jager		x			x			x
Long-tailed Skua	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	Falkenraubmöwe	Labbe à longue queue	Kleinste jager						x		
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	Skua	Grand Labbe	Grote jager		x	x					
Sabine's Gull	<i>Xema sabini</i>	Schwalbenmöwe	Mouette de Sabine	Vorkstaartmeeuw						x		
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Eismöwe	Goéland bourgmestre	Grote Burgemeester	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Lesser black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Heringsmöwe	Goéland brun	Kleine mantelmeeuw								
Great black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Mantelmöwe	Goéland marin	Grote mantelmeeuw								
Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Dreizehenmöwe	Mouette tridactyle	Drieteenmeeuw	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Ross's Gull	<i>Rhodostethia rosea</i>	Rosenmöwe	Mouette de Ross	Rossmeeuw								
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	Effenbeinmöwe	Mouette blanche	Ivoomeeuw			x	x				
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Küstenseeschwalbe	Sterne arctique	Noordse stern	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Brunnich's Guillemot	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Dickschnabellumme	Guillemot de Brünnich	Dikbekzeekoet		x	x	x	x		x	
Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	Grylleteiste	Guillemot à miroir	Zwarte zeekoet	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Little Auk	<i>Alle alle</i>	Krabbentaucher	Mergule nain	Kleine alk		x	x	x	x		x	
Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Papageitaucher	Macareux moine	Papegaaiduiker		x	x			x	x	
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Schneeämmer	Plectrophenax des neiges	Sneeuwors	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Eistaucher	Plongeon imbrin	Issduiker			x					
MAMMALS												
English	Latin	German	French	Dutch	20-jun	21-jun	22-jun	23-jun	24-jun	25-jun	26-jun	27-jun
Walrus	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>	Walross	Morse	Walrus			x					
Bearded seal	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>	Bartrobbe	Phoque barbu	Baardrob					x			
Ringed seal	<i>Phoca hispida</i>	Ringelrobbe	Phoque marbré	Ringelrob								
Harp seal	<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>	Sattelrobbe	Phoque du Groenland	Zadelrob				x				
Hooded seal	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>	Klappmütze	Phoque à capuchon	Klappmuts								
Common Harbour seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Seehund	Phoque commun	Gewone zeehond			x					
Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Zwergwal	Petit rorqual	Dwergvinvis					x			
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Seiwal	Rorqual boréal	Noordse vinvis								
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Blauwal	Baleine bleue	Blauwe vinvis						x		
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Finwal	Rorqual commun	Gewone vinvis								
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Buckelwal	Baleine à bosse	Bultrug								
Bowhead whale	<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>	Groenlandwal	Baleine du Groenland	Groenlandse walvis								
Sperm Whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	Pottwal	Cachalot	Potvis								
Narwhal	<i>Monodon monoceros</i>	Narwal	Narval	Narwal								
Northern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	Entenwal (Dögling)	Hyperoodon arctique	Butskop								
Orca (Killer Whale)	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	Orca	Orque	Orka								
White-beaked Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	Weisschnauzendelphin	Lagénorhynque à rostre blanc	Witsnuitdolfijn								
Beluga	<i>Deptocephalus leucas</i>	Weisswal	Béluga	Beloega								
Polar Bear	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	Eisbär	Ours blanc	Ijsbeer			x					
Arctic Fox	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>	Polarfuchs	Renard polaire	Poolvos						x		
Spitsbergen Reindeer	<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus</i>	Svalbard Renntier	Renne du Spitzberg	Reudier		x				x	x	



Basecamp Spitsbergen - *Ortelius*
20 - 27 June, 2022

- 1 - Longyearbyen, 20 & 27 June
- 2 - Tinayrebukta, Camp Zoe, 21 June
- 3 - Lilliehöökfreen (ship cruise), 21 June
- 4 - Virgohamna & Smeerenburg (Walruses), 22 June
- 5 - Indre Norskøya (3 bears), 22 June
- 6 - Pack-ice, 23 June
- 7 - Jakobsenbukta, 24 June
- 8 - Idabukta & Monacobreen, 24 June
- 9 - Blomstrandhalvøya (blue whales), 25 June
- 10 - Jakobsenbukta (Polar Plunge), 25 June
- 11 - Colesbukta, 26 June

Rinie van Meurs - Expedition Leader



After a formal education in Forestry and Nature Conservation, Rinie started to travel around the world in search of wildlife and in particular birds.

