



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## Antarctic Peninsula-Basecamp

Ushuaia - Ushuaia

23 December 2022 – 4 January 2023

On board *m/v Hondius*



*M/v Hondius* was built in 2019, as the first-registered Polar Class 6 vessel in the world, meeting the latest and highest Lloyd's Register standards for ice-strengthened cruise ships. Surpassing the requirements of the Polar Code adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), *Hondius* represents the most flexible, advanced, innovative touring vessel in the polar regions, thoroughly optimized for exploratory voyages that provide you the utmost first-hand contact with the Arctic and Antarctica. *Hondius* complies with the latest SOLAS-regulations (Safety Of Life At Sea). *M/v Hondius* is 107.6 m long, 15.3 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5.3 m, Polar Class 6 (equivalent 1A-Super), 15 knots average cruising speed and has 2 x ABC main engines; total 4,200 kW.

## **Captain Toni Sakkariassen**

and his international crew of 49 sailors

Chief Officer:	<b>Matei Mocanu</b>	[Romanian]
Staff Officer:	<b>Miia Holma</b>	[Finnish]
Second Officer:	<b>Kirill Buriachek</b>	[Russian Federation]
Third Officer:	<b>Don Buren</b>	[Netherlands]
Hotel Manager:	<b>Michael Frauendorfer</b>	[Austria]
Head Chef:	<b>Gaurav Bawa</b>	[UK]
Sous Chef:	<b>Milos Simeunovic</b>	[Serbia]
Sous Chef	<b>Mihai Melinte</b>	[Romania]
Sous Chef	<b>Sachin Naik</b>	[India]
Ships doctor:	<b>Neil Gupta</b>	[UK]
Expedition Leader:	<b>Pippa Low</b>	[UK]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	<b>George Kennedy</b>	[Australia]
Ass. Expedition Leader	<b>Chloe Marechal</b>	[France]
Kayak Guide	<b>Alexis Belezze</b>	[Alexis]
Kayak Guide:	<b>Erin Bastian</b>	[UK]
Mountaineer Guide	<b>Malcolm Haskins</b>	[New Zealand]
Mountaineer Guide	<b>Massimo Candolini</b>	[Italian]
Mountaineer Guide	<b>Robin Beadle</b>	[UK]
Mountaineer Guide	<b>Andrew Perkins</b>	[France]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Sasha Romanovski</b>	[Russian]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Martin Anstee</b>	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Jose Gonzalo Sabattini</b>	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Szymon Niezabitowski</b>	[Poland]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Charlotte Taplin</b>	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Julia Wellner</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Julia Baldursdottir</b>	[Iceland]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Julia Angermeijer</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Typhanie May</b>	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Hong Li (Rose)</b>	[Nationality]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Gertruide van der Meij (Saskia)</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Carina Ketterer</b>	[Switzerland]

**We welcome you on board!**

## Day 1 – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December, Ushuaia, embarkation day

**12h00 GPS Position: At Port Ushuaia**

**Wind: WSW7/8 • Sea: At Port • Weather: Partly Cloudy • Air temperature: +9°C**

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Today is the day to embark M/V Hondius, the beautiful 107 metre vessel that would take us to explore Antarctica. After visiting Ushuaia, the Southernmost city in the world, we embark the ship at 4pm and are met by the staff and crew who warmly welcome us onboard. After checking in we are directed to our cabins, followed by the lounge for tea, coffee, and biscuits. The Chief Officer, Matai, gives us a mandatory safety brief, we all get involved in the safety drill where we are shown to our lifeboats.



At 6.30pm it is time for Captains cocktails to celebrate the beginning of the voyage with a glass of prosecco and delicious canapes. Captain Toni makes a welcome speech and we all toast to a good trip ahead. The Expedition Staff introduce themselves; it is interesting to meet all of them and

learn where they are from. As the ship sails through the Beagle Channel, it is time for our first meal on board by way of a fantastic buffet. The excited chat at dinner is all about the journey ahead and the adventures that lay before us.



The next two days will be spent sailing through the Drake Passage, the place of the roughest seas in the world, but we are all hoping for a calm passage.

## Day 2 – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> December, At sea Drake Passage

12h00 GPS Position: 57°10.06'S / 064°29.4'W

Wind: NNW6 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Foggy • Air temperature: +7°C

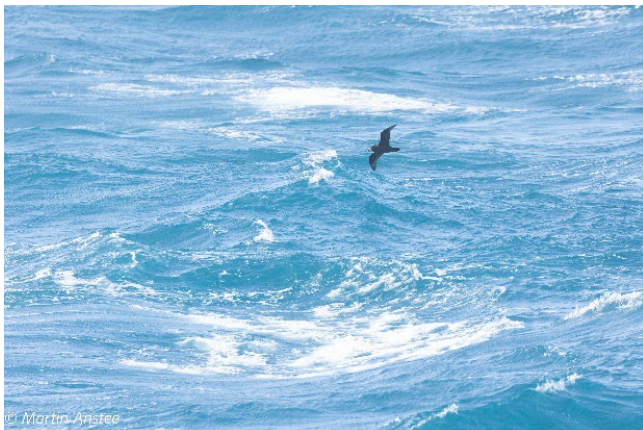
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Our first night of this voyage was, as quite a few put it: interesting. The rocking and rolling made some of us sleep profoundly, others less and even others did not have a great time at all – not everyone showed up for breakfast. We hope they get better soon.

