



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

East Greenland Scoresby Sund Aurora Borealis

M/V Hondius

12th September 2022 – 20th September 2022



Laura Mony

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 369m³ of fresh water and has a water plant producing 70m³ per day. It is the perfect vessel for a true polar adventure!

Captain Remmert Jan Koster

and his international crew of 72

including:

Staff Officer:	Miia Holma	
Chief Officer:	Diederik Maarten Scholten	
Second Officer:	Igor Nazarov	
Second Officer:	Sven Holzhausen	
Chief Engineer:	Sebastian Alexandru	
Hotel Manager:	Michael Frauendorfer	
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Andrius Juodvirsis	
Receptionist:	Karolina Guziejko	
Head Chef:	Gaurav Bawa	
Sous Chef:	Mihai Melinte	
Ship's Physician:	Claudio D'Ambrosso	
Expedition Leader:	Hans Verdaat	
Assist. Expedition Leaders:	Jaap van Reijkevorsel	
	Marcel Paul	
Expedition Guides:	Adam Burk	Julia Baldursdottir
	Alexis Belezze	Koen Jongerling
	Annelou Hulsker	Meike Sjoer
	Arjen Drost	Mikhail Barbarabanov
	Ben Fredericks	Paolo Bellezze
	Bill Smith	Sebastian Villalta
	Bjarni Olafson	Steffi Liller
	Cas Eikenaar	Tom van Hoof
	George Kennedy	Zack Kruzins

We welcome you on board!

Day 1: 12th September 2022

Akureyri

GPS position at 8 pm: 66°06.3'N, 18°22.5' W

Wind: NW2; Sea State: Calm; Weather: Overcast; Air temperature: 11°C

Finally, our adventure visiting East Greenland will start! Akureyri, the nice little town in the north of Iceland is our departure place. From there on, we board our new temporary home Hondius for the next 10 days. The weather offers us bright sunshine and amazing light over the fjord.



The Expedition Team and the Hotel Team welcomes us, present our rooms, and make us feeling home. We use the first hour to explore the ship. Soon we get called for the mandatory safety briefing and the Chief Officer informs us about safety and common routine on board the ship.

Our new knowledge is used immediately on the General Alarm Drill that follows quick after the briefing. We dress up warmly and take our bulky bright life vest and head to our muster station. Always good to know how things work. After this is done, our

Expedition leader Hans calls us for a short welcome followed by some useful information of our Hotel manager Michael.

While we sail out of the fjord, the scenery is stunning and how could it get any better... we have the first sightings of whales. Some humpback whales are in the fjord feeding and it is just amazing how we see them diving down and showing us their fluke, so close by. We enjoy the scenery with the whales while the sun sets over the mountains and the clouds are in beautiful shades of red.

After a tasty dinner, we had early to bed to save our energy for the upcoming exiting days.



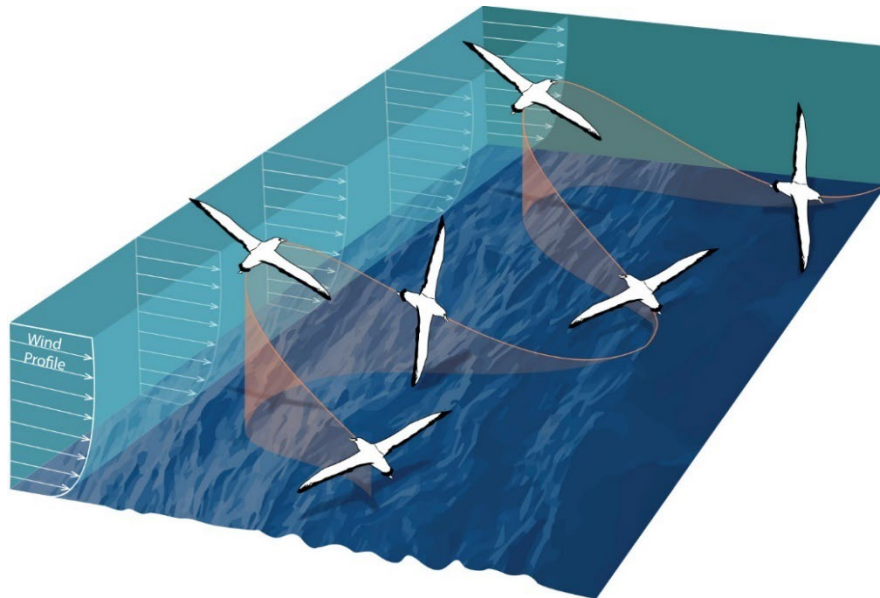
Day 2: 13th September 2022

Denmark Strait (sea day)

GPS-position at 9 am: 068°09.3'N 019°12.2'W

Wind: N7; Sea State: moderate swell; Weather: foggy and overcast; Air temperature: 3°C

Today we spend at sea, crossing the Denmark Strait from Iceland to Scoresby Sund, Greenland. Unfortunately, the sea is quite rough, with a 5m swell, meaning that it is exceedingly difficult to spot wildlife (whales) from the bridge (the front decks are closed due to the rough seas). The foggy conditions also do not help, and the only 'life' we see are the northern fulmars, ever-present around the Hondius while at open sea. These birds love stormy weather, because they can then do the trick of dynamic soaring, appearing as if the birds 'ride' the waves (see cartoon below).

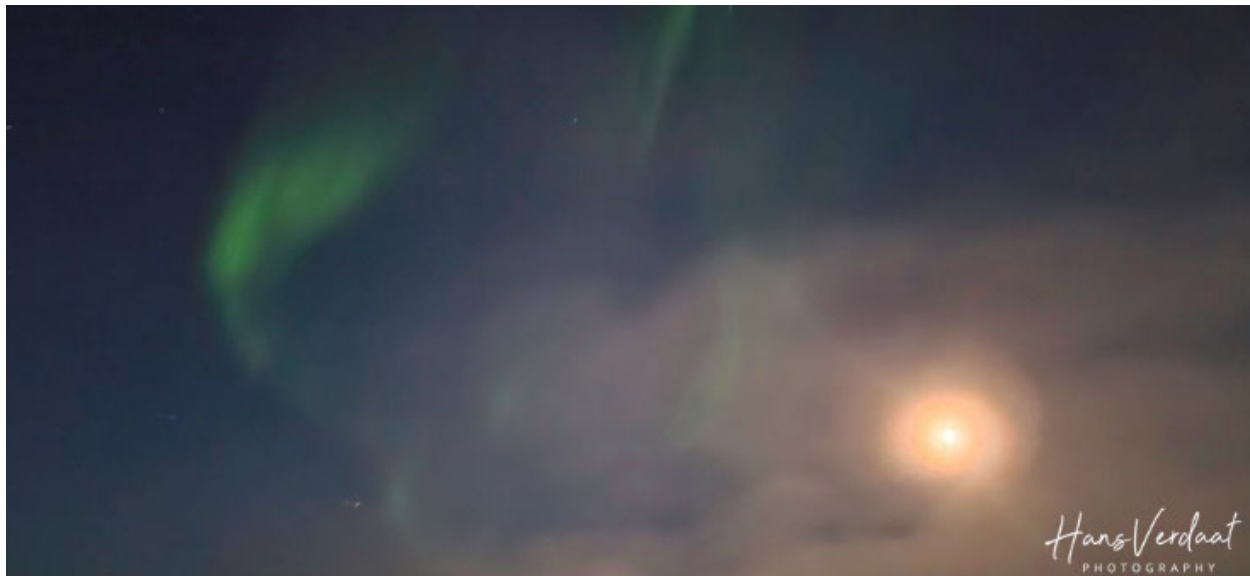


Dynamic soaring. The bird flies into the wind and gets lift from the increase in wind velocity from the sea surface up. When wind velocity no longer increases, the bird turns and glides downwards with the wind in the back. When reaching the sea surface, the bird again turns into the wind, again gaining height. And so on.

With little opportunity for wildlife observations, the day is made to effective use by informing the guests about our Zodiac operations, the AECO guidelines, and polar bear safety. To complement, Hans gives a lecture with tips and tricks on spotting wildlife, which certainly will come in handy later in the trip. In the afternoon, George lectures about photography, followed in the evening by a more hands-on photography workshop led by Arjen and George.



Late afternoon, the fog lifts, and the skies clear. Right on cue for our first glimpse of the Greenland coastline. After a lovely diner, night falls and we are lucky to see the Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights. End good all good!