However, he was already attracted by the polar regions since he was a boy. After he finished his study, he went in the early eighties on private trips to Iceland and Northern Scandinavia; this was as Arctic as he could afford. However, he knew, further north the pack ice in the high Arctic Ocean that was his goal. To explore one day the sea ice, as the early explorers did, that was something he could only dream of.

Until 1989, he managed to find a job on board of the “old” Plancius as a potato peeler for his first season in Spitsbergen. After he came back, he knew he was definitely hooked on the high latitudes. Rinie became one of the industry’s first expedition leaders and a pioneer in exploring new landing sites in Spitsbergen and the Antarctic. Only around Spitsbergen he has made more than 200 expedition cruises. He knows Spitsbergen better than his own backyard!

Since '89 then he has logged in his seaman’s book more than of 300 expedition cruises including; East- and West Greenland, the Canadian high Arctic, Franz Josef Land, Novaya Zemlya, Geographical North Pole, Antarctica, South Georgia, the Falklands, the sub Antarctic Islands of New Zealand, and many islands along the Atlantic Ridge.

During these years, spending so much time exploring the Arctic and having the opportunity to encounter so many Polar Bears in the ice, he has become absolutely passionate about these magnificent animals. Give him a ship with the right ice class and Rinie will take you to the Polar Bears. He has become an expert in leading Polar Bear trips. He is also leading every fall Polar Bear trips on the Hudson Bay. He has published four photo books on the Polar Regions of which one was about the Polar Bears of Spitsbergen.

Christophe Gouraud – Assistant Expedition Leader



Christophe was born in France and has been passionate about birds ever since he was a child. After spending five years in Canada studying ecology, Christophe travelled to Alaska. He lived on the tiny Middleton Island as a research assistant to study the ecology of seabirds, mainly the Black-legged Kittiwake. He explores polar and tropical regions since 2007 and joined many cruises from Spitsbergen to the Russian Far East, from Antarctica to South Georgia, and from Amazonia to the Seychelles.

Christophe also worked with birds as a biologist field worker in Morocco, United Arab Emirates and Kazakhstan. Christophe found another way to travel by inventorying collections of birds that have been collected worldwide during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Adam Burke - Expedition Guide



Adam has always had a love of the outdoors and adventure, from an early age he dreamt of visiting exotic places and immersing himself in other cultures.

This love of the outdoors led him to work teaching adventurous activities and for over fifteen years this pursuit has given him the opportunity to live and work all over the globe. He has taught sailing in Australia, paddle sports on Europe's rivers and led expeditions in Africa.

After spending five years teaching white water safety & rescue and boat handling techniques to the fire brigade, he moved on to providing marine science support in Antarctica. He has spent over five years living between the Antarctic continent and the island of South Georgia, including overwintering twice.

Whilst providing science support he spent his time in Antarctica managing boating operations and helming RIBs for diving operations. This covered understanding environmental changes and its effects, wildlife monitoring and counting as well as water sampling for a long-term data collection.

Adam enjoys travelling with his partner who shares the same values and love of the outdoors. This has taken them from deserts to rain forests and ultramarathons in the mountains.

Hella Martens – Kayak Guide



Born in The Netherlands and raised by adventurous parents Hella became infected with the travel virus and a deep fascination for animal behaviour and the natural world early in her childhood.

When 5 years old she drew and wrote a small booklet on the life of an Orca family, unaware of the life journey she would embark on 20 years later.