The program of today is filled with as much preparation for the visit on the Antarctic Peninsula as possible as weather conditions are said to worsen during the night and tomorrow. And if

you wish to leave the ship and take part in any of the activities, it is mandatory to attend.



We start with the mandatory zodiac safety briefing during which we learn how to put on our zodiac life jackets which are different from the ones we used yesterday during the drill. We now know where to find the shell doors, know how to embark, and disembark a zodiac, how to dress and how to behave – all this is new to us and very exciting.

This is followed by the mandatory IAATO briefing – IAATO being the International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators whose primary goal is to advocate and promote the practice of safe and environmentally responsible travel to the Antarctic. And so, we learn a lot about the rules and regulations, wildlife, and biosecurity - the *dos* and *don'ts*, the *can* and *cannot-s*. We too want to leave as little trace as possible on our voyage down to Antarctica. Shortly after that, Mal invites everyone wishing to participate in any mountaineering activity to yet another mandatory briefing. We learn that mountaineering is mostly fun after the activity itself but also, what we



can expect of our mountaineering excursion. We do get excited.

At around midday, boot camp starts. We are called by colour groups down to the expedition deck where Muck Boots are fitted, and we all leave with a pair we call ours for the next 10 days.

Lunch gives us a well-deserved break from a lot of information – more is to come.

The Camping and Kayak briefings are happening in the afternoon. Here again, we learn, how the activity is organized, what we can expect and what is expected of us. Most of us are much looking forward to these special activities.

Later in the afternoon Julia holds a lecture about “some things about photography” – a more philosophical than technical approach to the subject. This is surprising but highly interesting.

During daily recap, Pippa, our Expedition Leader presents the plans for tomorrow: activity signs-ups, lectures, and bio security to prevent bringing any alien species to Antarctica. And due to the weather and sea conditions. Christmas celebrations are postponed to the 26<sup>th</sup> thinking that by then, most of us guests will be able to participate and enjoy them. This all sounds great, and we are looking forward to yet another day in preparation.

After a lovely dinner, some of us spend the evening in the lounge, others find their way to their cabins early and hope, against all odds, for a calm night.

### **Day 3 – Sunday, 25th December 2022, At sea on the Drake Passage**

**12:00 GPS Position: 61°15.0'S / 060°25.5'W**

**Wind: W5 • Sea State: moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +3°C**

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The wakeup call from our expedition leader Pippa is a nice way to start the Christmas morning. First breakfast and then we could sign up for the special activities which we can do on our basecamp trip. As soon as we hear our group we go straight to the lecture room, where we are signing first for mountaineering then kayaking and lastly for the camping. With a good feeling we are going to the lounge to listen to Sasha's lecture Geographical Introduction to Antarctica. Our hotel manager Michael

announced that the lunch is ready. We go down to the dining room to enjoy another lovely meal from our great kitchen team.

In the afternoon we are preparing for the next day, our first day in Antarctica. All our outer gear is going to be properly cleaned with a vacuum cleaner and very importantly the Velcro and the pockets inside.



Before we are going to listen to the lecture from Carina about the Antarctic Penguins, we are treated to some ice cream.

Some of us are collecting the kayak gear for the next day for our first time kayaking in Antarctic Sound.

After recap we are again treated to a very outstanding dinner with an overwhelming dessert from our great baker team. During dinner we watch whales from the restaurant. After dinner some watch the movie Happy Feet 2 with Popcorn.

#### Day 4 – Monday 26th December, Brown Bluff and Paulet Island

08h00 GPS Position: 63°30.9'S / 056°51.9'W

Wind: N1 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +3°C

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Today we are very lucky to be visiting the Antarctic Sound in the Weddell Sea, an area not usually visited because the weather needs to be good enough for us to get there. Brown Bluff is our first port of call, it is part of the Antarctic continent, the area was formed 1 million years ago from subglacial eruptions. The 1.5km beach and the entire scree slope is littered with an Adelie Penguin colony. Not only Adelie Penguins, but Gentoo Penguins are on the beaches both with

their chicks, some have only hatched in the last 2 days! Half of us go on land to visit the colony and half of us zodiac cruise with the expedition staff. It is so beautiful and amazing seeing the Adelie and Gentoo chicks, what a treat. We watch in awe as the penguins feed their chicks Antarctic Krill and do their best to keep their fluffy bums warm by using their body heat. Some chicks are the size of a fist, but some were almost the same size as the adults!



