



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## Antarctica - Discovery & learning voyage

4<sup>th</sup> December – 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022

M/V Hondius



# Captain Artur Iakovlev

and his international crew

Chief Officer: **Matei Mocanu**

Staff Officer: **Miia Johanna Holma**

2nd Officer: **Kirill Buriachek**

3rd Officer: **Don Buren**

Chief Engineer: **Sebastian Alexandru**

Hotel Manager: **William Barnes**

Assist. Hotel Manager: **Andrius Juodvirsis**

Head Chef: **Ralf Barthel**

Ship's Doctor: **Emma Röttger**

Expedition Leader: **Pippa Low**

Assist. Expedition Leader: **George Kennedy**

Assist. Expedition Leader: **Chloé Maréchal**

Expedition Guide: **Andrew Crowder**

Expedition Guide: **Charlotte Taplin**

Expedition Guide: **Elodie Bouvier**

Expedition Guide: **Hong Li (Rose)**

Expedition Guide: **Hazel Pittwood**

Expedition Guide: **Joshua Peck**

Expedition Guide: **Martin Anstee**

Expedition Guide: **Mikhail Barabanov**

Expedition Guide: **Paolo Bellezze**

Expedition Guide: **Ross Wheeler**

Expedition Guide: **Simon Davies**

Camping Guide: **Annelou Hulsker**

Camping Guide: **Gonzalo Sabattini**

Kayaking Guide: **Alexis Bellezze**

Kayaking Guide: **Nicholas Cunliffe**

# Day 1 – Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## Embarkation – Ushuaia, Argentina

**Wind:** W4, **Sea State:** Port, **Weather:** Clear, **Air Temp:** +10°C, **Sea Temp:** +10°C

Ushuaia is the southernmost city of South America and known as “el fin del mundo,” the “end of the world” – today we know that there lies another world beyond that rough ocean to the south known as the Drake Passage. The destination of our voyage is a world unlike any other place we have seen before: Antarctica.

On embarkation, our luck already began as it was clear and sunny while we are embarking our home for the next 10 days, the Dutch Expedition Ship *Hondius*. We all are excited about the adventure lying ahead of us. Once we are all aboard and settled into our cabins, we watch how the ship slowly leaves the dock and heads out into the Beagle Channel, leaving the stunning panorama of Patagonia behind us.



The evening programme consists of the mandatory safety drill by Chief Officer Matei, including the abandon ship drill which is followed by a warm welcome by Captain Artur accompanied by fizzy drinks and delicious canapés. Hotel Manager Will gives us a brief introduction to the ship and Expedition Leader Pippa presents the sailing plan and the international team of expedition guides.

We spend the rest of the evening cruising down the Beagle Channel. We will spend the coming two days at sea on the Drake Passage where we will come across many seabirds and maybe even whales that accompany the ship on our way south.

## Day 2 – Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### At sea on the Drake Passage

**12:00 GPS Position:** 57°14.1' S / 065°15.7' W

**Wind:** SW7, **Sea State:** Moderate, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** +6°C, **Sea Temp:** +6.5°C

We awoke after our first night aboard ship to the surrounds of the Drake Passage; despite some 'slight' rocking and rolling which kept a few folks in their beds it proved to be a very pleasant day at sea as we cruised south. Briefings and planning were deliberately kept to a minimum to allow everyone to find their sea-legs in anticipation of a calmer sea-day tomorrow, those unaffected by the dreaded mal-de-mare were treated to a selection of lectures and talks on the birds and cetaceans that we would hopefully soon be seeing for real.

Just after before lunch, Ross gave an interesting lecture about birds in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean, specifically about the birds we might encounter on this voyage. After lunch Annelou made an fascinating comparison between Antarctica and Mars & Outer space during her lecture.

The intrepid souls that could and did peruse the sea from the outer decks were, as ever, treated to a fine array of birds following in the wake of the ship; we started out with **Southern Royal, Black-browed and Grey-headed Albatrosses, Sooty Shearwaters, White-chinned Petrels and Wilson's Petrels** – amongst which at least one **Fuegian Storm Petrel** was picked out (for anyone studying taxonomy, a potential split from the common Wilson's down around the peninsula).



*Antarctic Prion*

As we headed further south the composition of our avian attendants slightly changed with **Blue Petrels, Slender-billed and Antarctic Prions and Cape Petrels** becoming regular, but it was not until the evening that the first **Wandering Albatross** and **Black-bellied Storm Petrels** appeared, heralding the changing conditions as we crept ever closer to the Antarctic convergence.



*Wandering Albatross*

# Day 3 – Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## At sea in the Drake Passage

**12:00 GPS Position:** 61°34.6' S / 063°31.9' W

**Wind:** WS5, **Sea State:** Slight, **Weather:** Cloudy, **Air Temp:** +3°C, **Sea Temp:** +1.8°C

We awoke to calm seas, clear horizons and a beautiful blue sky as we continued to head South across the Drake Passage. To kick start our day on the 'Drake Lake', we were very lucky to have multiple sightings of whales, including both **humpback** and **fin whales** that were seen on both sides of Hondius; we were also accompanied on our journey by many types of seabirds, including **albatross**, **petrels** and **prions**.

Following breakfast, we undertook the mandatory IAATO and zodiac briefing that was provided to all guests onboard. This outlined all the regulations that needed to be followed during the expedition as well as practices for boarding the zodiacs. Following on shortly from these briefings, expedition guide Josh provided an inciteful lecture titled 'Race to the Pole'. This introductory lecture explored Roald Amundsen and Robert Falcon Scott's race to reach the South Pole in 1911.



*Southern Fulmar*

After a buffet lunch, we were once again preparing for our expedition to the Antarctic Peninsula as we completed the mandatory biosecurity checks of our outer clothing, backpacks, muck boots and tripods / walking sticks. After a thorough clean of these items all guests were finally signed off as completed after approximately two hours. As a reward for these efforts, ice cream was offered in the lounge before expedition guide Hazel introduced 'The Seals of the South' to inform us about the pinnipeds of Antarctica which we may encounter during our voyage. With views of the South Shetlands Islands coming into view, the day ended with a relaxing three course dinner accompanied by several beautiful views of humpback whales surfacing down the starboard side of Hondius.



*© Ross Wheeler*

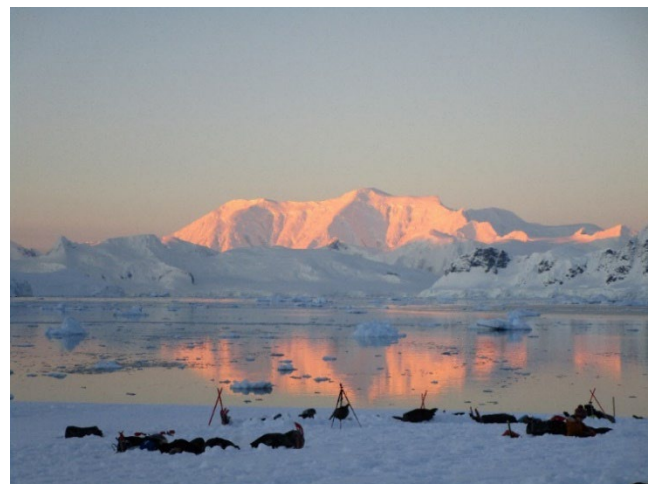
# Day 4 – Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## Cuverville & Anvord Bay