A BSc. degree in Wildlife Management, Policy and Education led her into the realm of the oceans' giants. Passionate about the threats our planet and its inhabitants are facing, her belief is that education is the most powerful tool to create ambassadors for the natural world. Since 2004 Hella has studied cetaceans in Scotland, the Canary Islands, Canada, Australia and Mexico. She has worked as a naturalist in New Zealand and lived and worked in the Azores for 4 years as a whale watching guide and lecturer. Hella has also been trained and contracted as an offshore marine mammal observer in the seismic industry.

In 2016 her biologist's dream was fulfilled by being able to explore the polar regions of our planet. After two polar winters leading whale watching and northern light excursions in Northern Norway, Hella's year is currently divided between guiding expedition cruises to the European and Russian Arctic and to Antarctica as a lecturer, zodiac driver and kayak guide. Time off is spent traveling, outdoors or enjoying the quiet French countryside with her family and furry creatures.

Pierre Gallego – Expedition Guide



Pierre is a veterinarian specialized in marine mammal medicine. He has been working in the field of marine biology for 18 years, and has been organizing 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!

Barbara Post - Expedition Guide



Barbara Post was born in Austria and has since her childhood days a sincere interest in nature and mountaineering. Therefore, the biology study in Innsbruck, a city in the Alps, fitted perfectly to her interests. During her bachelor study program, she already started to work for several projects as scientific research assistant, always related to mountain research. She also did microscopic analyses (taxonomy) of the macrozoobenthos fauna in freshwater ecosystems of Spitsbergen. At this time, she started to love cold ecosystems worldwide and decided to write her Master thesis in the Lake and

Glacier Ecology Research Group, whose expertise lies in Arctic, Antarctic and Alpine research. With a thesis about water bears living on the surface of glaciers, Barbara finished her Master of Science/Zoology.

Barbara is Co-author in two book chapters about “Polyextremophiles – Life in the Ice”. Keen to share her knowledge, she is involved since 2003 in an education program called “Youth into Science” where she is lecturing and guiding pupils. Her last research project was about bacteria in glacier ice at the University of Innsbruck. Since 2012 she is a passionate nature guide in the Arctic, her travels include Norway, Jan Mayen, Svalbard, Iceland and Greenland. In 2014 she started to join expeditions to the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctic Peninsula.

Charlotte Taplin – Expedition Guide



Charlotte grew up by the Coast in Cornwall, United Kingdom. From a very young age she has always been fascinated by wildlife and the ocean.

She studied Wildlife Conservation in University and since then has spent the last 7 years travelling through South America, Africa and Australasia. In 2013 Charlotte started working on research and dive vessels including a dive liveaboard boat which visited remote regions of the outer Great Barrier Reef. This was where her passion for boats began and since then she has travelled the world on ice

breaker explorer vessels. Charlotte's interest with cetaceans started in Australia in 2015 where she spent the next 3 years studying Humpback Whales, Minke Whales, Sperm Whales and Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphins.

After driving overland from South Africa to Jordan in 2015 she moved to Mozambique where she started her own backpacker hostel and worked as a Researcher studying Whale Sharks and Manta Rays. Her hobbies include scuba diving, surfing, free-diving hiking. Being surrounded by the ocean is Charlotte's favourite place to be and it is her dream to visit the Antarctic. She is so excited for the future ahead with Oceanwide Expeditions.