Our next stop is Paulet Island, a very interesting historical site. There is a Stone hut on Paulet Island which was built in February 1903 by survivors of the wrecked vessel 'Antarctic' under Captain Carl A. Larsen, members of the Swedish South Polar Expedition led by Otto Nordenskjöld. A grave of a member of the expedition and the rock cairn built by the survivors of the wreck at the highest point of the island draws the attention of rescue expeditions.

This is another even bigger Adelie Penguin colony, at least 200,000 birds reside on the beaches and all the way up to the top of the hill, it is an extremely impressive sight. Half of us cruise in the zodiacs along the beaches, we spot many Weddell Seals (blubbery sausages) lazing about the beach. Not far off the beach are icebergs with the odd Adelie resting on the ice, it made a beautiful photograph with the purple sky in the background. Once we swapped out on land with the first group of passengers, we had a walk around the landing site which the expedition staff had marked out for us. We look at the very impressive stone hut and watch as the Adelie's go about their daily business, we could never get bored of these clumsy, loveable creatures. The day is not over yet, we have a recap from the fantastic expedition team about tomorrow's plans followed by a Christmas dinner put on by the chefs and hotel team. It is wonderful to celebrate Christmas in this snowy, magical landscape with our fellow passengers.

## Day 5 – Tuesday 27th December, Gerlache Strait & Cierva Cove

**12:00 GPS Position: 63°57.3'S / 061°05.9'W**

**Wind: NNW3 • Sea State: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +0.5°C**



Today we woke up to our expedition leader Pippa welcoming us to the stunning Gerlache Strait. As we opened up the blinds, we saw wonderful icebergs and views greeted us through the windows of the Hondius. Some of us went out on the decks to try to watch as the Hondius worked her way through the bergy bits and brash ice crunching up against her hull. Before we knew it, it was time for breakfast, Michael called us down to the dining room so we could enjoy a delicious

meal to start the day. After breakfast we attended a lecture with Saskia on the Swedish Antarctic Expedition. It was fascinating to learn about the trials and tribulations of these first exploration voyages.

We then had a little break before attending our second lecture of the day with Szymon who gave us a wonderful insight into the world of ice and taught us how to categorise

it. This will be especially useful for the coming days. After a morning of learning we finished off with a hearty lunch ready for our activities in the afternoon.



Just after lunch we started to prepare ourselves for the first activity which would be a full ship zodiac cruise of Cierva Cove. Some of our number would be going out to kayak the area whilst the rest of us started loading into our zodiacs to explore the beautiful cove full of grounded icebergs. The location was also home to a variety of wildlife. We spotted leopard seals, gentoo penguins and chinstrap penguins on the shoreline

and in amongst the ice. Also, on the shoreline we came across the Argentinean research station Primavera, a beautiful little station nestled on the hillside. We glided in between the icebergs taking in the beautiful colours and shapes of the ice around us. All too soon it was time to head back to the ship. Our flotilla of zodiacs headed for home to deliver us on time for evening recap where we would learn the plans for tomorrow.

After recap, Michael once again called us down to the dining room to enjoy a wonderful dinner after a day of learning and exploration. After dinner some of us would be heading out again for the final activity of the day. Camping! The ship moved around to a location called Portal Point where the campers would spend their night sleeping in the snow. Whether on the ship or in the snow everyone settled in for the night dreaming of the adventures tomorrow might bring.

## Day 6 – Wednesday 28th December, Danco Island and Neko Harbour

**12:00 GPS Position: 64°43.8'S / 062°37.2'W**

**Wind: W3 • Sea State: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +6°C**

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It's a new day in Antarctica and for some of us an early start. At around 4 am the campers are ready for their pickup at Portal Point and as they arrive on Hondius they are both, tired and happy.

The first Camping night was a beautiful and unforgettable experience. After helping our Camping Guides Saskia and Gonzalo with the Camping Gear we enjoy a hot chocolate and some Pastries in the Lounge before we go to take a warm shower and maybe a little nap until

breakfast and new activities start.



After breakfast we all meet at 08:30 at the Shell door to begin our next adventure. We visit Danco Island where we hike up a hill, walking parallel with the penguin highways to the Gentoo Penguin colonies. Breathtaking landscape, Glaciers, Icebergs, and mountains surrounding us.



On the Zodiac cruise we experience a lot of wildlife from that area. Weddell seals, Humpback whales and some of us are even more lucky and see a curious Minke whale diving under their Zodiac.

Now it's time for another great adventure that only the bravest of us can conquer: The polar plunge!!! Such great fun, getting out of our waterproof and very warm

clothes and running into the very cold (+2C) ocean. And it's even more fun to get back on the zodiac and the ship again, take a hot shower and enjoy our delicious Lunch buffet.

In the afternoon another beautiful place awaits us. Our Expedition Team brings us to Neko harbour. A breathtaking bay surrounded by a huge and very active Glacier. We all think about last night's recap when our Expedition leader Pippa showed us a video of a calving of this Glacier. So, we are prepared, and we know that we have to observe the Penguins and if they start to run we should also be alert.



It is a sunny and calm afternoon with blue skies, blue ice in all different shapes and shades. And again, we are surrounded by wildlife like Weddell Seals who sleep and relax on icebergs, Humpback whales swimming very close to the beach and a lot of Gentoo Penguins.