12:00 GPS Position: 64°40.2' S / 062°37.7' W

Wind: SE3, Sea State: Ice 4/10, Weather: Clear, Air Temp: +1°C, Sea Temp : 3°C

After two long sea days, here comes our first expedition day! The staff got up nice and early to head towards Cuverville Island to set up the site, as the weather was simply stunning. Blue sunshine and quiet waters greeted our arrival, and everybody got ready for disembarkation. The zodiac cruise around the island, close to some big icebergs was incredible, with views of **Weddell seals**, vast amounts of **Gentoo Penguins**, **Skuas** and **Antarctic Shags**. On land, people had to give way to the gentoo penguins waddling every which way, curious about our belongings, curious about us. The penguins were breeding, and some skuas were fortunate enough to scavenge an egg here and there. Much penguin mating was seen. Everyone could simply indulge in the joy of observing the penguins continue their life unabated. The kayakers went for a lovely paddle, and the weather continued to be gentle throughout the day. As far as first expeditions go, it was truly a fortunate one. The sunburns were richly distributed, the smiles many, the want to stay ubiquitous. However, we had to move on, so we returned to the ship, wanting to see more.



After a delightful and rich lunch prepared by our head chef Ralph and his team, we went on our way towards Neko Harbour. However, the ice unfortunately blocked our path, making it impossible to reach in time for an activity. Therefore, we deviated the plan and went for a full ship zodiac cruise in Anvord Bay. The zodiacs were widely scattered, and everyone had their own little adventure. Some people saw two resting **Humpbacks**, others found a lovely **Weddell seal** on the ice floe, the ice all around gathered and we pushed our way through, the first taste of true sea ice. The weather continued to give, people now wore sunscreen, and despite not terribly many wildlife sightings, everyone just enjoyed the feeling of gently cruising through brash ice, listening to the crunch of solid water underneath our zodiac.

After two hours and a half of cruising, we then returned to the ship, tired, hungry, but incredibly happy for having had the privilege of such a spectacular first day.

After dinner, most people went to have drinks and relax, but for a brave few who put on their gear and went on land for their camping adventure, ready to endure the cold Antarctic night, amidst singing **Weddell seals** while the sky coloured itself in all available pastel hues, soft reds, sunburst oranges, lovely pastel blues, truly a landscape of Wes Anderson's favourite colours. What a day, what a way to end. Almost impossible to go to sleep, the mind just wanders, and the feeling of wanting to continue being in this place, in this light, in this moment, made everyone stay on at the price of sleep.



*The colours of red, yellow and blue,  
Soft and tender, all kinds of hue,  
The sky was burning,  
And the ship was churning,  
In this place accessible to few.*

# Day 5 – Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## Brown Station & Damoy Point

**12:00 GPS Position:** 64°53.8' S / 062°52.6' W

**Wind:** W5, **Sea State:** Ice 4/10, **Weather:** Clear, **Air Temp:** -2°C, **Sea Temp:** +3°C

Another beautiful, calm start to the day for us all as Paradise Bay really lived up to its name. Some of us had spent the night camped out under the stars, witnessing the beauty of Antarctica from the shore. A truly unique experience.



The camping spot was situated just opposite the Argentine Scientific base, Almirante Brown, which would be the main landing site for the morning's activities. The station, first built in 1951, is currently unoccupied so we were able to enjoy the morning ashore and weave in and out the buildings up to some spectacular viewpoints over the bay. Whilst many of us were enjoying time ashore amongst the **Gentoo penguins**, others were zodiac cruising amongst the large amounts of ice in the bay. A brief sighting of **Humpback whales** for some of us was the highlight of the morning, while others of us enjoyed the nesting **Antarctic Shags** under the cliffs next to Brown station and a couple of **Leopard seals** who had hauled out on the floating ice. One of the **Weddell seals** even treated a few of us to a song as it sung while atop the ice.

After a brilliant morning amongst the ice and the wildlife of Brown station, with the Antarctic sun beaming down upon us, we made our way towards Wienke Island and our afternoon landing spot of Damoy Point. Situated in the relative shelter of Dorian Bay, Damoy Point is home to the historic British Antarctic Survey (BAS) Damoy hut. It was used between 1975 and 1993 as a 'waiting lounge' for BAS staff heading further south to Rothera Research Station when sea ice prevented access by ship.

With a colder breeze in the air, some of us made it first to shore for an explore of the Damoy Hut and the surrounding wildlife. Many **Gentoo**s nest around the point, and evidence of their eggs could be seen littering the snow, with many of them still unable to build nests properly due to the amount of snowfall on the ground. The hut was open for us all to take shelter in and enjoy the preserved artifacts within, although with the snow-shoes on many of us decided a look in the door perhaps worked better than taking the shoes on and off.



A hot chocolate was a welcome surprise for everybody, as the Hotel team took to the water and distributed mugs to everyone to enjoy a warm drink on their zodiacs. The zodiac cruise, while slightly colder than the morning, was still full of wildlife for us all to enjoy.



The zodiac offers a different perspective to view the animals and scenery, and we got some great viewings of the penguins coming and going from the shore. A few seals, Weddell and Leopard, were again spotted in the afternoon, with one **Leopard seal** curiously investigating a zodiac from below and giving those of us in the zodiac some unforgettable memories.



With the temperature dropping and the wind increasing, it was nice to get back onboard and warm up. After the usual evening recap, we settled down to another great dinner and reflected upon the day's great experiences.

# Day 6 – Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## Lemaire- Petermann- Port Charcot

12:00 GPS Position: 65°10'S / 064°07'W

Wind: S2, Sea State: Calm, Weather: Sunny, Air Temp: 4°C, Sea Temp: 2°C

We awoke this morning to find ourselves in The Lemaire Channel and a dusting of snow over the decks. It was still snowing but the views were still spectacular as we cruised through the channel. A great start to what was to be an excellent day. At 06:40 we cleared the channel and then made for Petermann Island whilst enjoying another good breakfast.



We arrived at Petermann Island just after breakfast, the snow was falling as the first of us landed. The expedition team had cleared the way from the landing area past a penguin highway and routes to two spectacular views. We were treated to views of passing **Gentoo penguins** as we fastened our snowshoes for the hike up the hill to a pass overlooking the French Passage. Walking in the other direction we were privileged to see **Adelie Penguins** as well as Gentoo's. The visibility improved over the next hour, the sun began to shine, the light changed constantly and soon we were enjoying a blue sky and warm temperatures. The visit to Petermann Island included a zodiac cruise through the Panola Strait, the ice formations were spectacular, and we were treated to views of nesting **Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shags** which already had chicks.

We returned to the ship for lunch, as we ate the ship was repositioned in the Port Charcot area. This was to be our playground for the afternoon, due to the amount of ice it was decided to enjoy the utterly spectacular scenery with a zodiac cruise for all. For the next three hours our senses were bombarded with natural wonder after natural wonder, the icebergs, the mountainous backdrop with fantastic cloud formations around them and of course the wildlife. We were amazed by the colours in the ice and the structures that years of natural forces had formed, no human could ever reproduce the beautiful sculptures that we were viewing. We watched feeding **Gentoo Penguins, Chinstrap Penguins** hanging out on the ice, **Crabeater** and **Weddel Seals** and some were lucky enough to see **Humpback** and **Minke whales** and even **Killer whales**. It was yet another wonderful experience under clear blue skies.