Day 3: 14th September 2022 In the Viking's Lair (Vikingsbukta & Denmark Ø)

GPS position at 8 am: 70°21.8' N, 025°14.4' W

Wind: Variable; Sea state: Calm; Weather: Clear sky; Air temperature: 4°C

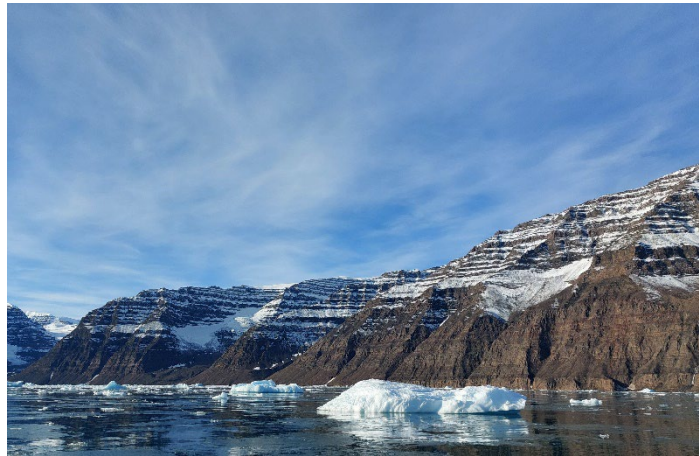
As the gentle voice of Hans slips into our ears this early morning, we find ourselves at Vikingsbukta or Vikings Bay. The skies are clear, and the temperature is low, the very first fast ice is starting to form around the ship. Hans gently reminds us that we are going on a zodiac cruise and that we should get dressed warm. As we all enter our zodiacs we get a call, a bear has been spotted!



The animal is lying relaxed in a snow patch on the slope, high up and overseeing Hondius and its passengers. We try to photograph the majestic animal as we get another call; a mother and two cubs are spotted! Walking further in the fjord over the mountain slope. It proves difficult to photograph these wonderful animals while bouncing up and down the small zodiacs, but luckily, we all get a good sight of the newly formed family. Arjen later explains that the cubs were probably from this year, incredible how fast they can grow, starting at a size of a small avocado.

Our fearsome leader shows again that he has magnificent eyesight and spots a small pod of Narwal at a far distance. The illusive animals do not show up again and we keep a sharp look out as we proceed further and further into the fjord.

We warm ourselves with an amazing lunch buffet, the zodiac ride was cold but nothing a bit of excellent food cannot change. During lunch we sail towards Denmark Island. The rocky island will be our landing site for this afternoon, we do need a bit of movement after all this sitting around. The island used to be covered by a glacier and it shows, large vaults run in between the outcrops and the stony ground shows lots of carvings. Amazing what a huge force must have been exerted on the island as the ice made her way.



The island proves to be a wonderful landing site; it has remains of the old Inuit culture, plants, and plenty of little lakes to walk to. From a bit of a height one can already have a magnificent view of the rugged mountain range across the fjord. A perfect way to end this wonderful day.



Day 4: 15th September 2022

Rode Ø and Rode Fjord

GPS position at 8 am: 70°27.7' N 028°08.5' W

Wind: Variable; Sea state: Calm; Weather: Clear; Air temperature: 4°C

In the early morning, we woke up early for a chance at seeing Narwhals in their natural environment. Sadly, the Narwhals have not been seen, but instead, we got a smashing sunrise as recompense, heaving its shiny globe out of the horizon perfectly in between the mountain ranges,



bathing the surrounding mountains in beautiful pastel colours ranging from pink to pale blue. After a subsequently lovely breakfast, we prepared ourselves for a split activity: landing on Rode Ø and a zodiac cruise between the vast icebergs, stranded in their graveyard. The icebergs could be seen beautifully from a viewing point on land, where people sat and just indulged in the sights, taking in incomprehensibly huge blocks of ice.

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The zodiac cruise allowed us to come much closer to these giants, observing them from different angles, in which they adopted different forms. Seals were swimming in the water, as we cruised in our tiny zodiacs between masses of solid water reaching over 30 meters in height, meaning that many hundreds of meters lay below the surface. It is hard for the mind to comprehend such a sight, and we could but gaze upwards and be amazed.

After this truly delightful morning and a lunch containing yet again too much food, we set off in Rode Fjord on our second zodiac cruise of the day in search of musk ox, which we haven't yet seen on this trip. We spotted some from the Hondius, and as we approached the shorelines, a group of them was waiting right by the water. They did not seem too alarmed, so we slowly made our way closer in a snake formation. On the way, we spotted an enormous iceberg, with an almost hollow entrance, containing but a small window through which light shone through, reminiscent of the cupola in Rome.



We came closer to the musk ox and could finally see their furry brilliance for ourselves. They were contently grazing away, in a relatively barren landscape, yet still colourful through the combination of dwarf birch, arctic willow and bearberries. We spent some time with the musk ox and continued our cruise along the shorelines.



Sadly, we found an abandoned musk ox calf, injured and laying by the beachside. This is however but another part of the natural process for many animals, and it will surely serve as subsistence for a family of polar bears or foxes, continuing their line that way.



In the evening, the game was on, as it was BBQ night! Lots of grilled food and free drinks were enjoyed on the outside of deck 5 amidst lovely weather and light, and once the food was consumed, the tables were moved, and the open area served as the dancefloor until midnight. Sweaty, full, tired, but extremely happy with the day's events, we finished the day, and were looking forward to what else awaited us in the continuing voyage.

To finish off, here is a limerick:

*We cruise through blocks of ice,
Rising high above us to the skies,
Suddenly the iceberg starts turning,
And ice blocks are hurling,
As we see our imminent demise.*

- *Mikhail Barabanov*

Day 5: 16th September 2022

Øfjord & Sydkap

GPS position at 8 am: 70°53.8' N, 027°10.6' W

Wind: E2; Sea state: Calm; Weather: Sunny; Air temperature: 4°C

This morning we sailed through the stunning Øfjord. This thousand-meter-deep fjord is around 5km wide and has steep mountains of up to 2000m high on both sides. On these cliffs, several glaciers are located. In the fjord, we saw many huge icebergs. A stunning place for a ships cruise! Many of us enjoyed the spectacular views from the outer decks, or otherwise from the bridge or lounge.

During the morning, Bjarni invited us to his lecture about the history of Greenland and the Thule people. It was interesting to hear more about the way these people managed to survive in this harsh climate. A little later Ben tried to convince us not to take part in the afternoon Polar plunge with a talk about the Greenland Shark, the 'Swimmer Killer' as he called it.

After another splendid lunch, we all headed out again at Sydkap. Both groups of kayakers had a great paddle in the water around Sydkap and the surrounding islands, where the others went ashore for various hikes. On shore we found several remains of 300–400-year-old Thule winter houses. With a little imagination, we could see the foundation of the houses with the entrance dug into the tundra.

During the hikes, we enjoyed the spectacular views of Hall Bredning, with massive icebergs everywhere. The long hike found some other, a bit more macabre, historical remains: an old grave where a human skull could even be seen in between the stones. Some of the other groups saw some muskoxen in the distance or groups of long-tailed ducks in the water.

When we made it back to the shore, it was time for a few crazy people to jump into the water to do the Polar Plunge. It turned out the water was not only wet, but also quite cold, but fortunately the showers onboard Hondius were nice and warm afterwards.



Back on the ship, Hans and the expedition team invited us to the lounge for the daily recap after which, we went for dinner. In the evening, George and Arjen taught the photographers a little about street photography, which might come in handy for our visit to Ittoqqortoormiit the next day.

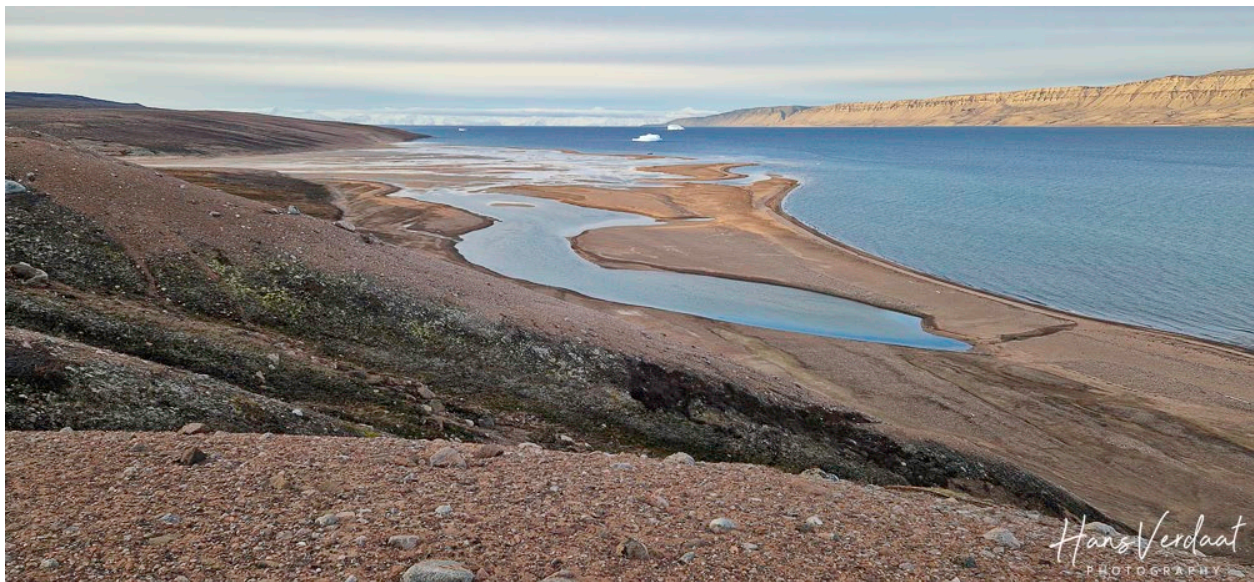


Day 6: 17th September 2022

Nøkkedale and Ittoqqortoormiit

GPS position at 6 am: 70°24.5'N, 022°35'W;
Wind: N3/4; Sea State: Slight; Weather: Overcast; Air temperature: -2 °C