As we are leaving the landing site and approach the ship there is a certain smell in our noses that promises another surprise for this spectacular day...

We will have a barbeque on the outer deck!

Perfectly prepared by the crew and hotel department we enjoy our food and drinks with some music in a quite windy and cold but still stunning, Antarctic evening.

## Day 7 – Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December, Wordie House, Port Charcot

08h00 GPS Position: 65° 14,6'S / 064°12,9'W (Furthest point south)

Wind: S4 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +5°C

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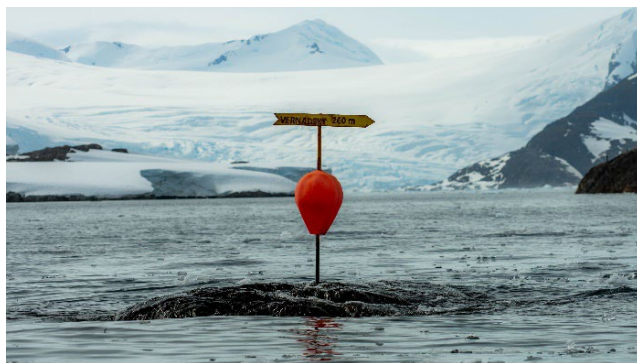
The day started very early, much earlier than any other. At 5:30 AM Hondius entered the famous Lemaire channel – a narrow and one of the most picturesque bodies of water on the Antarctic peninsula framed in high mountain peaks and ridges covered with hanging glaciers. The drama of the moment was felt even stronger, because Lemaire channel is the only way to

reach the destination of our morning activity. Our expedition guides had told us that sometimes Lemaire channel is blocked with icebergs and navigation is not possible. Fortunately, we were lucky enough not to have this problem and passed through the channel without any serious problems. The professional level of our captain Tony was very high, and no icebergs turned into obstacle for us.

Right after having passed through the Lemaire channel, we had our breakfast and got ourselves ready for a Zodiac cruise. The original idea was to land next to Wordie House – a small hut on Winter Island that formerly belonged to the British Antarctic Survey and now is maintained by the British Antarctic Heritage Trust. Sadly, all the



accesses to the Wordie house were blocked with fast ice, so we changed our plans and had a Zodiac cruise instead of landing. Nevertheless, our Zodiac cruise was definitely not less interesting than the landing that didn't happen.



We saw lots of wildlife and had a wonderful ride on Zodiacs down the straits and channels around Winter Island. Besides we had a chance to approach former British Faraday station, famous as a place where the Ozone hole was discovered. Now the station belongs to the Ukraine and is named Vernadsky after a famous Soviet geographer.

After lunch we had another Zodiac cruise. Yes, this day we had no chance to set our feet on any land, but the afternoon Zodiac cruise was definitely worth it. It took place at a small bay called Port Charcot where there is a great number of different icebergs. Actually, among the expedition guides this place is known as the Icebergs' Graveyard or The Garden of Icebergs. The bay is very shallow, so the icebergs that drift here all get grounded and are not able to keep on drifting unless they fall apart into many smaller icebergs.



We spent almost 3 hours navigating among these natural masterpieces of beauty. Some of us spotted seals and even whales. In the evening we got a second chance to stand on the bow and look at the Antarctic beauty while *Hondius* was making its way back through the Lemaire channel. Late in the evening we dropped the anchor at the place called Port Lockroy and those of us who was

signed up for camping got shuttled to the spot called Damoy Point and stayed there for the night. We were really hoping to see them alive the next morning. (And we did!)

## Day 8 – Friday 30th December, Port Lockroy and Damoy Point

**12:00 GPS Position: 64°49.7'S / 063°32.1'W**

**Wind: SW2 • Sea State: Glassy • Weather: Cloudy • Air temperature: +4°C**



Today we wake up to the sights of beautiful mountains around us. The campers have returned in the early morning before most of us woke up. Breakfast set us up well for the day ahead and at 0800 we don our many layers for the zodiac cruise/landing. Half of us venture on land to Jougla to visit the beautiful Gentoo Penguin and Antarctic Blue Eyed Shag colony and half of us cruise in the calm bay around the islands. We are

very lucky to see a Leopard Seal resting on an ice floe with a Weddell Seal strangely calm sleeping behind him. Port Lockroy is a former Antarctic base and most famously known as being the world's most Southernly post office. Unfortunately, we can't land because the four ladies running the post office are sick, but at least we could see the

intriguing buildings for ourselves. Two Humpback Whales are spotted out in the bay, so off we go to see these incredible animals fluking next to the glacier.

After another delicious lunch we prepare to head out for the afternoon to Damoy Point. Here there are two huts which up until 1993 were used as a transit station for the British



Antarctic Survey to fly supplies to Rothera research station. It feels wonderful to stretch our legs on land and it always makes us smile seeing the Gentoo's interacting and fighting for their stones. The zodiac cruise is very relaxing, lots of Gentoo's jumping in the water and the occasional Chinstrap standing out amongst the

crowd. That evening we watch as Humpback Whales are swimming in the glassy water just as the campers head out for their 'Antarctic sleeping experience'.