Then, for some, the fun of the Polar Plunge began. Around 50 hardy souls decided that they would brave the elements and immerse themselves in the rather chilly Southern Ocean. Some enjoyed the experience, and some endured it, but all agree that it was well worth the effort.

So while some warmed up back on the ship, we were all excited to hear that the BBQ's had been lit and the drink was flowing. It was a perfect evening to eat out on deck with friends new and old, to enjoy great food cooked on the BBQ, to celebrate birthdays and all whilst navigating the spectacular Lemaire Channel. A perfect end to a perfect day!





## Day 7 – Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### Port Lockroy (Goudier Island) & Jougla

12:00 GPS Position: 64°49.7' S / 63°30.4' W

Wind: Variable 1 Sea State: Calm (Ice 2/10) Weather: Sunny

Air Temp: +5°C Sea Temp: +3°C

We could not believe our luck this morning when we awoke, once again, to the most glorious sunshine and calm waters. Our activities in Port Lockroy Bay were split into three: visiting the famous 'Penguin Post Office' on Goudier Island, going ashore at Jougla Island and a zodiac cruise around the bay. Before our adventures outdoors could get started, we went to breakfast followed by attending a short talk by staff from the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust (UKAHT). Our expedition team readied the zodiacs whilst we listened to the staff give us information about the historical interest of the area, UKAHT's work to preserve the buildings and how we should conduct ourselves during our visit. Then we were ready to go!



The first group of guests went to the Post Office and museum, sending their postcards, buying souvenirs and getting their passports stamped. Meanwhile, the second group went ashore at Jougla to enjoy a walk around the **Gentoo penguin** colony, taking care to avoid their highways as they waddled to and from their rock pile nests to the water. **Antarctic shags (aka Blue-eyed shag)** were also here, using seaweed they had gathered to build their nests. The third group went on a zodiac cruise around the bay to look for wildlife with the dramatic 'Seven Sisters' mountain peaks as a backdrop. We were treated to magnificent views of three **Weddell seals** hauled out at separate locations resting in the sunshine, **Chinstrap penguins** and **Adélie penguins** preening themselves on the rocks and flotillas of Gentoo penguins swimming around the zodiacs. Everyone rotated through the three activities and enjoyed a wonderful morning before going back on board for a Burger buffet lunch.

In the afternoon we ship cruised along the Gerlache Strait, named after Belgian Naval Officer Adrien de Gerlache who led his home country's Antarctic expedition from 1897-1899. The Antarctic small-type B eco-type of **Killer whale (Orca)** are also known as the Gerlache eco-type due to the fact they are commonly encountered in this strait, and we were lucky enough to see a large pod travelling in the opposite direction to us! Although they were quite distant, everyone was thrilled to have seen these impressive animals. Throughout the rest of the afternoon numerous **Antarctic minke whales** and **Humpback whales** were seen from the bow whilst we sipped hot chocolate with rum and whipped cream, kindly served by the hotel department.

The scheduled activities of the day ended with the daily recap from Expedition Leader Pippa and the rest of the Expedition Team. This included Pippa telling us the plans for tomorrow, Charlotte helping us to identify the Antarctic Killer whale (orca) eco-types and Chloé regarding Adrien de Gerlache. 'Peter the Penguin' also made another appearance, thanking staff for their work during the cruise. After dinner some of us relaxed in our cabins whilst others played card games and shared drink and happy chatter in the bar. A beautiful sunset at sea was the perfect end to our final day in Antarctica.



# Day 8 – Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2022

## At sea on the Drake Passage towards Ushuaia

08:00 GPS Position: 61°19' 35S / 063°56' 4 W

Wind: SW1, Sea State: Slight, Weather: Overcast, Air Temp: 0°C Sea Temp: +3°C

Today we had the chance to 'lie in' after a very busy, incredible few days. It was so action packed with wildlife we were all on such a high we needed time to wind down from the excitement! Breakfast was absolutely delicious, bacon, hash browns and eggs, not that we needed more food, but we are on holiday so why not! We sipped our coffees in the lounge as we watched blow after blow from **Humpback, Fin, Minke** and **Beaked Whales** constantly throughout the day! It really felt like whale paradise.



Chloe gave a fascinating talk on the life of plankton, it shows it's not all about whales and seals, these microscopic are extremely important in the ecosystem! During another fantastic lunch the expedition staff spotted several blows in the distance. We all finished our lunch as fast as humanly possible, and all eagerly looked out the window in anticipation. We saw blow after blow then as we grew closer, we realized we were surrounded by 15 feeding **Humpback Whales**! We watched them from a distance as they were feeding and resting at the surface, they continually showed us their tails, once we saw 8 flukes in a row! It was absolutely awe inspiring seeing these animals. We couldn't believe how lucky we had been, especially from the last 4 days, how could it be any better.



## Day 9 – Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### At sea on the Drake Passage towards Ushuaia

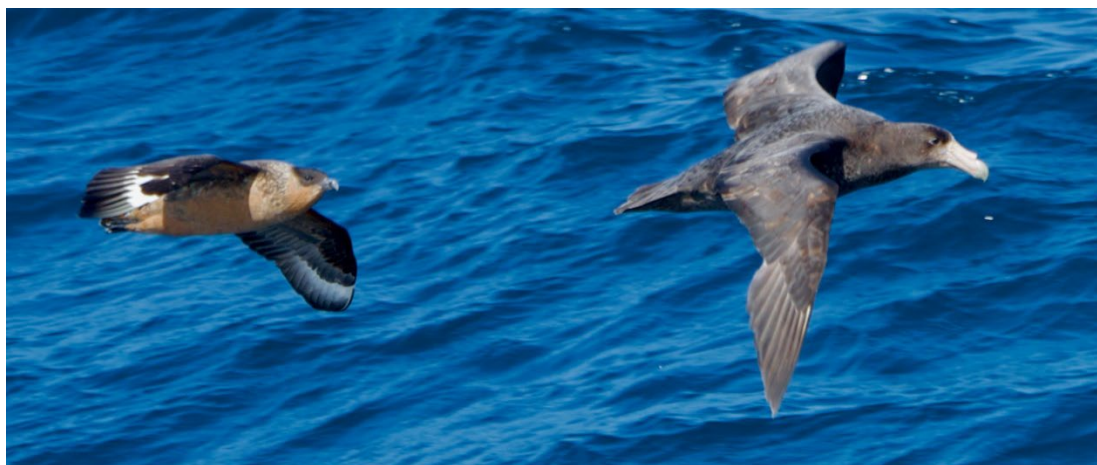
12:00 GPS Position: 55°47.0'S / 066°07.0'W

Wind: W3, Sea State: Slight, Weather: Cloudy, Air Temp: 5°C, Sea Temp: 8°C

We woke to a grey, overcast day with *Hondius* making its way northwards in the Drake Passage; yet again it was unusually quiet and calm. Looking back, we know we have been really lucky with the weather and sailing conditions – only the first sea day heading south testing our personal 'sea worthiness'. Pippa kicked off a short lecture programme with her informative talk on whale acoustics and the effect of human, noise generating, oceanic activities. Ross used his experience from his other career to tell us about the environmental aspects our own expedition - the actual impact we have on the land, sea and air as we travelled aboard *Hondius*. Rose then followed up on the rather scary topic of marine plastics. All in all, a pretty sobering series, reminding us that we need to take personal responsibility when we return home to make sure others following behind still have the opportunity to experience what we've just been privileged to.