Laura Somerville - Expedition Guide



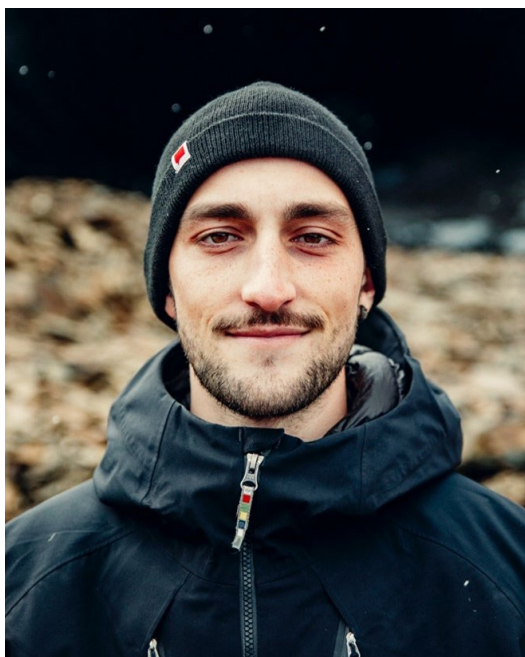
Laura is originally from Scotland, and is currently living in the eastern part of Switzerland. Her first degree was in physics, and she began her working life as an actuary, working for a life assurance company in the field of financial statistics and risk analysis. However, her passion for the natural world and for sustainability issues led her down a different path.

She has studied marine biology at the University of Glasgow in Scotland; at the University of Iceland, she studied fish ecology and marine mammals. Her interest in environmental pollution in the

Arctic led her to UNIS (the University Centre in Svalbard), where she has taken part in a research project measuring snow albedo (the “whiteness” of the snow) in the northern fjords of Svalbard. The social and economic aspects of sustainability are Laura’s current research focus, and she has studied economics and international affairs at the University of St Gallen in Switzerland, and is currently working towards a master’s in education for sustainable development at the University of Gothenburg, Sweden.

If you are interested in ice swimming, you can ask Laura about the time she trained in ice bathing and breathing techniques with Wim Hof (the “Ice Man”) in the Netherlands. She also has quite strong opinions about Scotch whisky, especially the Islay malts. She speaks English, German, French and a little bit of Spanish.

Juan Berenstein – Expedition Guide



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.

Alexander Romanovskiy - Expedition Guide



Alexander Romanovskiy comes from Saint-Petersburg, the Northern capital of Russia. He was born in 1981. After having graduated from the boarding school Alexander entered Saint-Petersburg State University, where he spent 5 years studying physical geography, ecology, regional geography and international tourism. Afterwards he was working on his PhD thesis in Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia, doing geoecological researches.

In the year of 2011 however, Alexander decided to pause his scientific career and start doing something completely different, which means working in tourism and traveling the world. He spent 2 seasons working as a trekking guide in Fann mountains (Tajikistan), 1 season on Novolazarevskaya Antarctic scientific station (Queen Maud Land, Antarctica) working as a member of a guesthouse crew.

Since February of 2012 most part of the year he spends on Svalbard. For five seasons in a row Alexander has been living and working as a guide in a ghost town of Pyramiden. In 2016 a new page in Alexander's guiding career was opened: he started working as a naturalist guide on cruise ships in polar regions of the world – Svalbard and Antarctica.

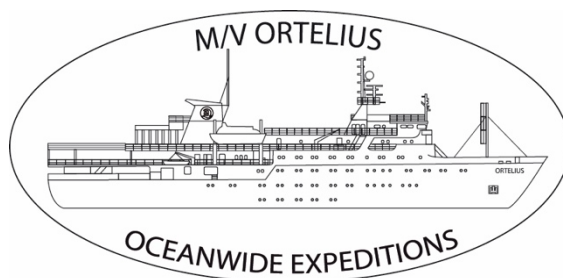
3 to 4 months a year Alexander dedicates to his main passion – traveling the world. No public transport, no hotels, only hitch-hiking and staying overnight with locals or sleeping in a tent. This way he has already visited almost all Soviet republics, Middle East (Iran, Turkey), Asia (China), South America (Argentina, Chile, Paraguay), and it is hopefully far not the end! The world is big, friendly and interesting to explore!

Joris Kromhout – Ship's doctor



Joris is a professional doctor in emergency medicine and is currently in training to become an anesthesiologist in the University Medical Center in Utrecht. Due to his experience on the intensive care unit, he knows what to do in case of an accident or life-threatening situation. Furthermore, he is also trained in dealing with everyday ailments. As a doctor he has gained experience in rural Tanzania, where he had to work with limited resources in remote areas. Back in Holland, he now and then works as a first aid doctor at big events.