## Day 9 – Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December, Cuverville & Orne Island

08h00 GPS Position: 64°40.5' S, 036°32.7'W

Wind: NE4 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +3°C

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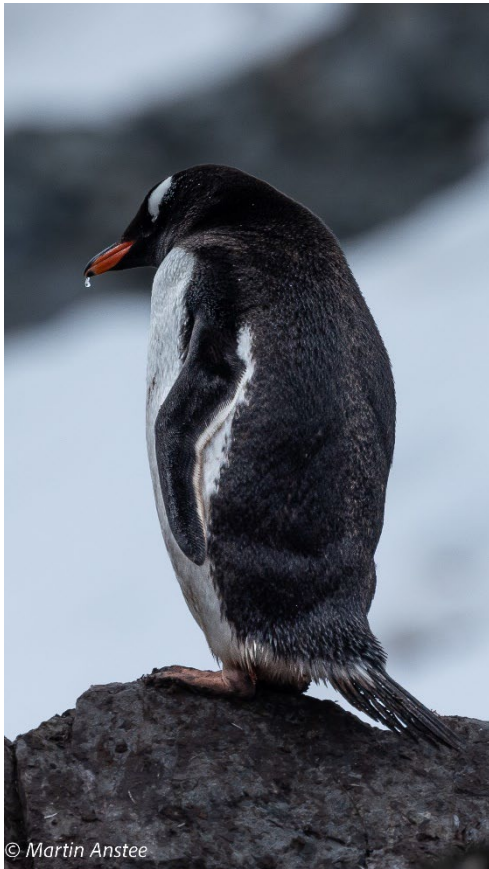
© Martin Anstee

Today, on the last day of the year, we arrive at Cuverville Island for a landing and a zodiac cruise. We get the first taste of typical, antarctic weather, for the first time we don't have zero wind, clear skies and sun. It's still not very windy, just around 12 knots. In the early morning there is some snow but very soon

that stops. Having been spoiled with prime weather this whole trip, some of us are taken by surprise but we quickly adapt to this authentic experience. Good views of a white morph **Giant Petrel** greet us on the Island.

For the first time since the first landing all those days ago, we do not need snow shoes at the landing site, thanks to some very dense, compacted snow. A zig zag walk up a rather steep hill gives us a great view of Gentoo rookeries. The zodiac cruise is an absolute home run. Dozens of humpback whales are around, swimming, feeding,

diving and showing us their flukes. It's an absolute marvel. The sound they make as they come to the surface and blow are mesmerising.



© Martin Anstee

The whales aren't the only blubbery things we see; a young Weddel Seal has made itself comfortable on an iceberg and poses for us for some great photos.

During the zodiac cruise we are able to make a quick landing on an island where an old boat from the time of the whaling days lay. Massive, rusty chains are also a relic from the time of the whalers.

All in all the outing at Cuverville was a true highlight of our trip.

In the afternoon, the winds become even stronger, making the zodiac ride to Orne Island quite wet for many of us. Even though we have seen stray Chinstrap Penguins here and there on our journey so far, Orne Island is where we see our first, proper Chinstrap colony. Many of us pass on the zodiac cruise and choose to go straight back to the ship but a few brave souls decide to go on a wet, tumultuous cruise, a true adventure.

A plated dinner awaits us in the evening. We know it's quite fancy because they serve sorbé between plates.

In order to test our knowledge (and more importantly, to keep us awake), George holds a Quiz Night in the lounge. Some of us win prizes, all of us have fun.

The weather gods have become merciful enough to allow us to make a toast out on the deck at midnight. That's when the new years miracle happens; whales appear out of nowhere and ring in the new year with us.

## Day 10 – Sunday 1st January 2023, Paradise Bay & Orne Harbour

**12:00 GPS Position: 64°37.8'S / 062°32.4'W**

**Wind: E-3 • Sea State: calm • Weather: overcast & sunny • Air temperature: +6°C**



© Martin Anstee

What a way to start the New Year! On this stunning evening Hondius is positioned in Paradise Bay, surrounded by glaciers and snow/ice-covered mountains. Most of us are out on the bow. We dance on the music while the crew is serving mulled wine (known by our German guests as Glühwein) and we count down into 2023! The captain comes out to personally wish us all a happy New Year while

the horn is blown three times. We have the best 'fireworks' imaginable, several lunge-feeding and tail-slapping **Humpback whales** hang around Hondius for over an hour.

During the night we reposition to Orne Harbour where we will start our last activities on this amazing trip before we have to head back to Ushuaia later today. Half of us start this beautiful day on land. The expedition guides are dropping us off at the landing site where we start the steep uphill walk. Arriving on the saddle we are rewarded with spectacular views of Orne Harbour on one side and into the Gerlache Strait and Errera Channel on the other side. At the top there is a colony of **Chinstrap penguins**, and we can see some small, fluffy chicks with their parents too.