After a quiet start outside the seabird species and numbers started to pick up with **Wandering, Southern Royal, Grey Headed** and **Light Mantled Albatross** putting in an appearance with the usual **Cape Petrels** and **Prions**. There was a surprising aerial encounter when a **Chilean Skua** began to severely harass a **Southern Giant Petrel** – a bird twice its size and weight!



After lunch, another mini lecture series from Simon and Mikhail about bird ringing and migration respectively. Around 3 in the afternoon we came across a pod of feeding  **dusky dolphins**, very close to the ship as we approached land again.

Head Chef Ralph gave a fascinating insight into managing the kitchens on board. Questions galore followed. The privilege of the final lecture of the voyage fell to Paulo who educated us all on the climate of Antarctica. He surprised us all when he told us the sun doesn't always shine there! Last action of the afternoon was our group photo out on the bow – in perfect weather - again!

The evening was our chance to reflect and give thanks. We saluted the Captain and his crew with a glass of bubbly and then offered our gratitude towards the expedition, hotel and galley teams, who have gone above and beyond to deliver an almost indescribable experience. Mikhail showed his fabulous slide presentation of our trip – just one of the many ways to take home memories that will stay with us for the rest of our lives.

## Day 10 – Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022

### Disembarkation in Ushuaia

Very early in the morning we approached the port of Ushuaia. Our bags are packed when we head down for breakfast one last time and we are getting ready to disembark our dear Hondius that has taken us to one of the most beautiful places on earth. The last 10 days have taken us on a remarkable journey over the notorious Drake Passage to the Antarctic Peninsula. It has given us a glimpse of life in these remote and sometimes inhospitable places. We have encountered amazing wildlife, made new friends, learnt and experienced so much together. We will all take away different memories of our cruise, but those memories will stay with us for the rest of our lives. **This was our expedition.**

**Total distance sailed on our voyage: 1,526 Nautical Miles (2826.152 km)**

**Furthest point south: 65°10.6'S**



**Your Expedition Team!**



**OCEANWIDE**  
EXPEDITIONS

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



## HDS22-23 Kayak Trip Report

07 Dec 2022 AM

Cuverville Island

Our Antarctic kayak adventure began under clear blue skies and in windless conditions at beautiful Cuverville Island. Our first team launched from the Zodiacs close to the northwest side of the island, in peaceful calm waters dotted with small icebergs. We admired the Gentoo Penguin colony while becoming familiar with the kayaks, then set off to explore the east side of Cuverville.

En route we encountered a resting Crabeater Seal, while Antarctic Terns danced noisily around drifting ice in the Errata Channel. We explored Cuverville's peaceful coastlines as far as the southeast corner, where we sat beneath snow-covered cliffs, taking in the grand surroundings of this enormous glacial bay.

A short Zodiac ride led us to the landing point, where we joined our second kayak team for an exploration of the west side of Cuverville Island. We traced a route through a maze of floating ice, towards the vast distant glaciated mountains. Conditions remained perfect, with no wind to disturb the glassy waters. As we continued our journey, the unmistakable sight of a Leopard Seal greeted us, its nostrils clear of the water as it swam along the shoreline towards our kayaks. We moved offshore to watch this magnificent animal from a respectful distance.

We completed our Cuverville Island adventures with a Zodiac cruise along the east side of the island, and back to the Hondius.

07 Dec 2022 PM

Neko Harbour

We relocated to Neko Harbour for an afternoon exploration of this stunning Antarctic venue. With the Hondius anchored in the middle of this ice-choked bay, our kayak team launched from the Zodiac next to the ship and plunged into a labyrinth of ice floes, brash and larger bergs. We slalomed among the ice, captivated by the 360° panorama of mountains, as a gentle breeze swept down from the glaciers.

A resting Weddell Seal, hauled out on an ice floe, provided a marvellous wildlife encounter for the team, as the Hondius disappeared behind larger icebergs. We paddled a crescent course around a huge drifting berg, our view of the bay offering new perspectives with each course change.

On our way back to the Hondius we were treated to a ringside seat as an iceberg 400m distant calved impressively, creating a rippling series of unbroken waves as the released energy of the crashing ice propagated outwards. Our team enjoyed an impressive sensation as the undulating sea surface passed harmlessly under the kayaks. We finally returned to base after an unforgettable adventure in the middle of Neko Harbour.

08 Dec 2022 AM

Brown Station

High cloud and windless conditions greeted our arrival at Brown Scientific Research Station in Paradise Bay. A short Zodiac ride took us to a calm launch point close to the station landing, from where we head south beneath steep rocky cliffs to the site of a breeding colony of Blue-eyed Shags. We paused a while, admiring their precarious kelp and vegetation nests clinging to improbably steep terrain.

Our journey continued into the Canal Argentine, past an anchored expedition yacht and towards the soaring ice cliffs of the enormous tidewater glacier. Stopping a safe distance from the huge terminal face, we gazed in awe at the majestic power of the surrounding cirque of glaciated mountains. We sat in silence for a time, absorbing the scale and grandeur of our surroundings.

Retracing our outward route, we weaved through floating ice debris as Antarctic Terns fluttered above, Kelp Gulls glided past, and Skuas rested on isolated floes. Finally home at the Hondius, we reflected happily on a remarkable morning of kayak exploration.

08 Dec 2022 PM  
Damoy Point

Deteriorating weather created uncertain conditions at Damoy Point - thankfully, the west wind was light enough to permit a new kayaking adventure. We launched approx. 1 mile from the shelter of Dorian Bay, grouped in the lee of a grounded iceberg, and began our journey along the rocky shoreline backed by sheer ice cliffs.

We maintained a safe distance from the shallow shore, as our kayak team battled increasing wind and waves towards our destination. A cold wind chilled our hands, while the constant paddling exertion kept our bodies warm. We made steady progress through exciting conditions until we finally reached sheltered water in the lagoon. Our kayak team's exhilaration at successfully experiencing an Antarctic challenge created a celebratory atmosphere during the chilly Zodiac ride home.

A short but intense kayaking adventure, Damoy Point gave us a taste of the power of this wild and isolated corner of the world.

09 Dec 2022  
Petermann Island

An early morning misty ship cruise through the Lemaire Channel brought us to our more southerly destination at Petermann Island. By mid-morning, sea level mist and snow showers give way to sunny skies, revealing a grand vista of steep glaciated mainland peaks. Launching next to the Hondius, we headed southeast across the Penola Strait towards the far shoreline.

Navigating the scattered ice floes, we soon encountered an Adelie Penguin sharing its icy perch with a Gentoo. Minutes later, the unmistakable outline of a sleeping seal appeared. As we drew closer, we could positively identify the Leopard Seal at rest on a low shelf of ice. Gathered in silence at a safe proximity, we marvelled at our encounter with this impressive apex predator.

Quietly continuing our journey, the ice-strewn channel gave way to more open water as we approached the mainland shore. Alexis' keen senses detected a Minke Whale feeding only a few

hundred meters ahead - we quietly closed the distance and were treated to several sights of our whale resurfacing between dives. Captivated by our amazing wildlife encounters, we followed the shoreline beneath steep 800m-high peaks, with powerful glaciers tumbling down to the water's edge. Reaching the limit of our explorations, we sat in humbled silence, gazing northeast towards the Lemaire Channel as icy mountain peaks extended to the horizon.