Joris has always had a big interest in nature and wildlife; before starting medicine school he studied biology for two years. Being an outdoor lover, he spends his days off traveling around the world and exploring new places. For instance, he hiked through the Himalaya region in Nepal and drove through New-Zealand with his own campervan. On windy days you can find him kitesurfing at the Dutch or Spanish coast and he loves to go for a long run. Exploring the Arctic has always been one of his biggest dreams and he hopes to go there many more times.



Basecamp - Spitsbergen

June 20 - 27, 2022

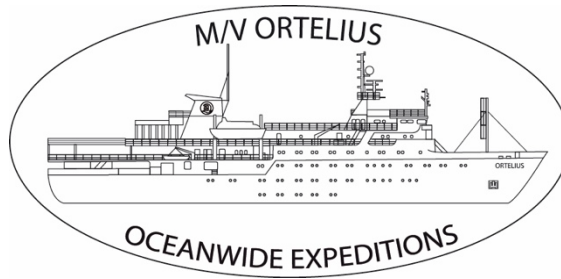
Day 2, June 21, Tuesday: Krossfjorden & Tinayrebukta

WELCOME ABOARD!

**** Tea and coffee are always available in the lounge bar on deck 6 ****

- 07.45 Wake-up call by our Expedition Leader Rinie
- 08.00 Breakfast is served in the dining room (Deck 4 behind reception)
- 09.15 **Mandatory briefings** in the Lecture Room (Deck 3 forward)
- TBA** You will be called by deck to come to the Lecture Room (Deck 3 forward) to collect your rubber boots. PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS!
- +/- 11:00 **Mandatory briefing** for guests who have booked for the **Kayak** activity, in the Lecture Room (Deck 3 forward)
- 12.30 Lunch is served in the dining room (Deck 4 behind reception)
- TBA** Landing at Tinayrebukta
- 18.30 Recap in the bar on Deck 6
- 19.00 Dinner is served in the dining room (Deck 4 behind reception)

TBA means To Be Announced



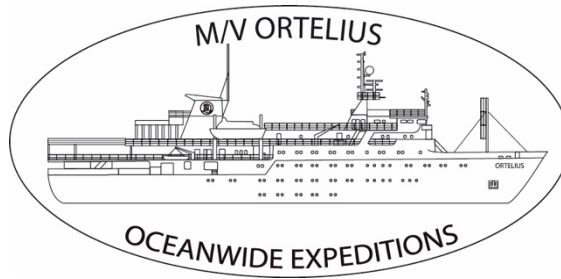
Basecamp - Spitsbergen

June 20 - 27, 2022

Day 3, June 22, Wednesday: Amsterdamøya & Fugleholmane

**** Tea and coffee are always available in the lounge bar on deck 6 ****

- 07.15 Wake-up call by our Expedition Team Leader Rinie
- 07.30 Breakfast is served in the dining room
- TBA** Weather permitting, we expect to land at Smeerenburg, Amsterdamøya, and hope to find walrus. Weather permitting, the kayak program should be on this morning, with a good view on the walrus from the water!
- 12.30 Lunch is served in the dining room
- TBA** Weather permitting, we hope to get you in the zodiacs for a zodiac cruise at Fugleholmane to find some typical Spitsbergen birdlife. Weather permitting, the kayak program should be on this afternoon.
- 18.30 Recap in the bar
- 19.00 Dinner is served in the dining room



Basecamp - Spitsbergen

June 20 - 27, 2022

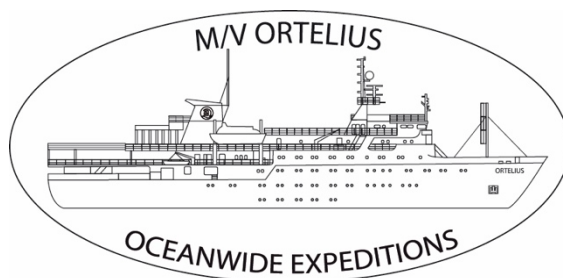
Day 4, June 23, Thursday: Pack-ice!