The zodiac cruise takes us along the impressive ice walls of the glaciers inside Orne Harbour where we spot a **Weddell Seal** on an ice floe. The sun comes out and shines on the 285-metre-high Spigot Peak where we find another colony of **Chinstrap penguins**. They wait for the perfect time to jump

into the water, some are 'flying' out onto the slippery rocks while **Blue-eyed Shags** swirl over. Out in the Strait we find some Humpbacks. One of them pops up in front of the zodiac and shows his fluke and just a few meters offshore (where it immediately drops to 50 meters deep) we see another one.

Back on board we enjoy another delicious lunch and have some free time until Pippa enthusiastically shares her interesting lecture on the history of whaling in the Southern Ocean at 16.00. Followed at 18.00 by our daily recap and the answers to some of the questions put into the question box. "We don't have a jail on board" and "we have a gym but it is situated in the crew area and only for their use".



Around 19.00 we are passing by the snow-covered mountains of Smith Island, one of the South Shetland Islands and heading into the Drake Passage. As dream-like this first day of the New Year started we close it off with sightings of the wished-for **Killer Whales**. Around 21.00 Pippa makes an announcement that quite a large pod of Killer Whales is spotted on the port side of Hondius. The sun colors the sky orange while we're

adding more picturesque images to our memory. Several large dorsal fins sticking out of the ocean for at least 10 minutes. What a beautiful day to say goodbye to Antarctica!

## **Day 11 – Monday, 2nd January 2023, At sea on the Drake Passage towards Ushuaia**

**12:00 GPS Position: 60°40'S / 064°12'W**

**Wind: SSE4 • Sea State: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +1°C**

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After yesterday's wonderful sighting of Orca, we could stay in our beds little bit longer. It's our first day on the way back to Ushuaia after a fantastic trip to the Antarctic Peninsula. Michael our hotel manager started the day with his announcement coming through the speakers that the restaurant is open for us for breakfast.

Weather and sea conditions were very gentle for us, we could go to Ushuaia without using stabilizers and with two engines running to maintain speed of 14.5 knots.

After breakfast George collected from us pictures for the photography competition, we could contribute photos for three categories – landscape, wildlife and novelty. More than two hundred pictures were contributed and then displayed on all the screens in the lounge for us to vote for the best ones.

Later this morning Chloe gives a very interesting talk about drifting life of the ocean – plankton. She explains to us that it's not always and only about the whales and seals. These tiny and even sometimes cute animals are important for our entire ecosystem and a vital element for bigger animals in the oceans.

After another delicious lunch, Charlotte invites us to her lecture to talk about whales of the Southern Ocean. She shows us how many of these wonderful creatures are living in this part of the world. And then later this afternoon, George presented his topic - Antarctic Geopolitics. With his passion for this topic, he explains to us how sophisticated and well-regulated Antarctica is and the many countries which are involved in this subject, and which are taking care of this part of the world; but there are also problems and conflicts of geopolitics.

Daily recap with plans for tomorrow and lots of small and interesting topics from our expedition team happen as usual before dinner. And to round up the day, we all meet in the lounge after dinner to celebrate the winners of the photo contest.

## **Day 12 – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January, At sea on the Drake Passage towards Ushuaia**

**08h00 GPS Position: 55°36.5' S, 066°10.7'W**

**Wind: SW9 • Sea: Rough • Weather: Rain • Air temperature: +3°C**

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We wake up to our second day in the Drake Passage without a wakeup call, hence guests get the chance for a good long sleep. The swell has increased, and the wind speed has increased to 70 knots this morning. It's a little bit strong than yesterday! For safety reasons the open decks have been closed. Breakfast is served at 8am, after that Szymon presents his lecture "Killer Whales" at 1030am, with some great Killer Whales identification photos he delivered a lot of information about how to identify the different types of killer whale and how to tell the gender.



We then have a chance to take a break to enjoy reading or drinking in the lounge. Lunch was served in the dining room at 1230pm. After lunch we have time to relax as we watch an Antarctica Documentary which was played in the lounge, a documentary series narrated by David Attenborough. Time runs so fast, at 4pm we had a history lecture “ Belgica Antarctic Expedition ” presented by Rose about the full story of the Adrien De Gerlache Expedition. It describes how to overwinter and survive in the Antarctic harsh environment and how the team members managed, how all the crew suffered from scurvy and how finally they were all rescued back to Belgium.

At 6.15pm we the had the farewell toast and the trip slideshow. Everybody dressed nicely and assembled in the lounge to toast the trip. Captain Toni attended and gave a warm speech. Then the time has come for our last “briefing” and one last time Pippa comes up with the plans for the next day.

During a last dinner at 7pm, we finally get the chance to meet the entire hotel department. The time has come to thank them with a huge round of applause for their amazing work. What a day this has been – again!