09 Dec 2022

Port Charcot

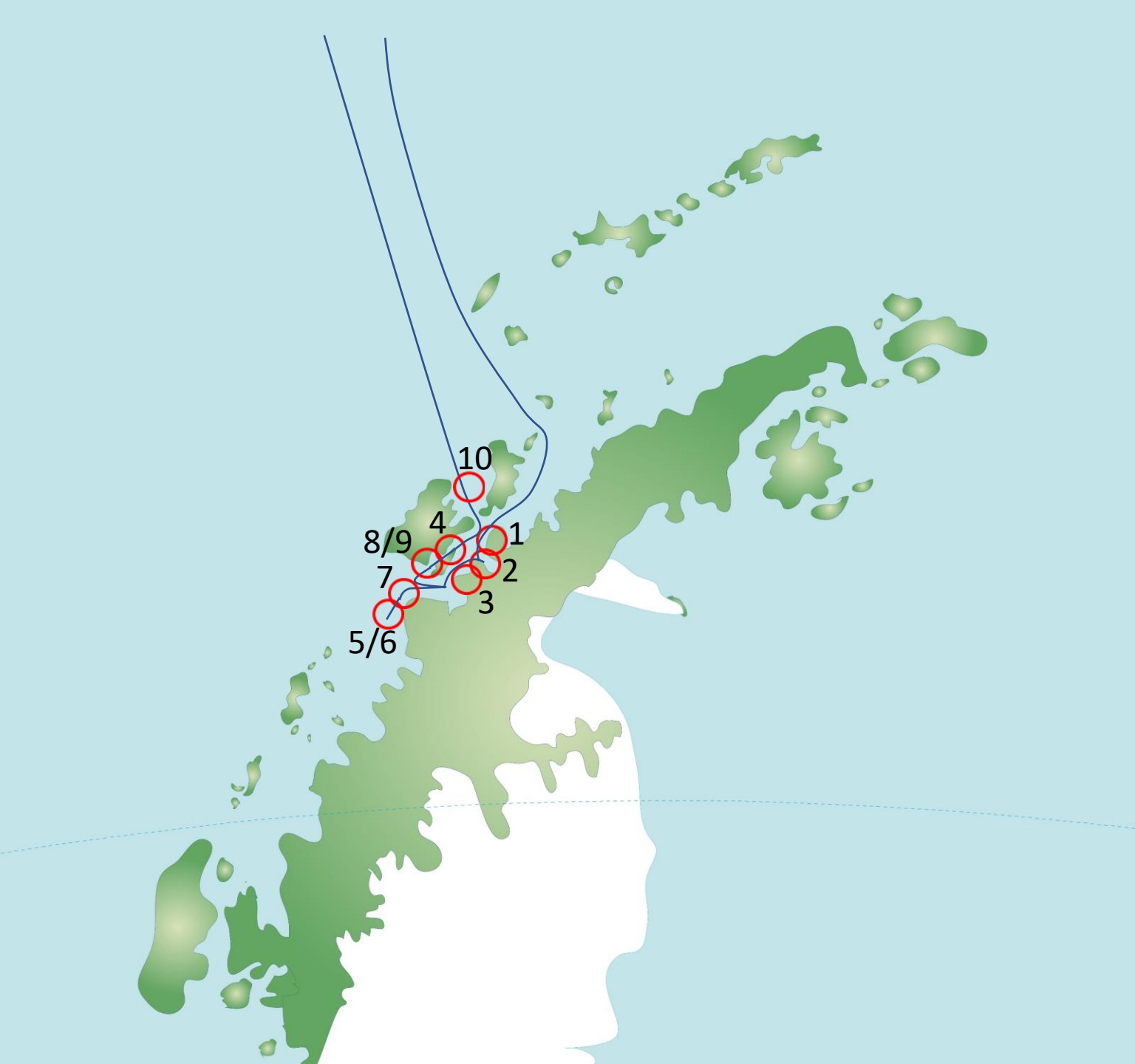
Our afternoon kayak odyssey took place in the remarkable environs of Port Charcot, an intricate maze of glacially-smoothed granite slabs amid an 'iceberg graveyard' of enormous glacial slabs. In light winds and bright sunshine, we followed a route between rocky islands and ice floes, encountering resting Crabeater Seals and swooping Kelp Gulls.

Arriving at the southwestern extremity of the bay, we looked towards the distant Antarctic ocean horizon before turning towards the mountainous peaks towering above our mother ship, the *Hondius* dwarfed by huge cliffs of rock and ice.

We threaded a safe route through a series of impressive icebergs, admiring slender curtains of icicles formed by the freeze-thaw action of Austral summer days and nights. As we emerged into a large expanse of open water, a Giant Petrel floated serenely past our kayak team.

Awed by our experiences in Port Charcot, we returned to the *Hondius* and prepared for that evening's Polar Plunge...





1. Cuverville (Dec 7<sup>th</sup>)
2. Zodiac Cruise in Andvord Bay (Dec 7<sup>th</sup>)
3. Paradise Bay & Brown Station (Dec 8<sup>th</sup>)
4. Damoy Point (Dec 8<sup>th</sup>)
5. Petermann Island (Dec 9<sup>th</sup>)
6. Zodiac Cruise around Port Charcot (Dec 9<sup>th</sup>)
7. Cruising in Lemaire Channel (Dec 9<sup>th</sup>)
8. Port Lockroy & Jougla Point (Dec 10<sup>th</sup>)
9. Neumayer Channel (Dec 10<sup>th</sup>)
10. Melchior Islands (Dec 10<sup>th</sup>)

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# Pippa Low – Expedition Leader

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Pippa has worked as a marine guide and skipper for 10 years, primarily in Scotland, Australia, New Zealand and the polar regions. A marine scientist specialising in marine mammal research and conservation, she splits her time between the hemispheres, and loves showing the public the marine world and all it has to offer.

Growing up on the coast of the incredible Moray Firth sparked a love for the marine world and its inhabitants. Spending every spare minute in, on or under the water; professional life reflected this love from a young age,

becoming an instructor in various marine disciplines and going on to study Marine biology at university in Scotland, then later, Australia.

Upon completion of her degree, Pippa has worked as a marine mammal observer, scientific diver and research assistant on various research projects; including photo ID, migration, distribution and behavioural studies on a range of marine mammals. She has developed a keen interest in marine mammal conservation through outreach and research.

After working in the Ross Sea region of Antarctica as a research assistant, she fell in love with Antarctica. Pippa now works as a full-time guide and assistant expedition leader in both the Arctic and Antarctica. In-between seasons, she still finds time to work on research projects.

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# George Kennedy – Assistant Expedition Leader

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George is a social scientist with a keen interest in polar geopolitics and Arctic cultural identities. He has completed a Masters of Anthropology at Monash University and a Graduate Diploma in Antarctic Governance and Policy at the University of Tasmania. Most recently, George has worked at the Australian Antarctic Division, collaborating across the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Parties to develop sustainable tourism policies in the region.

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

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

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

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# Chloé Maréchal – Assistant Expedition Leader

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Chloé is a passionate diver fascinated by marine life and exploration. She earned a European master degree in Marine biodiversity and conservation and loves to share her expertise for the marine environment. In April 2013, she was selected as the 2013-14 European Rolex our world underwater scholar. She spent a year working side by side with current leaders in underwater fields, getting very different experiences in marine science and in the diving industry. Diving and science are not her only passion; she enjoys exploring new countries and discovering new cultures. She has been diving on all continents

and living in more than 20 countries.