Early morning, M/V Hondius sails into Hurry Inlet for yet another wonderful day of expeditions. Once we enjoyed our delightful breakfast with croissants and coffee, the long hikers landed at the site first. The moraine of the glacier forms an inviting landscape for this morning's hikes.



Arriving on the beach we had no idea that the beauty of Nøkkedale would take our breath away this morning. We see frosty tundra and small water pools covered in the first ice of this season. The sun sets higher in the sky and makes the colors of the flowers stand out. It is autumn and surprisingly enough we find the arctic cinquefoil still in bloom. In the valley of the inlet the cotton grass waves her flowers in the light breeze, an inviting subject for close-up photography.



Higher up on the mountain, the long hikers are fortunate enough to see a gyrfalcon fly by. The leisurely hikers wade through the outlet of the river while enjoying this gorgeous place and the medium hikers end up taking more pictures than hiking kilometers as the scenery is so inviting to capture.



We follow the river out of the valley towards the beach and slowly make our way back to the landing site. Meanwhile we share stories about this morning's discoveries.

Aboard the ship, we sit back and relax. Captain Remmert and his bridge team set sail for Ittoqqortoormiit, our afternoon destination. After lunch we visit one of the most isolated villages on earth, where we can roam around freely. We visit the museum with lots of Inuit culture, the church, and the tourist office. And most of all, just walking around Ittoqqortoormiit, seeing, looking, and processing these impressions of the local life is unique. Down at the river, the sledge dogs are being fed. Meanwhile, the food for the next days is already hanging at the pier: a freshly caught ringed seal.



A chilly windy afternoon ends back on the ship where we enjoyed a recap about today's adventures and tomorrow's plans. After dinner Meike talks about Greenland sledge dogs and why they are so special. Arjen and George end this day with their talk on the influence of photography in arctic history.

Day 7: 18th September 2022

Rømer fjord and Turner Island

GPS position at 8 am: 69°41.1'N 023°35.3'W

Wind: variable; Sea state: calm; Weather: overcast; Air temperature: 1°C

After sailing in open waters during the night, we woke up in the sheltered water of Rømer fjord, a fjord southwest of Turner Island. Out from the windows of the ship we could see steep cliffs in the red, brown, and black with a sprinkle of fresh snow in the upper regions and on the whole rather sparse vegetation. The fjord is named after Ole Rømer [1644–1710], a Danish physicist noted especially for the first measurement of the speed of light. This day we were quite lucky with wildlife sightings when we visited Rømer Fjord in the morning with the zodiacs. Belugas had already been spotted in the distance from the bridge earlier in the morning and our prospect for more wildlife seemed promising. After a little exploring along the beach in the zodiacs we could see remains of large marine mammals, probably beluga. We also saw a group of long tailed ducks in our fjord and soon after that we started to see the hot springs that Rømer Fjord is known for. It was quite fascinating to see how fast the vegetation changed close to the hot springs as conditions there were much more favourable to all kinds of flora compared to the surrounding fjord. A group of harp seals were also around, we could see their little heads peeking out of the water with the binoculars and the disturbance of the water was visible to the naked eye. Our guides always seemed to have their heads buried in the binoculars, pointing out to us the direction of the seals and other wildlife during this zodiac cruise.

Soon after that we spotted our first polar bear of the day, but it would not be our last one. We spotted another one, then two more swimming in the water, another one hiking up a hill and when we passed the corner, we saw three bears. It is hard to say how many polar bears there were in total as many of them were seen in the distance before disappearing behind a hill, and then perhaps reappeared later during our zodiac cruise, most likely there were 8 polar bears overall.



The polar bears gave us memorable moments. We observed two bears who were heading towards each other, and they got quite close without seeing the other as they were separated by a small cliff. When they finally saw each other peaking around the corner of the cliff they seemed both a bit startled and backed off a bit before heading in opposite directions. One of the swimming polar bears majestically crawled up on an iceberg, making him very photogenic, before gracefully sliding himself back into the water heading for shore.



The polar bear was not the only thing we saw on the iceberg, as we also found a lone walrus resting on an iceberg not too far from the polar bears. This area is not particularly known for walrus sightings which made this meeting a very pleasant surprise.



In the afternoon we had to change our original landing plans due to there being too many polar bears close to the hot springs in Rømer fjord to conduct safe landing operations. As an alternative we turned our attention to Turner sound, a narrow and shallow channel separating Turner Island on the northern Blosseville Kyst from the mainland assessable from Rømer fjord.

We landed on a small beachhead with steep cliffs to our front and Turner sound to our backs. It was a relatively short landing on a barren little piece of mostly empty beachhead surrounded first by gradual rocky hills, then steep untraversable cliffs.

The Hondius has motored past landscapes like this frequently during our voyage. So even though the landing area was not our primary choose, it seemed in retrospect only fitting to land there to get to know that empty, harsh and rocky environment that is so common in Greenland. When we landed a few of us went with Mikhail and Annelou for a hike to peek into the canyon above the landing area. Most of the passengers walked along the beachhead to a point where one could observe a walrus swimming in the water at some hundred meters. The walrus was regularly seen of the beach, the walrus seemed very curious about these human visitors to his remote corner of the world and sometimes came closer to have a look at our landing area and the zodiacs on the way back to the ship. Meanwhile on shore the humans took their time walking around the beach and the some of the surrounding rocky hills. With little to no wind, we were surrounded by the majestic Greenlandic landscape, dominated by steep basalt cliffs, there seemed to be an aura of serenity over the whole area. Many of us took the opportunity to sit down and enjoyed our peaceful last moments on Greenlandic soil before we would motor our way back in the direction of Iceland.



Day 8: 19th September 2022

A sea day + Grimsby Island

GPS position at 8 am: 67°08.5'N 019°19.5'W

Wind: variable 2; Sea state: Calm; Weather: Overcast; Air temperature: 5.0°C

Good morning everybody and welcome to our last day of this amazing trip. You may feel that the trip was already ending but we have had a full day of amazing moments. We woke up to a calm and tranquil sea. The Northern Fulmars and Gannets were gliding around the ship showing us how dynamic soaring works. Up and down over the waves with much ease showing off their moves right in front of our windows. After breakfast we all were invited to come and listen to the lectures of Bill and Marcel. They explained us how the ship the Hondius works behind the scenes and who it was named after. We have for over a week been on this ship and have been able to get to know her well, however, these lectures helped us to understand what is necessary to run an expedition ship like the Hondius.

After the lectures the moment finally came that we had to return our muck boots. It feels like this would have been the end of the trip with no more activities or landings but something spectacular was awaiting us in the afternoon. Before lunchtime Paolo invited us to the observation launch where we learned about an impossible journey. The story about a Greenlandic kayaker who washed up on the shores of Aberdeen (Scotland) in full hunting gear.

Just before lunch we passed by the island Grimsby. Here we were kindly reminded by George that we were passing over the Arctic Circle and that we were able to see the giant cement ball that he talked about the night before in RECAP. The ball that will fall of the island in a couple of dozen years due to the Arctic Circle that is moving north.

During lunch we were all excited about our arrival to the area of Grimsby Island. In this area various types of whales have been spotted together with large groups of dolphins. And yes, straight after lunch the messages started coming in about dolphins jumping

some distance in front of the ship. A large pod of long finned pilot whales was also spotted. This large pod of up to 20 individuals were a real sight to see.