**** Tea and coffee are always available in the lounge bar on deck 6 ****

Exploration day in the pack-ice in search of polar wildlife!

Dress warmly and join the expedition staff on the outside decks.

- 07.45 Wake-up call by our Expedition Team Leader Rinie
- 08.00 Breakfast is served in the dining room
- 12.30 Lunch is served in the dining room
- 18.30 Recap in the bar
- 19.00 Dinner is served in the dining room



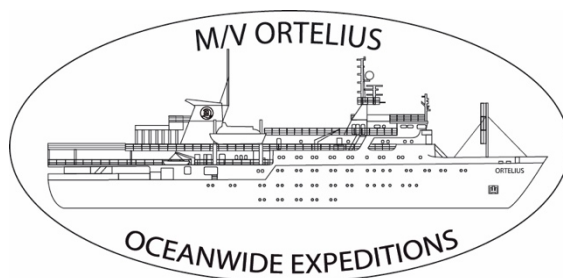
Basecamp - Spitsbergen

June 20 - 27, 2022

Day 5, June 24, Friday: Woodfjorden & Liefdefjorden

**** Tea and coffee are always available in the lounge bar on deck 6 ****

- 07.15 Wake-up call by our Expedition Team Leader Rinie
- 07.30 Breakfast is served in the dining room
- TBA** Weather permitting, we expect to land at Jakobsenbukta, Andrée Land, and hope to offer you different walks. Weather permitting, the kayak program should be on this morning
- 12.30 Lunch is served in the dining room
- TBA** Weather permitting, we expect to land at Idabukta, Haakon VII Land. We hope to encounter some wildlife and why not get the hikers to a view point on Idabreen. Weather permitting, the kayak program should be on this afternoon
- 18.30 Recap in the bar
- 18.30 Dinner is served in the dining room



Basecamp - Spitsbergen

June 20 - 27, 2022

Day 6, June 25, Saturday: Kongsfjorden & Engelsbukta

**** Tea and coffee are always available in the lounge bar on deck 6 ****

07.15 Wake-up call by our Expedition Team Leader Rinie

07.30 Breakfast is served in the dining room

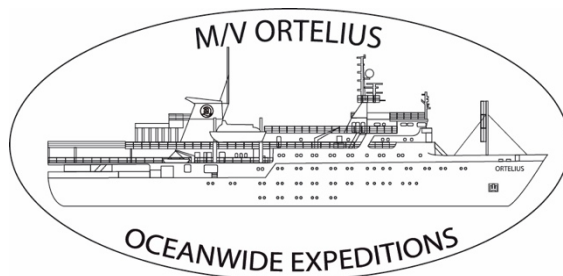
TBA Weather permitting, we expect to land at Blomstrandhalvøya, Kongsfjorden. Here is a mining camp called 'London' and a marble quarry was manned in the first years of the 20th century. This is also home of interesting birdlife and reindeer. Weather permitting, the kayak program should be on this morning

12.30 Lunch is served in the dining room

TBA Weather permitting, we expect to land at Engelsbukta, Oscar II Land. We hope to offer you different walks. Weather permitting, the kayak program should be on this afternoon

18.30 Recap in the bar

19.00 Dinner is served in the dining room



Basecamp - Spitsbergen

June 20 - 27, 2022

Day 7, June 26, Sunday: Ship cruise & Colesbukta

**** Tea and coffee are always available in the lounge bar on deck 6 ****

07.45 Wake-up call by our Expedition Team Leader Rinie

08.00 Breakfast is served in the dining room

In the morning we will be sailing looking for whales while the hotel manager will call you by deck number to settle your ship's account.

12.30 Lunch is served in the dining room

TBA Weather permitting, we expect to land at Colesbukta, Nordenskiöld Land. We hope to offer you different walks. Weather permitting, the kayak program should be on this afternoon

18.30 Recap in the bar

19.00 Dinner is served in the dining room