Chloe now lives in northern Norway just above the polar circle. When she is not onboard, she can be found underwater: observing the ocean's inhabitants, searching for forgotten wrecks or mapping and exploring undiscovered underwater cave passages.



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# Andrew Crowder – Expedition Guide

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

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

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

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# Charlotte Taplin – Expedition Guide

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Charlotte grew up by the Coast in Cornwall, United Kingdom. From a young age she has always been fascinated by wildlife and the ocean. She studied Wildlife Conservation at University and then spent the next 10 years travelling through South America, Australasia and Africa. Charlotte's love for boats began in 2013 where she worked on research and dive vessels visiting remote regions of the Great Barrier Reef. Her interest in Marine Biology grew in Australia and New Zealand while studying Humpback, Minke and Sperm Whales.

After driving overland in a land rover from South Africa to Jordan she then moved to Mozambique in 2018 where she started her own backpacker hostel. In her spare time Charlotte worked as a Researcher studying Whale sharks and Manta Rays along the Coast of Mozambique. During 2020-2022 she worked as a Deckhand/Divemaster on superyachts and ice breaker explorer vessels. Her hobbies include scuba-diving, surfing, free-diving and hiking. Being surrounded by the ocean is Charlotte's favourite place to be and she is so excited to have started her first season with Oceanwide in 2022.

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## Elodie Bouvier - Expedition guide

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Born in the Swiss Alps, Elodie has always had a passion for mountains; climb them, discover them but also better understand the landscape, the dynamics and the evolution of glaciers and permafrost. After undertaking studies in alpine geomorphology at the University of Lausanne, she took the direction of Quebec in Rimouski where she carried out work on the deglaciation of the Laurentide ice sheet which used to cover a large part of North America.

The polar regions attract her inexorably; this passion led her to the Svalbard archipelago in 2015 for a semester to specialize in nivology and glaciology. Since then, the polar bug has infected her in a way she cannot stop returning year after year up in the North.

Elodie has also worked on the creation of educational trails that raise awareness among hikers of the impacts of climate change in high mountains environment in Switzerland. To her mind, educational communication and sharing knowledge are essential to all scientific activities.

Her passion for the great wilderness led her to discover Norway and Svalbard by ski, on foot and by sail. Elodie is particularly interested in the interpretation of the landscape and in reading the forms left by glaciers during the last ice ages.

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# Rose Li Hong - Expedition Guide

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Originally from China, Rose Li Graduated from Wuhan college with a major in Interior Design. She has worked on well-known international cruise ships since 2014 as an expedition guide and in Asia as a VIP services shift leader and Head cruise ambassador on a Mediterranean cruise line.

She has worked in the polar regions since 2017, as expedition guide, Zodiac driver, Chinese interpreter and guest services manager.

She has many talents such as dancing, drawing, skiing, hosting, and loves creating new activities. Her two academic passions are history and geology.

During her spare time, she has continued to develop her passion for traveling, and has visited more than 40 countries and looks forward to visiting many others in the near future.

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# Hazel Pittwood - Expedition Guide

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

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

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

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

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

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# Joshua Peck – Expedition Guide

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A native Falkland Islander, Josh has always been fascinated by the natural world and exploring new destinations.

Growing up in the wildlife haven of the Falklands - with the polar regions on his doorstep - Josh has spent most of his life living alongside penguins, seals and whales, most recently in South Georgia where he was based for 4 months working for the Government of South Georgia.

Josh loves living and working in remote locations and on isolated islands, especially in his homeland of the

Falklands, where he has been involved in conservation projects since an early age. Josh has also travelled and worked extensively around the world from the USA and Canada to Iceland, Zambia, Australia and Poland.

Following on from obtaining degrees in History and Politics in Bristol and London in the United Kingdom, Josh returned home to the Falkland Islands to pursue his passion for wildlife and wild places, co-founding a local tour company with two childhood friends in 2016. Focussing on nature and historical tours, Josh worked for the following four seasons guiding and sharing his love of his home with the many guests that visited.

An avid photographer and an international footballer for his home country (soccer), he is always looking for new experiences and places to visit to broaden his horizons, and is looking forward to the next adventures with Oceanwide Expeditions.

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# Martin Anstee - Expedition Guide

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Martin has been a keen naturalist and wildlife photographer for most of his life.

Martin has been an active Bird Ringer since the year 2000 and particularly enjoys studying/ringing and just being around seabird colonies.

Martin has used a camera since an early age and has combined his love of the outdoors and seabird habitats with photography. Martin has just spent a month in Zimbabwe and Botswana photographing other wildlife.

Martin has combined this with a career in the Police Service, firstly in the UK where he was, amongst other roles, a wildlife crime officer. His last role in The Police was as a Police Sergeant in The Royal Falkland Islands Police.

Martin lived in the Falkland Islands, Stanley, for just over two years, leaving to return to the UK in November 2021. In his two years Martin was a volunteer with Falklands Conservation, he helped with The Falkland Islands Seabird Monitoring Program (FISMP) in particular counting Seabirds and ringing Black browed Albatross. Martin was also involved in fieldwork for a Striated Caracara (Johnny Rook) study. As a result Martin has visited most of the larger (and some of the smaller) outlying islands that form part of The Falkland Islands.

This is also where Martin started his career as a guide, he enjoyed sharing his knowledge of the Islands and the wildlife which he continues to do to this day.

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# Mikhail Barabanov – Expedition Guide

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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.



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# Paolo Bellezze – Expedition Guide

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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.

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# Ross Wheeler - Expedition Guide

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Ross lives in a small town in Cornwall, which is located in the south western corner of the UK. As he grew up in a coastal town he has always been fascinated by marine wildlife and the marine environment.

Having completed an undergraduate degree and master's degree in environmental sciences / conservation biology at Plymouth University he then went on to use his passion and education to work as an environmental consultant and researcher in the coastal

and marine field.

This progressed into the offshore sector where he worked as a marine mammal observer and passive acoustic monitoring operator in the offshore seismic and renewable industry sectors. This role took him to a wide range of areas throughout the North Atlantic, Central Africa and Southern Africa where he conducted marine mammal and sea bird surveys aboard various survey vessels. After a few years in this industry he then moved into the environmental compliance side of the cruise ship industry where he continues to work for six months of the year today. Whether he is working on ships around the world, volunteering for conservation based organisations or travelling in his 'time off' he is constantly seeking opportunities to photograph wildlife in their natural environment.

Feel free to ask him any questions about marine mammals, seabirds or anything environmentally related with the shipping industry.

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## Simon Davies – Expedition Guide

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Simon is a life-long birder and naturalist and after achieving a Masters degree in Ecology focusing on seabirds he has undertaken a broad range of wildlife related contracts around the world.

His career has predominantly been focused on birds (with the only notable 'blip' coming during a year researching Meerkats in South Africa) during which his focus has ranged from research to conservation to guiding and much in between. Most recently he has been working in Scotland and Sweden studying both breeding birds and migratory species through ringing/banding, a wide

range of surveys and other tracking methods.

He is an experienced guide, having led bird and wildlife tours in Australia and many tours, walks and talks in his native UK, enthusiastic about sharing the wide range of seabirds in the colonies he loves.