In the afternoon we had a last lecture given by George and Jaap. They gave a lecture about sea ice and the world's newest ocean. Not much after they finished a humpback whale was spotted. This whale was still a little far away from us, but we slowly got closer. The whale was also seen by three whale watching boats that went towards it. After this we had a few more glimpse of the whale although not for much time because it would soon dive under again to avoid the smaller boats. The feeling of being far away in Greenland where we were able to enjoy 8 polar bears with nobody else around came back and felt again like an extremely special moment that is not easy to find any more on our world. We did however see another big group of dolphins jumping around relatively close to the ship in front of a reasonable large waterfall. A beautiful moment to end our whale watching hours and head back inside for the final daily recap but it was not the end. We also spotted another pod of dolphins swimming before entering the fjord of Akureyri together with a couple of minke whales that were swimming very close to the bow of the ship.

During the recap our Captain Remmert Jan Koster gave a toast to our very successful trip to Greenland. We also got shown the slideshow that was made by George. A beautiful way to show the many highlights that we have had during this trip. The expedition staff said their goodbyes and received an applause. For the final time, we were invited to the restaurant on deck 4 to have our last dinner on board.



Day 9: 20th September 2022

Akureyri

GPS position at 8 am: 66°06.3'N, 18°22.5' W

Only 9 days ago we all came together. We met, introduced ourselves, learned together, shared awesome experiences, and then shared the stories and pictures of those experiences. Quickly we were friends. We will always be friends, even if we soon will be distant friends. So soon we are parting.

How will we get our other friends back home to understand what it was like to be on this expedition? We can tell them about the fluking humpback whales, we can tell them about the huge number of polar bears we saw, we can tell them about the northern lights, we can tell them about the encounter with the narwal and beluga, and the hikes, and the walrus on the ice, and the beautiful landscapes – but they can never really know what we know. Our smiles may help them understand, but only our *Hondius* friends can really know what we know – that this was a beautiful, wonderful, magical adventure.

So, we all wished each other farewell, knowing that we may be moving on to the next chapter of our lives, but that this chapter will never be forgotten.

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: 1,124 nm
Northernmost position: 71°17.815'N, 024°56.72'W**

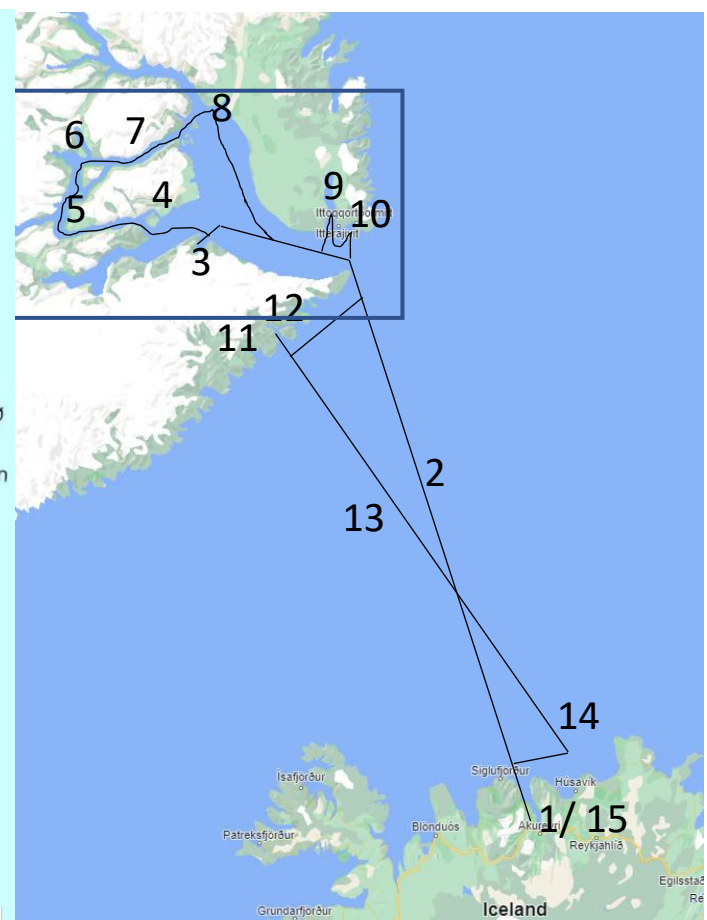
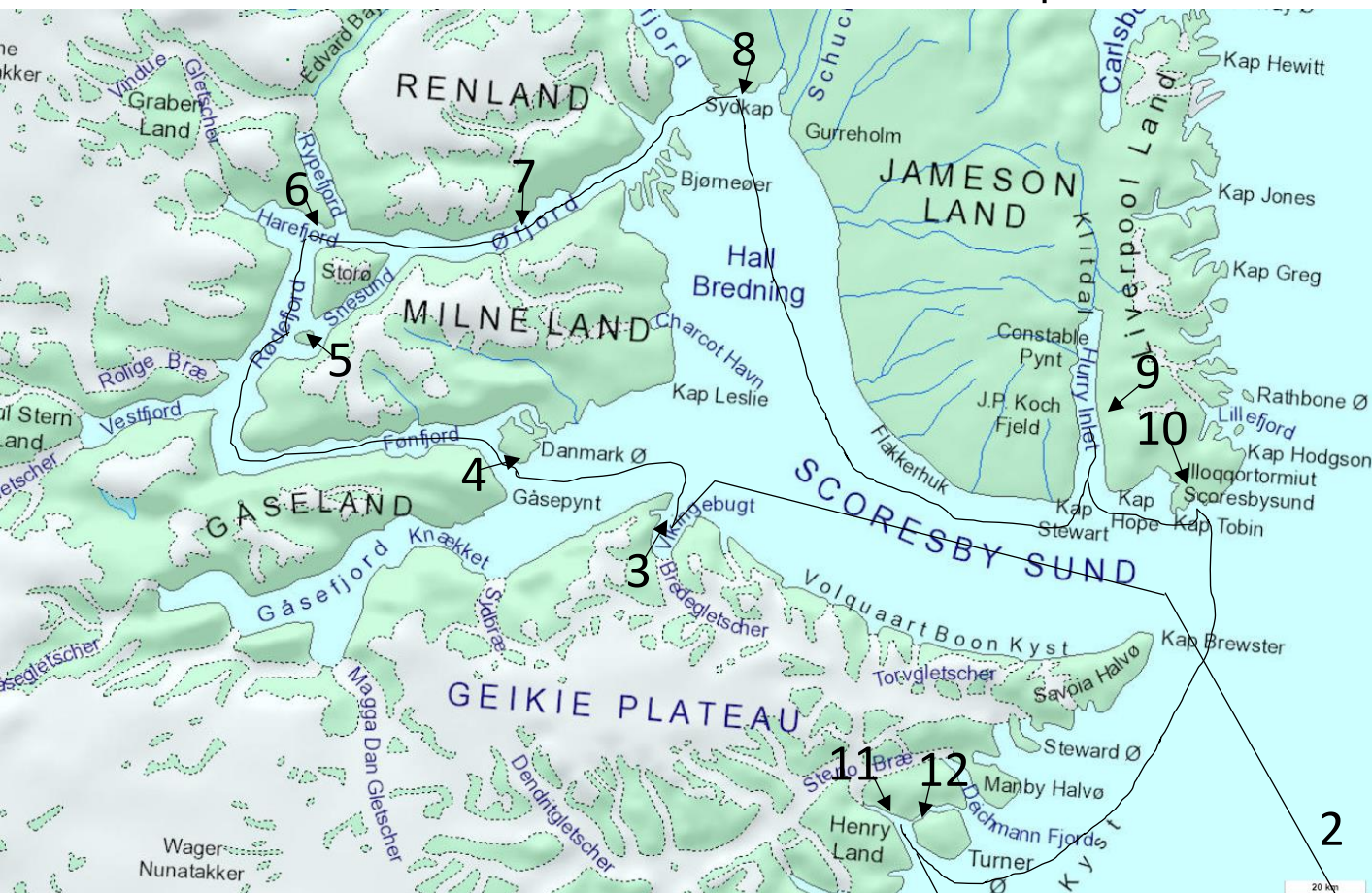
On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Remmert Jan Koster, Expedition Leader Hans Verdaat, Hotel Manager Michael Frauendorfer and all the crew and staff of M/V *Hondius*, it has been a pleasure travelling with you.