### **Day 13– Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January, Disembarkation in Ushuaia**

**08h00 GPS Position: 78°14.5' N, 015°32.6'E**

**Wind: S4 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +5°C**

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One last wake-up all from Pippa. 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 12 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: 1'882 Nautical Miles**

**Furthest point south:29/12/2022 65°14.6'S / 064°12,9'W**

### **Your Expedition Team**



## HDS25-23, Trip Log Camping

**27 December 2022, Portal Point, Charlotte Bay. Position: 64°54' S / 062°55' W**

Our first camping activity of the expedition took place at Portal Point, Charlotte Bay. The camping area was right on top of a hill overlooking the bay. While arriving with the zodiacs the sun was still greeting us, but soon after disappeared behind a band of low hanging, but beautiful dense clouds. Nevertheless, conditions remained perfect for our adventure out there.



We set the perimeter for the pits to be dug and the emergency toilet is in place. We welcomed our first guests on shore, directing them up the hill. But first putting on snowshoes which can carry us over the virgin soft snow. Everybody had an amazing view from their new 'bedroom'. Giant

icebergs floating in the bay and reflected in a mirror-like sea with snowy mountains and glaciers in the back. We all go to sleep early. During the night some of us are woken up by a thunder-like sound, it is a nearby glacier calving.

At 03.15AM we are woken up to pack our bags, fill up the pits again to the way it was and head back to the ship for a little more sleep. Getting up to deck 8 to hang the sleeping bags to dry and after a quick snack and some juice in the lounge we all went to bed.

**29 December 2022, Damoy Point, Dorian Bay. Position: 64°53.8' S / 062°52.6' W**

Tonight, is the picture-perfect evening to go camping. Clear, blue sky and the sun shining on the snowcapped mountains across Dorian Bay. We land at the rocky shore and just a few steps up bring us to our camping area. A path is set out and above and below we can dig our pits for the night. Everybody has an amazing view over the bay, the glacier on the right and the Chinstrap colony on the headland just in front of the camp. When we are cozy wrapped up in our sleeping bags a Chinstrap penguin comes and checks us out. Hopping along the ridge up and down.

During our never dark night we see the sky changing from light blue to yellow, orange, and pink coloring the glaciers, mountains, sea, and the historic Damoy hut that sits just

above our camp. The moon shows itself above the mountains and There was no wind which made the sea to a mirror.



At 04.15AM our camping adventure is sadly over. We wake up with cotton-boll-like clouds against a blue sky. It was a cold night. The snow was frozen so filling up the pits was hard work. Some didn't sleep that much but it was still a 'once in a live time' experience.

Heading back to the ship we hang the sleeping bags to dry. After a quick snack and some juice in the lounge we all went to bed.

### **30 December 2022, Damoy Point, Dorian Bay. Position: 64°53.8' S / 062°52.6' W**

After dinner everybody gets ready to go camping. Being the last group to go and experience a special night out on the ice of Antarctica we have heard some great stories from the first campers. But now we are up! The zodiacs head for the huge glacier in Dorian Bay and when you think you run into it we turn to the right, into the shallow bay towards our camping spot.

We leave our personal bags and life jackets just above the landing site and we started digging our pits for the night. The sky is filled with beautiful clouds. It will make the temperature drop not too much. Today it is two Gentoo penguins that come and check out our camp. They waddle up the ice steps when some of us are already comfortably in their sleeping bags enjoying the silence and our new visitors.

Later tonight it starts snowing a little bit, which adds to the mystical atmosphere. And mister Gentoo decides to walk up between the camping pits, stretches his neck up into the air and starts calling. Unfortunately, a little too early for the wakeup call.

At 03.15AM we do have to wake up to pack our bags, fill up the pits again, leaving it the way we found it last night. We head back to the ship for a little more sleep. Getting up to deck 8 to hang the sleeping bags to dry and after a quick snack and some juice in the lounge we all went to bed.

Heading back to the ship we hang the sleeping bags to dry. After a quick snack and some juice in the lounge we all went to bed.

### **HDS25-23, Kayaking Log.**

#### **26/12/22 Morning – Brown Bluff. Calm and slightly overcast.**



Wow, what a day to start our activities. Calm waters allowed us to explore close to the shore. We weaved our way through icebergs and enjoyed watching the penguins who had climbed on top. The ocean felt alive with penguin activity. We paddled amongst lots of icy slush fallen from the glacier. Enjoying a very impressive view of the Glaciers calving face.

#### **Afternoon – Paulet Island. Calm and slightly overcast, with a south flowing current.**

We could see the penguin colony easily before even leaving the ship. As we transferred to Paulet Island in the zodiac we paddled from the northern point of the island along the coast, enjoying the assistance of the current. As we paddled along the shore, we spotted numerous resting Weddell seals amongst the penguins. The beaches and water were extremely busy with penguins. What a treat to enjoy these animals so close to our kayaks.

#### **27/12/22 - Dec Cierva Cove – A little grey and over cast, light wind and some small ocean swell.**



**Afternoon** – Very slight wind and a gentle ocean swell. We explored the huge icebergs in the bay of the Argentinian, Primavera Base. Icebergs towered above us. A leopard seal slinked around in the water before disappearing behind an iceberg. The brash ice rolled in the swell and challenged us with route choice back towards the ship.