Among the recent studies he has participated in has included putting geolocators on Black Guillemots in Scotland to find out where they are foraging, fixing satellite transmitters on migratory wading birds in Australia to track their movements as they move up and down the East Asia flyway and affixing geolocators on Great Reed Warblers in Sweden to work out migratory routes.

A large part of his recent work has also been training others in bird ringing/banding and surveying, hopefully inspiring others to a career in research or conservation.

The vast majority of his spare time is also spent birding and wildlife watching and he has undertaken many trips around the world including Australia, Europe, India, Venezuela and the USA, always chasing the next bird!

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# Annelou Hulsker – Expedition Guide

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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.

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# Gonzalo Sabattini- Expedition Guide

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Gonzalo Sabattini was born in Córdoba, Argentina in 1987. Son of Cecilia and Juan and brother to Matias and Marcos.

Since a young kid his life was connected to water because his family owns fishing boats in Los Molinos Lake in Córdoba. Summers and weekends were endless among friends and family, swimming, and fishing.

As time passed by, swimming in the lake evolved into diving; Gonzalo received his first diving certification as a Argentinian Federation of Subaquatic

Activities (FAAS\_CMAS)-One Star Diver at the age of 16.

During his twenty's Gonzalo was an active member of the local diving school collaborating as a volunteer as he continued his formation as a diver.

In 2013 he was invited to work to Cozumel, Mexico as a dive guide guiding certificate and first-time divers. At the island, he gained a lot of experience working with international tourism and he spent more than a year diving daily.

When he came back to his country, he set sails to a new adventure. Decided to move to Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, where diving and weather conditions are a challenge. For the last 6 years he has become a cold-water diver, mastering the dry suit and the rest of cold-water equipment. On 2018 he was certified as a dive instructor (FAAS – CMAS) and since then, works at a diving school lecturing new cold-water divers and guiding national and international divers who marvel with the kelp forests that characterize dives in the Beagle Channel.

On top of diving Gonzalo has always been as sportive person, he loves snowboarding, fishing, and spending time in nature and wilderness, and he found in Ushuaia a perfect playground.

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# Alexis Bellezze – Kayak Leader

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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.

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# Nick Cunliffe - Kayak Guide

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Nick is a professional sea kayak guide, based in North Wales, United Kingdom. He has been paddling for about 30 years and owes many rewarding experiences to his involvement in sea kayaking.

His Anglesey home is an amazing adventure playground, with a wonderful outdoor community and a special sense of place. Nick loves North Wales for its world-class sea kayaking environment.

Nick's background in sea kayaking spans 30 years and includes expedition guiding in arctic Norway, SE

Alaska, and Chilean Patagonia - in addition to leading many sea kayaking journeys in the Hebridean islands of Scotland.

Nick loves to share the experience of exploring wilderness places, of encountering coastal & marine life in its natural environments, and places great value on the rewards that such experiences can offer.

In addition to wilderness sea kayaking, Nick loves to explore mountain environments, as a hiker and climber in the remarkable environments of the European Alps. Closer to home, the mountains of Snowdonia remain his personal favourite destination, only a short distance from his Anglesey home.

Nick looks forward to sharing unforgettable Antarctic experiences with his clients, on future Oceanwide Expeditions trips.

## **WELCOME ABOARD!**

*Luggage will be delivered to your cabin. Please make check to make sure you have received all your luggage. If you have any extra luggage in your cabin – please notify a crew member.*

**\*\* Tea and coffee are always available in the lounge on deck 5 \*\***

±1715 **Welcome & safety briefing** - Please join us in the **lounge** (deck 5, forward) for a welcome to the voyage, followed by a **mandatory** safety briefing and lifeboat drill.

### **Lifeboat Drill**

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 will go to MUSTER STATION B which is the Observation Lounge on Deck 5

±1800 **Departure from Ushuaia.**  
The bridge will be closed during these operations.

1830 **Expedition Introduction & Captain's Welcome** – Please join us in the **lounge** (deck 5) for an introduction to the expedition, a welcome to your new home from the Hotel manager, the captain's toast and to meet your expedition team.

1930 **Buffet dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4)

*We will sail into open sea this evening and the ship may move – please secure your belongings and be careful when moving around the ship.*

*Take your seasickness medication before we head out into open sea- the doctor will be available in the lounge after dinner to assist.*



- 0745      **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1000      **Birds in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean** – Please find Ross in the lounge to learn about the birds you might encounter during this voyage.
- 1145      **Muck Boots** - We will call you by deck to collect your Muck boots from the boot room on **deck 3**. *Please bring your thick socks to make sure you have the perfect fit! **Please listen for announcements.***
- 1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400      **Antarctica vs Mars** – Please join Annelou in the lounge for a fascinating comparison between Antarctica and Outer Space.
- 1515      **Kayaking briefing**– Please join Alexis and Nick in the **lecture room** (deck 5) for a kayak introduction and briefing.
- 1600      **Whales in the Southern Ocean** – Please join Charlotte in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a lecture about the whales of Antarctica.
- 1715      **Camping Briefing** – Campers please meet Annelou and Gonzalo in the **lecture room** (deck 5) for your mandatory camping introduction and briefing.
- 1815      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our first daily recap and briefing.
- 1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4) – *Tonight’s dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*

*Please walk slowly on the ship, never rush. Keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship. Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames.*

- 0745      **Wakeup Call** – Good Morning!
- 0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 0915      **Zodiac & IAATO Briefing** - Please join us in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our **mandatory** zodiac and IAATO briefings.
- 1100      **Race to the Pole** – Please join Josh in the **lounge** (deck 5) for his lecture exploring Amundsen and Scott’s 1911 race to the South Pole.
- 1200      **Kayak Gear Collection** – Please meet Alexis and Nick at the forward shell door on **deck 3** to collect your kayak gear.
- 1230      **Lunch** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400      **Biosecurity:** We will call you by deck to **deck 3** to complete our biosecurity cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, muck boots and tripods/walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. *Please listen for announcements.*
- 1630      **The Seals of the South** - Please join Hazel in the **lounge** (deck 5) to learn about the pinnipeds of Antarctica which we may encounter during our voyage.
- 1800      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition Team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4) – *Tonight’s dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*

*Please walk slowly on the ship, never rush. Keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship. Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames.*

0645 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room (deck 4)**.

*This morning we hope to offer a landing and zodiac cruise at Cuverville Island – one of the largest Gentoo Penguin colonies on the Peninsula. The Gentoo Penguin group will come to shore first, whilst the Weddell Seal group will cruise. The groups will then swap halfway through the morning on the beach. Both groups will thus enjoy both activities.*

0800 **Gentoo Penguins & Red Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area (deck 3)** for a landing at Cuverville Island.

0815 **Weddell Seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area (deck 3)** for a zodiac cruise in the Errera Channel.

0815 **Blue Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area (deck 3)**.  
*Red kayakers will meet Alexis on shore at approximately 1000*

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room (deck 4)**.

*In the afternoon we aim to land and cruise at Neko Harbour – a continental landing surrounded by towering glaciers, panoramic Antarctic views and home to Gentoo penguins. The Weddell Seal group will come to shore first, whilst the Gentoo Penguin group will cruise in Andvord Bay. The groups will then swap halfway through the afternoon on the beach. Both groups will thus enjoy both activities.*

1445 **Weddell Seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area (deck 3)** for a landing at Neko Harbour.