An Oceanwide Arctic Expedition – Scoresby Sund Greenland – Aurora Borealis

12 – 20 September 2022- On the ship, the Hondius

- 12 Sept – 1. Akureyri
- 13 Sept – 2. Sea day
- 14 Sept – AM 3. Vikingebukt – Zodiac Cruise – 4 Polar Bears
PM 4. Danmark Island Landing / Hiking
- 15 Sept – AM 5. Rode Island – Landing / Hiking + Zodiac Cruise
PM 6. Hare Fjord – Zodiac Cruise
- 16 Sept – AM 7. ØFjord – Ships Cruise
PM 8. SydKap – Landing / Hiking

- 17 Sept – AM 9. Hurry Fjord NØkkedal – Landing / Hiking
PM 10. Ittoqqortoormiit - Landing
- 18 Sept – AM 11. RØmer Fjord – Zodiac Cruise – 8 Polar Bears
PM 12. Turner Sund - Landing
- 19 Sept - 13. Sea day
PM 14. Grimsby Island – Whale Watching
- 20 Sept - 15. Akureyri



English Name	Latin	German	French	Dutch	Italian	12-sep	13-sep	14-sep	15-sep	16-sep	17-sep	18-sep	19-sep	20-sep
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Eissturmvogel	Petrel fulmar	Noordse stormvogel	Fulmaro	x	x	x	x	x		x	x	
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Kurzschnebelgans	Oie à bec court	Kleine rietgans	Oca Zampe Rosee						x			
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Eiderente	Eider commun	Eider eend	Edredone				x	x		x	x	
Gyrfalcon	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>	Gerfalke	Faucon Gerfaut	Giervalk	Girflaco						x			
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Eisente	Harelde boréal	Ilseend	Moretta Codona					x		x		
Rock Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus hyperboreus</i>	Alpenschneehuhn	Lagopède des Alpes	Sneeuw hoen	Pernice Artica						x			
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Meerstrandläufer	Bécasseau violet	Paarse strandloper	Piovanello Violetto								x	
Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Steinsmatzer	Traquet mottex	Tapuit	Culbianco			x			x			
Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	Spatelraubmöwe	Labbe pomarin	Middelste jager	Stercorario Mezzano				x		x			
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Eismöwe	Goéland bourgmestre	Grote Burgemeester	Gabbiano Glauco	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Gannet	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	Basstolpel	Fou de Bassan	Jan van Gent	Sula	x	x						x	
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	Dunkler Sturmtaucher	Puffin fuligineux	Grauwe Pijlstormvogel	Berta grigia								x	
Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Dreizehenmöwe	Mouette tridactyle	Drieteenmeeuw	Gabbiano Tridattilo	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	Elfenbeinmöwe	Mouette ivoire	Ivoor meeuw	Gabbiano Avorio			x						
Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	Trottellumme	Guillemot de Treol	Zeekoet	Uria Comune		x						x	
Brunnich's Guillemot	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Dickschnabellumme	Guillemot de Brunnich	Dikbekzeekoet	Uria di Brunnich		x							
Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Papageitaucher	Macareux moine	Papegaai duiker	Pulcinella di Mare		x						x	
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Schneeammer	Bruant des neiges	Sneeuwgorst	Zigolo delle Nevi			x	x	x	x	x		
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Bachstelze	Bergeronnette grise	Witte Kwikstaart	Ballerina bianca	x								
Raven	<i>Covus corax</i>	Kolkrabe	Grand Corbeau	Raaf	Corvo imperiale			x	x		x			
Arctic Redpoll	<i>Carduelis hornemanni</i>	Polarbirkenzeisig	Sizerin blanchatre	Witstuitbarnsijs	Organeltooo nordico									
Peregrin Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Wanderfalke	Faucon Pelerin	Slechtvalk	Falco pellegrino				x					
MAMMALS														
Common English Name	Latin	German	French	Dutch	Italiano	12-sep	13-sep	14-sep	15-sep	16-sep	17-sep	18-sep	19-sep	20-sep
Bearded seal	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>	Bartrobbe	Phoque barbu	Baardrob	Foca Barbata									
Ringed seal	<i>Phoca hispida</i>	Ringelrobbe	Phoque marbré	Ringelrob	Foca dagli Anelli				x			x		
Harp seal	<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>	Sattelrobbe	Phoque du Groenland	Zadelrob	Foca della Groenlandia							x		
Pilot whale													x	
Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Zwergwal	Petit rorqual	Dwergvinvis	Balenottera Acutorostrata								x	
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Buckelwal	Baleine à bosse	Bultrug	Megattera	x							x	
Narwhal	<i>Monodon monoceros</i>	Narwal	Narval	Narwal	Narvalo									
Northern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	Entenwal (Dögling)	Hyperoden arctique	Butskop	Iperodone boreale			x						
White-beaked Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	Weisschnauzendelphin	Lagenorhynque	Witsnuitdolfijn	Lagenorinco								x	
Polar Bear	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	Eisbär	Ours blanc	Ijsbeer	Orso Polare			x				x		
Arctic Fox	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>	Polarfuchs	Renard arctique	Poolvos	Volpe Artica							x		
Arctic Hare	<i>Lepus timidus</i>	Schneehase	lièvre arctique	Poolhas	Lepre Artica					x				
Muskox	<i>Ovibus moschatus</i>	Moschusochse	boeuf musqué	Muskusus	Bue Muschiato					x				
Walrus	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>											x		
Beluga	<i>Dephinapterus leucas</i>											x		

Latin	English
Armeria maritima	Sea pink/ trift
Chamaenerion latifolium	Arctic Riverbeauty
Empetrum nigrum	Mountain Crowberry
Equisetum arvense ssp. Alpestre	Common Horsetail
Honckenya peploides	Sea Sandwort
x Papaver radicum	Arctic Poppy
Pyrola grandiflora	Large-flowered Wintergreen
Salix glauca	Northern Willow
Sedum rosea	Roseroot.
Vaccinium myrtillus	Bilberry
Vaccinium uliginosum	Polar Bilberry
Vaccinium vitis-idaea	Rock Cranberry
Potentilla hyparctica	Arctic cinquefoil
Chamaenerion latifolium	Bread leaved Fireweed
Dryas octopetala	Mountain Avens
Betula nana	Dwarf Birch
Oxyria digyna	Mountain Sorrel
Polygonum viviparum	Alpine Bisort
Saxifraga aizoides	Yellow Marsh Saxifrage
Salix arctica	Arctic willow
Arctostaphylos alpine	Alpine bearberries
cassiope tetragona	Arctic bell heather
tofeldia pusilla	Scottish Asphodel
Campanula gieseckiana	Arctic Harebell
cerastium arctic alpinum	Arctic mouse ear
Euphrasia frigida	Arctic Eyebright
x viscaria alpina	Alpine catchfly
Huperzia arctica	Polar Fir Clubmoss
Saxifraga cespitosa	Tufted saxifrage
Dryopteris fragrans	Fern
Poa alpina	Alpine Meadow-grass
Puccinellia vahliana	Vahl's alkali grass
Empetrum nigrum	Crowberry

Hans Verdaat - Expedition Leader



His fascination for nature and traveling has been present all of his life. From a young age on he has been an active birder traveling across Europe. He studied Coastal Zone Management in The Netherlands and as part of that study lived half a year in Norway. In 2006 he moved to the Dutch island Texel where he has been working ever since as a field researcher for a marine research institute. In his research he specialises in seabirds and marine mammals.

Since 2004 he has participated in seabird and marine mammal surveys in the Caribbean, West-Africa, Antarctica, Spitsbergen and European waters. He has always been fascinated with the polar regions and has participated in several scientific expeditions both to the Arctic and Antarctic.

Since 1999 he started working as a (birding) guide. The last years he has combined his full-time research job with guiding. During expedition cruises he is a guide, lecturer and zodiac driver.

In his free time Hans is a keen nature photographer and as seabird- & mammal admin active on Waarneming.nl / Observation.org

Hans speaks: English, Dutch and German

Jaap van Rijckevorsel – Assistant Expedition Leader



From 1985 I have been growing up in and around the water. Over the years, the boats I sailed grew with me, from dinghies to racing yachts and expeditions sailboats.

During a sailing voyage to Antarctica in 2007 the high latitudes got hold of me, and I chose to finish my degree in Environmental Science with two field seasons of ecological research on Svalbard. Any 'spare' time would be spent guiding, ski-touring, kayaking, or reading about science, navigation or adventure. I currently live in Tromsø, the 'gateway to the Arctic', from where I pursue a PhD in Arctic Maritime

Operations whilst living close to the mountains, the city and the sea. Occasionally I'll warm up or dry out, competing in yacht races further South, the current highlight being a World Championship title with the Rotterdam-based team 'Van Uden'.

As an experienced guide and commercially licensed sailor, I have been skippering, guiding and crewing in all seasons on various expeditions, for clients ranging from professional underwater filmmakers to high-level yachting guests and polar explorers. I'm passionate to work in the high latitudes, with their fascinating mix of history, ever changing conditions and adventures-to-be-had. I believe that boats bring out the best in people, and I'm always aiming to create an inspiring and motivational atmosphere! Amongst other sea areas, my wake extends along the entire Norwegian coastline, Svalbard, the Northwest Passage, Alaska, the Southern- and the Central Arctic Oceans.

Marcel Paul – Assistant Expedition Leader



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

At his first arrival to Svalbard in 2011 and a second trip in 2013, he felt connected with the remoteness of the place and the dynamics of the polar nature. At that time the idea started to grow to become a polar guide and give up a job that is keeping him indoor most of the time.

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

From 2017 Marcel has been working as a polar guide in the Arctic followed by the Antarctic in 2018. He now spends about half the year working in both polar regions and the rest of the year is spent either at home in Holland or traveling.

Adam Burke – Kayak Leader



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.

Alexis Bellezze – Kayak Leader



Alexis Bellezze was born in San Luis, Argentina in 1973. He spent his childhood in the center of the country, in a rural area, then moved to the city of Mendoza close to the Central Andes and studied in the Army High School where he fell in love with the mountains and the outdoors. Then moved to Cordoba where he spent 3 years in the Air Force Academy. After that he moved to Italy where he worked and finished a paragliding course, then returned to Argentina to finish his studies as a Veterinarian. In 2006, he did a Residency in the ICU Service of the Large Animal Hospital of the Royal

“Dick” Veterinary College in Edinburgh, Scotland. In 2006 and 2008 he did an internship as a veterinarian surgeon at Milano, Italy. Then he moved to Villa La Angostura, an isolated village in the middle of the Patagonian Lake District where he works as a veterinarian surgeon and runs a kayak company in the Nahuel Huapi National Park.

Since 2018 he has been working as a Polar Kayak Guide and Expedition Guide. He has guided in the Antarctic Peninsula many times, reaching the Antarctic Polar Circle, Svalbard, circumnavigated Spitzbergen, East coast of Greenland and many rivers and lakes in Patagonia. During the last years he travelled the south and north of Chile and Argentina as a Wilderness First Responder instructor working in different environments like the jungle, the Patagonian mountain range, the windy Patagonian estepa and the desert of Atacama. Since 2014 Alexis is the owner and Director of endurance kayak & mountain expeditions based in Patagonia Argentina, offering multiple days kayak trips in this pristine area.

Alexis is divorced, has 3 children and lives in Patagonia Argentina. He likes to cook for them with fire in the wilderness and go camping when is possible.

He speaks fluently Spanish, Italian and English.

Annelou Hulsker – Expedition Guide



Annelou grew up in a seaside town in the Netherlands known for its navy base and fisheries. There she spent most of her time sailing, hiking, or looking for shiny rocks and shells on the beach. This is where her passion for the Earth began, which she decided to turn into her career.

Annelou specialized in Earth Sciences and graduated from Utrecht University. She specialized in physical geography, where her focus is on land-surface processes, natural hazards, geomorphology, climate reconstruction and climate changes and a minor in sustainability.

The connection between the academic and practical aspects of Earth Sciences, which involves a lot of fieldwork and is highly hands-on, is what she enjoys most. She loves to share her understanding of the Earth in general and the Arctic in particular. She also got a special interest in the history of whaling as it played a large role in her hometown's history.

She is overjoyed to be able to combine her passion for the Earth with traveling the seas by ship.

In her free time she still loves to collect shiny rocks. Most of the time she can be found on the water sailing somewhere in Europe with her family, hiking, or, when at home, bouldering and climbing.

Arjen Drost – Expedition Guide



When Arjen arrived in Spitsbergen for the first time in 1999 as a biology student, he fell in love with the Arctic. After three summers of research on Barnacle Geese in Ny Ålesund, Spitsbergen he started guiding in small expedition cruise ships for Oceanwide Expeditions. Here he loves to share his passion for the Polar Regions with others.

Arjen was born in the Netherlands and soon started watching birds. Many hours were spent finding and watching birds in the local neighbourhood and enjoying nature. His choice to start studying

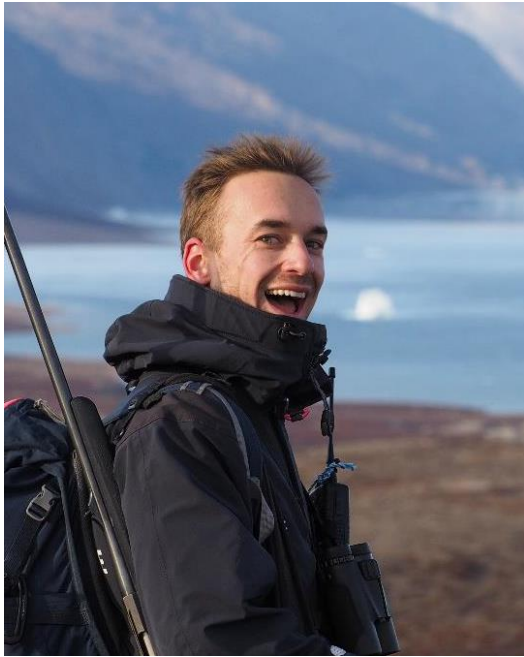
biology came to no surprise for anybody. During this study he specialized in ecology, especially the interaction between herbivores and plants.

For ten years Arjen has combined guiding in the Arctic with a full-time teacher job at a secondary school in the Netherlands, where he taught biology. Now he gave up his teaching job to become a fulltime expedition guide in both Polar Regions. In the past years his 'classroom' included Spitsbergen, Greenland, the Antarctic Peninsula, the Weddell and Ross Sea.

In his spare time Arjen is a keen nature and wildlife photographer, giving photo workshops and lectures and is co-author of several Dutch books on nature photography.

Arjen speaks English, Dutch and German.

Ben Frederiks - Expedition Guide



Discovering Spitsbergen in 2013 was like a dream coming true for Ben. During his studies in marine biology he conducted fieldwork which took him to the world's most Northern settlement: Ny-Ålesund. Here he fell in love with the Arctic Archipelago, and he has been returning to the Arctic ever since.

In the past, Ben worked on different scientific topics: Arctic shipping and the effect of oil spills in Arctic Regions. Ben is very interested in the Arctic biology/ecology and history, which makes Spitsbergen a perfect place for him to work, because it is filled with all

of it!

Since 2015 Ben works as a hydrographic surveyor on the North sea, but since his first visit to Spitsbergen he has caught the "Arctic virus" and is always looking forward to another adventure in the polar regions!

Bill Smith - Expedition Guide



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

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

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

Bill delights in producing humorous cartoon logs of each trip.

Bjarni Ólafsson - Expedition Guide



Bjarni was born in Reykjavík, Iceland a country with large amount of untouched wilderness, right on the doorstep of the Arctic. When he was a child he was always fascinated in subjects such as history and nature. Iceland being one of best places for nature and wilderness enthusiast he became very interested in hiking and exploring the highlands of Iceland. Every summer he makes sure to devote ample time to explore the solitude of the Iceland's remote regions.

In university, he chose to study history and is now close to completing a masters in medieval history at the university of Iceland. At university a lot of his focus was devoted to the history of Greenland, especially the Viking settlements on the west coast of Greenland. That later turned out to be a great starting point for exploring more history related to human habitation and expeditions in the Arctic.

He started to guide for Oceanwide Expeditions in 2017 on trips in his native Iceland. After that he moved on to also guiding in Greenland, North-Norway and Svalbard alongside his studies.

Cas Eikenaar - Expedition guide



Cas is a behavioural ecologist with a special interest in birds. He grew up in a small village in the Netherlands, and when six years old already knew that he wanted to become an ornithologist. After studying biology, he travelled the world for more than 20 years to research birds in their natural habitats. Some of these projects took him to the Seychelles, the Galapagos, Australia and the Ecuadorian Andes. He often spent months sharing small uninhabited islands with the enchanting animals and plants living there. Such experiences, he says, fuelled his deep fascination with nature.

Cas currently works at the Institute of Avian Research "Vogelwarte Helgoland" in Wilhelmshaven (Germany), where he studies the relationship between physiology and behaviour in migratory birds. Besides his professional connection to birds, he is an avid birder, sporting a pair of binoculars ever since he was a kid. Birds, however, are by no means the only organisms that draw his attention. Cas is simply deeply passionate about all the living world around us, and has a keen interest in (and eye for) all forms of wildlife.

Cas is Dutch by birth, but also speaks fluent English and German. He would love to share his passion for nature with everyone on board. In doing so, Cas would not only like to help you identify the birds and other animals, but also tell you about their behaviour, ecology and evolution. He is convinced that this will make you appreciate the wonderful nature you encounter during the expeditions with Oceanwide even more.

George Kennedy – Expedition Guide



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.

Júlia Baldursdóttir – Expedition Guide



Born in Iceland into a family of nature loving, tree hugging explorers, Júlia developed a love for the arctic nature and for travelling at a very young age. Age 15 she moved to Berlin where she studied linguistics and later psychology.