1500 **Gentoo Penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area (deck 3)** for a zodiac cruise in Andvord Bay.

1515 **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area (deck 3)**.

1900 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.

1930 **Buffet dinner** served in the **dining room (deck 4)**.

2115-2145 **Campers** – Please come to the zodiac boarding area (deck 3) – *Please listen for announcements.*

- 0645      **Wake up call.** Good morning!  
0700      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to land at Brown Station, a continental landing and home to an Argentinian base (currently unoccupied). We also hope to offer a zodiac cruise around Paradise Bay. The Gentoo Penguin group will come to shore first, whilst the Weddell Seal group will cruise in Paradise. The groups will then swap halfway through the morning on the beach. Both groups will thus enjoy both activities.*

- 0800      **Gentoo Penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Brown Base.  
0815      **Weddell Seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise in Paradise Bay.  
0830      **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This afternoon we hope to land and zodiac cruise at Danco, a small island in the Errera channel surrounded by icebergs and home to several gentoo penguin rookeries. During the landing, we hope to offer a hike to the upper colony, gaining approximately 130m elevation over a 1.5km trail. The Weddell Seal group will come to shore first, whilst the Gentoo Penguin group will cruise in the Errera. The groups will then swap onshore halfway through the afternoon.*

*For those brave souls hoping to swim in Antarctica, we plan to offer a **polar plunge** at the end of our afternoon activities. Please wear your swimmers under your warm layers. We will provide the towels.*

- 1600      **Weddell Seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Neko Harbour.  
1615      **Gentoo Penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise in Andvord Bay.  
1630      **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1915      **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.  
1930      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.

*At approximately 0600 this morning we hope to transit through the spectacular Lemaire Channel. Many photographers describe this channel as the 'Kodak Gap', considered one of Antarctica's most photogenic passages. We thus encourage you to enjoy the towering glaciers and wildlife from the outer decks of Hondius.*

0715      **Wake up call.** Good morning!

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

*This morning we aim to land and zodiac cruise at Petermann Island. On land, we will enjoy Adelie penguins and spectacular views, whilst in the zodiacs, we will cruise amongst icebergs and in search of wildlife.*

0830      **Gentoo Penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Petermann Island.

0845      **Weddell Seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Petermann Island

0900      **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This afternoon we aim to land at Port Charcot and zodiac cruise in Salpetriere Bay. Port Charcot was home to the 1903-05 French Charcot expedition, where historic remains of their scientific expedition can still be found. Meanwhile, Salpetriere Bay is one of Antarctica's most spectacular 'iceberg graveyards'. The Gentoo Penguin group will come to shore first, whilst the Weddell Seal group will cruise Salpetriere Bay. The groups will then swap halfway through the morning.*

1430      **Weddell Seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Port Charcot

1445      **Gentoo Penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise in Salpetriere Bay

1500      **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1845      **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.

1900      **A special Antarctic Dinner** – Dress warm



Antarctica Discovery and Learning  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2022  
Port Lockroy & Jougla Point  
Neumayer Chanel & Melchior Islands

- 0700 **Wake up call.** Good morning!  
0715 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room.**

*This morning we hope to offer a landing at both Port Lockroy and Jougla Point, as well as a zodiac cruise around the Goudier islands. Here we hope to enjoy nesting Gentoo Penguins & Imperial Cormorants., as well as enjoy the hospitality of the staff at Port Lockroy – the world’s Southernmost Post Office.*

*Whilst at Port Lockroy, please wear a face mask when in doors and clean your boots in fresh water provided before entering. If you plan to make a purchase, card payments are preferred.*

- 0815 **UK Heritage Trust – Port Lockroy Briefing** – Please join the team from Port Lockroy in **the lounge** for a briefing about the history of Port Lockroy and the heritage trust’s enduring work.

*Once the heritage trust briefing is complete, we plan to begin boarding zodiacs immediately. Please listen for announcements.*

- +/- 0900 **Gentoo Penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Port Lockroy and Jugla, as well as a zodiac cruise in the surrounding bay.  
+/- 0915 **Weddell Seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Port Lockroy and Jugla, as well as a zodiac cruise in the surrounding bay.  
1300 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room.**

*In the afternoon we will ships cruise the spectacular Neumayer Chanel and Melchior Islands. During our afternoon ships cruise we hope to spot whales and seals from the outer decks, as well as enjoy the stunning mountains and islands of the Antarctic peninsula.*

- 1800 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.  
1900 **Plated dinner** served in the **dinning room.**

**No wakeup call** – Have a lovely morning!

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

0900-1000 **Photo competition** – Did you take pictures during the trip? Enter your best shot into our photo competition! Please find Ross in the **lecture room** to submit your best images.

*Pictures will be displayed all day in the lounge throughout the afternoon where you will be able to vote for your favourite pictures.*

1030 **Drifting Life**– Please join Chloe in the **lounge** to learn about the plankton drifting in the depths of Antarctica.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

1400 **Antarctic Ice** - Please join Elodie in **the lounge** to learn about the various types of ice we have encountered during our voyage.

1600 **Antarctic geopolitics** – Please join George in the **lounge** for a lecture exploring the wonderful world of polar politics and the emergence of the Antarctic Treaty.

1700 **Muck Boot Collection** – We will call you by colour groups to return your muck boots to the shell doors on deck 3. Please listen for announcements.

1800 **Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap.

1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.

2100 **Photo competition** - Please join Ross in the **lounge** to reveal the competition winners.

**No wakeup call** – Enjoy your morning!

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

1030 **Mini lecture series** – Please join Pippa, Simon and Rose in the **lounge** for a mini lecture series exploring whale acoustics, bird ringing and the micro-plastics in our ocean.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*After lunch you will receive your bill in your cabin. We will call you by deck to make payments at reception – **Please listen for announcements.***

1400 **Mini lecture series** – Please join Mikhail, Ross and Chef Ralph in the **lounge** for a mini lecture series exploring the environmental impact of our voyage, bird migration and the management of our kitchen aboard Hondius.

1600 **Climate of Antarctica** – Please join Paolo in the **lounge** for his lecture examining the unique climate characteristics of Antarctica.

1730 **Group Photo** – Please join us on the **bow** for a group photo of all the guests and staff from our voyage.

1815 **Farewell Toast & Trip Slideshow** - Please join the Captain and the expedition team for a toast to our voyage through the Southern Ocean and a slideshow of our expedition.

1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.

*Please walk slowly on the ship, never rush. **Keep at least one hand for the ship.** Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames.*



0715      **Wakeup call** – Good Morning!

0730-0830   **Breakfast** will be served in the dining room.

*Please place your large/check-in luggage outside your cabin no later than 0730.  
During breakfast we will collect your luggage and deposit it on the pier where it will  
be your responsibility to identify and collect each item.*

0830-0900   **Disembarkation – Please listen for announcements.** We will inform you  
once we have been cleared by local authorities. Once clearance has  
been completed we will invite you to the gangway to disembark  
Hondius.

*Upon disembarkation, **please identify and collect your luggage** from the pier and;*

- 1. Take it with you into Ushuaia and walk into town.*
- 2. Put it on the airport bus and get on the bus.*
- 3. Put it in the luggage truck.*
- 4. If you have arranged your own transport – please take your luggage*

***On behalf of all at Oceanwide Expeditions and all on board Hondius we  
thank you for a truly incredible expedition.  
Safe travels home.***