Initially a side job in 2013, tour guiding quickly grew into a passion for Júlia and soon became a full time job, both on land and on sea. In 2016 she enrolled in a Tour Guiding Program at the University of Iceland and became a nationally certified Tour Guide. For almost a decade, she has travelled in arctic

regions, especially in Greenland and in Iceland.

It is probably no surprise that when she is not on a vessel, Júlia spends most of her free time exploring the world on her own. In spite of (or, perhaps, because of) the months spent in the colder region of the world every year, when travelling for pleasure, Júlia is particularly drawn to the sunny Caribbean, though of course her other big passion, salsa dancing, doubtlessly plays a large role in that as well.

Koen Jongerling - Expedition Guide



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

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

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

Meike Sjoer - Expedition Guide



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.

Mikhail Barabanov – Expedition Guide



Born in St Petersburg, Russia, but raised in Luxemburg, Mikhail now lives in Switzerland, where he delights in camping all over the local mountainscape.

He spent quite some time in the academic world, obtaining master's degrees in Marine Mammal Science and in Ecology and Nature Conservation. After working for several field seasons as a scientist in distant places on marine mammals and birds, he was keen to pursue a way to combine his passion for travelling, outreach and the higher

latitudes.

His deep interest for the polar regions was formed on a visit to Antarctica with Oceanwide in 2018 as part of a university course. At the time, he was stunned by the pristineness and the vibrance of life found in the Southern Ocean and wanted to find a way to return in a professional capacity. As he prefers the world's colder regions, Oceanwide provided the opportunity to immerse himself in the polar world.

No stranger to adverse weather and difficult living conditions, Mikhail is always looking to find places and moments that exude true calm and serenity. As an avid photographer and videographer, he is always seen carrying his gear around from place to place, trying to improve his craft and capture wildlife in their natural behaviour.

Usually in high spirits, he works as a guide on a variety of expeditions, on which he can be found always ready to help and looking to increase his savoir-faire in all things ocean and wildlife.

Paolo Bellezze – Expedition Guide



Born in Argentina (Dec 80') and raised in a stereotypical Italian village by the sea. Paolo finally moved to Scotland where he settled in 2006.

He started sea kayaking in 2011, arguably in one of the best world-wide locations for it, Scotland. Here the scenery includes impressive sea cliffs, rock pillars, sea caves, basalt columns and an abundance of wildlife including whales, basking sharks, dolphins and the most iconic seabirds.

In 2021 he started working full time in expedition cruises, since then he has guided sea kayak expeditions in Antarctica (7), South Georgia (2), Greenland West coast (5) Greenland East coast (2), Iceland (4), Faroes Island (1) British Isles (2).

Before expedition cruises Paolo spent 12 years working shoreside in merchant shipping. He was a Product Manager for a Norwegian company developing Voyage Planning and Marine Weather Forecasting Systems.

In addition to Kayaking, Paolo's biggest passion has been paragliding. Starting at the age of 14 he has instructed both beginners and advanced courses for over 20 years. He went on to guide flying trips worldwide as well as competing at international level. In 2007 he won the British Acrobatic, and has ended up second and third in the Lithuanian and Argentine Nationals. In 2018, together with "Flight of the Swans" expedition, he received the "Britannia Trophy in London. This is a yearly award to civil aviation achievement by the Royal Aero Club in the UK.

Aside from sea kayaking and flying he likes learning new things and connecting with people. He also loves, hiking and moderate mountaineering, munro bagging, motorbikes, history, music, reading and everything polar.

Languages: English, Spanish, Italian.

Sebastián Villalta – Kayak Guide



Sebastián hails from Buenos Aires, Argentina. Since he was a child he travelled around the country with his family, and was then when he discovered that outdoors activities were his passions.

He graduated in tourism in 2007 and move to Patagonia, a place where he started to make his dreams come true.

With more than 10 years of experience as an active tourism guide; hiking, biking and especially kayaking have become not only a job but his way of life.

When he is not guiding, he is working in kayak school business he runs in Ushuaia.

Stefanie Liller - Expedition Guide



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

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

Tom van Hoof - Expedition Guide



Tom fell in love with the Arctic when he was attending a climatology masterclass as student at the University Centre of Svalbard in 2001.

During his PhD research at Utrecht University he organised and carried out several lake coring expeditions in the USA and Scandinavia. During his PhD Tom published a number of key scientific publications on the role of CO₂ on climate change during the past millennium.

After living a year in the desert of Tucson, Arizona (USA), where he was working as a Postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Arizona, Tom returned to the Arctic when he started working for the Dutch Geological Survey in 2005. As a biostratigrapher (fossil-lover) he returned to Spitsbergen for a number of expeditions, collecting rocks and guiding fellow geologists.

Tom's academic background in geology/ paleoclimatology is a broad one, ranging from climate change during the past 1000 years to ecology of coal forming swamp ecosystems 300 million years ago. He loves to be outside especially in the Arctic wilderness. In 2018 Tom left the Dutch Geological Survey and started his own geological consultancy business.

Zack Kruzins – Kayak Guide



Hailing from Canada, Zack has worked as an outdoor wilderness guide and experiential education instructor around the world. He holds double Honours Bachelor degrees in Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Tourism & Geography from Lakehead University. Zack has worked in the industry since 2004 and now manages his own Outdoor Adventure paddling business based along the Canadian north shore of Lake Superior near Thunder Bay Ontario. When he is not in Northwestern Ontario he finds himself drawn to the Polar Regions.

Zack has travelled extensively exploring the lands, rivers, lakes and oceans of this wonderful planet. He is an accomplished expedition paddler having led and conducted major sea kayak expeditions in Canada, USA, Baja Mexico, Argentine Patagonia, Antarctica, Australia, and French Polynesia. Many of these trips he has used his Trak folding sea kayak.

Zack is very passionate about water and its importance in our lives. He feels the more time one spends on, in or near water, the greater the connection becomes to the world around us. Along with being a highly experienced guide and seasoned mariner, Zack is a certified Polar Guide with the Polar Tourism Guides Association (PTGA) and Paddle Canada Sea Kayak Instructor. His enthusiasm and zest for life is contagious and he looks forward to sharing some of his knowledge and experiences with you!

Claudio D'Ambrosio – Ship's doctor



Claudio was born in a small farming village in Southern Italy and moved to Rome for his medical studies. He completed his medical degree in Rome, Italy where he also earned his postgraduate specialty in Internal Medicine. He later earned also post-graduate specialty in Respiratory Medicine, and completed a PhD Program in Immunology and Medical Microbiology. Claudio loved bench research in his Medical School years and was a Visiting Fellow at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD –USA for 4 years from 1998 to 2002. He also worked for brief

periods in Australia and Spain for research projects in Drug Allergy.

He worked almost his entire career in University and Hospital settings until 2013. A 2 month “once in a lifetime cruise ship Doctor contract” in September 2013 was the beginning a major turn into his life and career. Claudio has now found his passion working as Shipboard Physician worldwide in the cruise ship industry, sailing across North America, the Caribbean, Alaska, Asia, New Zealand, and the South Pacific.

In his free time Claudio enjoys outdoor activities such as hiking, kayaking and cycling. He is very fond of nature excursions with great interest in marine mammals, particularly in comparative anatomy and physiology of the respiratory system. The Arctic and Antarctica were always his bucket list, as Captain Ernest Shackleton was one of his favorite childhood heroes!



East Greenland Scoresby Sund - Aurora Borealis
Welcome aboard M/V Hondius!

12 September 2022
Day 1 – Embarkation, Akureyri

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

17:15+/-

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, and 701-714) will go to **MUSTER STATION B which is the Observation Lounge on Deck 5**.

18:30 +/-

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.

19:30

Buffet dinner in the Restaurant on Deck 4.



East Greenland and Scoresbysund

13 September - Day 2 – At sea towards Greenland
Sunrise 06:26 – Sunset 19:45

**Please take care when moving around the ship and
listen to announcements**

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 07:45 | Wake-up call |
| 08:00 – 09:00 | Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant on deck 4. |
| 09:15 | Mandatory safety briefings and introduction to the voyage in the Observation Lounge on Deck 5. Also, your expedition team will introduce themselves. |
| | <u>All guests must attend the safety briefings</u> |
| 11:00 | 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! |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | Buffet lunch in the Restaurant on Deck 4. |
| 14:00 | Mandatory kayak briefings, these will take place in the lecture room. |
| 14:00 | For the non-kayakers Hans will give an introduction to wildlife watching from the ship. |
| 16:00 | Photography lecture in the lounge. Our on-board photography guides will give you their first lecture on polar photography. |
| 18:00 | Daily Recap in the Observation Lounge. Also, the captain will welcome you onboard with a Captain's cocktail. |
| 19:00 | Dinner in the Restaurant on Deck 4. |



East Greenland and Scoresbysund

14 September - Day 3 – At sea towards Greenland
Sunrise 06:34 – Sunset 20:09

Please listen to announcements for updates and timings

06:30	Wake-up call
07:00 – 08:00	Breakfast buffet in the restaurant on deck 4.
08:00	Trak kayakers will be boarding the zodiacs at deck 3, forward shell door.
08:15	We will call the passengers from deck 3 to board the zodiacs for a zodiac cruise in Vikingbugt
08:30	We will call the passengers from decks 4, 6 and 7 to board the zodiacs for a zodiac cruise in Vikingbugt
08:45	All the kayakers who are with Alexis will be called to board the zodiacs for their first kayak adventure
12:30 – 13:30	Buffet lunch in the restaurant on deck 4.
14:30	We will call the people who will do a long hike on Danmark island to board the zodiac at deck 3
14:45	We will call decks 5, 6 and 7 to board the zodiacs at deck 3 for a landing at Danmark island. On land we will have options for a medium and a smaller hike.
15:00	We will call deck 3 to board the zodiacs at deck 3 for a landing at Danmark island. On land we will have options for a medium and a smaller hike.
18:15	Daily recap in the observation lounge.
19:00	Dinner in the restaurant on deck 4.
21:00	Photo workshop in the lecture room



East Greenland and Scoresbysund

16 September - *Day 5*
Sunrise 06:43 – Sunset 19:59

Please listen to announcements for updates and timings

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|---------------|--|
| 06:40 | Sunrise wildlife watching on deck 8 |
| 07:00 | Wake-up call |
| 08:00 – 09:00 | Breakfast buffet in the restaurant on deck 4. |
| 12:30 – 13:30 | Buffet lunch in the restaurant on deck 4. |
| 08:30 | Trak kayakers will be boarding the zodiacs at deck 3, forward shell door. |
| 08:40 | We will call the passengers from deck 4, 6 and 7 to board the zodiacs for a landing at Rode Island. |
| 08:50 | We will call the passengers from deck 3 to board the zodiacs for a zodiac cruise in Rode Fjord. |
| | <u>Halfway during the morning we will swap the groups so all get the same experience.</u> |
| 09:00 | All the kayakers who are with Alexis will be called to board the zodiacs for their second kayak adventure, this time in Rode Fjord |
| 14:00 | Lecture in the lounge by Tom on the Geology of Greenland |
| 15:30 +/- | Afternoon activity, we will keep you updated on this. |

- 18:30 Daily recap in the observation lounge.
- 19:30 Dinner in the restaurant on deck 4.
- 21:30 Jean-Baptiste Charcot: sa vie, sa personnalité
Small lecture in the French language by our guest
Bernard Dor.



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

East Greenland and Scoresbysund

16 September - Day 5
Sunrise 06:43 – Sunset 19:59

On our way to our afternoon destination, we will be sailing with the ship through one of the most scenic fjords of Greenland, **Øfjord**. Keep your eyes open for the landscape outside and possible wildlife.

07:45	Wake-up call
08:00 – 09:00	Breakfast buffet in the restaurant on deck 4.
09:30	Bjarni invites you to the lounge for his lecture on Thule people and the history of Greenland.
11:00	All about the swimmer killer, please join Ben in the lounge if you want to know more about this.
12:00 – 13:00	Buffet lunch in the restaurant on deck 4.
13:00	Trak kayakers will be boarding the zodiacs at deck 3, forward shell door.
13:15	We will ask the long hikers to board the zodiacs for their hike at Sydcap
13:30	We will call the passengers from deck 4, 6 and 7 to board the zodiacs for a landing at Sydcap. On land we will split the groups for the various walks.
13:45	We will call the passengers from deck 3 to board the zodiacs for a landing at Sydcap. On land we will split the groups for the various walks.
14:00	All the kayakers who are with Alexis will be called to board the zodiacs.
17:00	Polar plunge, this will be also possible for long hikers and all kayakers
18:15	Daily recap in the observation lounge.
19:00	Dinner in the restaurant on deck 4.
21:00	Short photography workshop in the lecture room.
21:30	Jean-Baptiste Charcot: sa vie, sa personnalité. Small lecture in French by our guest Bernard Dor in the lecture room.



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

East Greenland and Scoresbysund

17 September - Day 6
Sunrise 06:47 – Sunset 19:55

07:00	Wake-up call
07:30 – 08:30	Breakfast buffet in the restaurant on deck 4.
08:30	Trak kayakers will be boarding the zodiacs at deck 3, forward shell door.
08:40	We will ask the long hikers to board the zodiacs for their hike at Nokedal
08:50	We will call the passengers from deck 3 to board the zodiacs for a landing at Nokedal. On land we will split the groups for the various walks.
09:00	We will call the passengers from decks 4, 6 and 7 to board the zodiacs for a landing at Nokedal. On land we will split the groups for the various walks.
09:10	All the kayakers who are with Alexis will be called to board the zodiacs.
12:30 – 13:30	Buffet lunch in the restaurant on deck 4.
14:00	We will call the passengers from decks 4, 6 and 7 to board the zodiacs for their visit to Ittoqqortoormiit
14:15	We will call the passengers from deck 3 to board the zodiacs for their visit to Ittoqqortoormiit
18:15	Daily recap in the observation lounge.
19:00	Dinner in the restaurant on deck 4.
21:00	Join Meike in the lecture room for her talk on Arctic dogs
21:30	Short photography workshop in the lecture room.



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

East Greenland and Scoresbysund

18 September - Day 7
Sunrise 06:51 – Sunset 19:50

During the morning we will be entering the Romer fjord. We will keep our eyes open for wildlife.

07:45	Wake-up call
08:00 – 09:00	Breakfast buffet in the restaurant on deck 4.
09:00	The kayakers who will be going for an extended paddle will be called to board the zodiacs at deck 3.
09:10	We will call the passengers from deck 3 to board the zodiacs for a zodiac cruise in Romer fjord.
09:15	We will call the passengers from deck 4, 6 and 7 to board the zodiacs for a zodiac cruise in Romer fjord.
09:20	All the kayakers who are with Alexis will be called to board the zodiacs
12:30 – 13:30	Buffet lunch in the restaurant on deck 4.
14:00 +/-	We will call the passengers from decks 4, 6 and 7 to board the zodiacs for our last outing of this trip. Local conditions will determine the final plans for the afternoon.
14:15 +/-	We will call the passengers from deck 3 to board the zodiacs for our last outing of this trip. Local conditions will determine the final plans for the afternoon.
14:30 +/-	All the kayakers who are with Alexis will be called to board the zodiacs.
18:15	Daily recap in the observation lounge.
19:00	Dinner in the restaurant on deck 4.
21:00	Short photography workshop in the lecture room.
21:20	Bill will talk about paintings of the sea in the lecture room.



East Greenland and Scoresbysund

19 September - Day 8
Sunrise 06:55 – Sunset 19:25

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| 07:45 | Wake-up call |
| 08:00 – 09:00 | Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant on deck 4. |
| 09:30 | Marcel and Bill will give a lecture in the lounge about Hondius. Where does the name come from and what happens behind the scenes on the ship. |
| 10:30 | We will call you deck by deck to return your muckboots, please make sure they are clean. Also we will call the kayakers to return their gear. |
| 11:15 | Paolo will talk in the lounge about the impossible journey. A Greenland kayaker who washed up at the shores of Aberdeen in full hunting gear. |
| 12:30 - 13:30 | Buffet lunch in the restaurant on deck 4 |
| 14:00 | Lecture by George en Jaap on sea ice and the worlds newest ocean. |
| 15:30 +/- | Whale watching time, no guerentees but the ship will take a de-tour to sail past Grimsby island, a known place where various species of whales are spotted. |
| 18:00 | Final recap in the observation Lounge, captains cocktail en farewell. |
| 19:00 | Dinner in the Restaurant on deck 4. |



East Greenland and Scoresbysund

20 September 2022 – Day 9
Sunrise 06:48 – Sunset 19:21

- 07:00 Wake-up call.
- 07:30 Please leave your large luggage in the corridor outside your room for the staff to collect. The expedition team will bring it ashore for you.
- Please leave your hand luggage in your room when you go for breakfast.
- 07:30 Your last breakfast buffet for this trip is served in the restaurant on deck 4.
- 09:00 Please be ready for disembarkation but wait in the lounge instead of the halls and stairs. Listen for announcements before approaching the gangway.

Please do not forget to take your hand luggage with you!

When off the ship please identify your luggage and take it with you to the bus you are traveling with. If you have other arrangements, please also take your luggage with you.

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.

Oceanwide team, 12 to 20 September 2022