**28/12/22 Morning – Danko Island.** Beautiful calm seas and dramatic light.



We are so lucky with this calm weather for kayaking. Danko bay was full of enormous and very impressive icebergs. The island nestled between towering mountains on either side. We explored between the icebergs watching the penguins washing in large groups.

**Afternoon – Neko Harbour.** More perfectly calm ocean for kayaking.

Surrounded by calving glaciers, we needed to be very cautious in our kayaks for waves created by the calving. The bay at Neko was full of bergy bits and icebergs. Very fun to explore these in our kayaks. We spotted a Weddell seal sleeping on the ice and some Gentoo penguins resting and washing. It was great to see the mountaineers climbing the hill. They look so small from the sea.

## 29/12/22 Morning – Wordie Hut and Argentina Islands.



A calm morning, perfect for kayaking. We had to navigate thick, brash ice to get away from the ship and across to the islands. We spotted a humpback whale feeding in the bay, but it was a little too far offshore for us to follow her. We navigated into a small channel and weaved our way into the maze of islands. Penguins swimming under our kayaks and resting on the rocks everywhere. We paddled past the Ukrainian base, and down a even narrower channel to see Wordie hut. Unfortunately, we didn't make it to the hut as fast ice blocked our route. But we enjoyed watching the crab eater seals resting on the fast ice.

**Afternoon - Port Charcot.** Glass like ocean, with no wind and no swell.

An amazing opportunity to explore the towering icebergs trapped in the bay. We weaved our way through the maze of bergs, listening to the call of the Weddell seals. We found a Leopard seal sleeping on the ice, before slinking into a tight channel to find a stunning quiet bay full of snoozing seals! The highlight of this paddle had to be the largest Leopard seal, sleeping on the fast ice. Followed by a hot chocolate floating between the icebergs.

**30/12/22 – Port Lockroy - Damoy point.** A little sea breeze today, and some dramatic clouds lingering around the mountains.



**Morning** – Starting close to the Glacier we paddled along the coast enjoying the impressive ice. Turning to paddle with the wind we crossed the bay to visit Port Lockroy huts, home to the most southern post office in the world. On our crossing we were lucky to see two humpback whales and a Leopard seal sleeping on an iceberg.

**31/12/22 – Cuvervielle Island.** 12knt of wind, some waves and a little grey.



Wow. What a morning. The weather wasn't hugely inspiring, but for the brave people who joined us we were rewarded! After only minutes of being on the water we had humpback whales feeding all around us! Spectacular fluking and from such a close distance.

After the whales left us, we paddled south down the island enjoying the penguins, arctic terns and scowlers. Our last treat was a sleeping

Weddell seal, so close you could hear her snoring! Back to the ship, a slightly soggy ride due to the waves.

## HDS25-23 Mountaineering Trip Log

### Monday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2022, Brown Bluff

Everyone on board was very excited to make our first landing in the Antarctic. Brown Bluff at the northern tip of the Peninsula was a new venue for the mountain guide team, so they were keen to explore this area. Its volcanic geology and abundant wildlife added an extra dimension to the mountaineering. Landing alongside the main shore party, we traversed left along the boulder beach with Adelie Penguins following us. Or was it the other way round? Moving inshore we crossed braided streams flowing over black silt to the tongue of a glacier.

We donned snowshoes and the guides gave us a tutorial on how to walk with our big red plastic feet. Then we roped up and headed up the icy slopes overlooking the bay full of brash ice. We peered into crevasses plunging into the depth of the glacier, keeping the rope correctly managed – just in case! As we climbed higher, the ice of the glacier become covered with wet snow, and the visibility reduced with fog. We descended back to the beach, where we enjoyed some time with the penguins before returning to Hondius for lunch.







### Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> December 2022, Danco

The mountaineers split into two teams, one party landing towards the southern tip of Danco Island and the second group coming ashore below the penguin colonies to the north. The southern group were faced with a short, sharp ascent to get established on the more gentle but crevassed slopes above. They made their way northwards enjoying superb views of the glaciated coastal scenery. They met up with the rest of the team who had



ascended through the penguin colonies to the summit of the island and started their descent to the southern pick-up point. After everyone had completed their traverse of the island and returned by Zodiac to the ship, Hondius was skilfully navigated through the partially ice choked Errera Channel whilst the expedition team and guests enjoyed another delicious lunch on board.

### Neko

Having been successfully transported to Neko Harbour by the shortest route the second mountaineering group of the day were on schedule for their ascent. It is necessary to be efficient leaving the normal landing point at Neko because large seracs regularly collapse into the sea from the extremely impressive ice cliffs just across the bay. The tsunamis thus created have provided excitement for shore and kayak parties



in the past, so it is de rigour to make a swift departure from the beach. The penguins with their local knowledge seem to take these events in their stride, and shuffle off a little faster along their many highways to higher ground. All the mountaineers followed the same route in the afternoon, ascending past the penguins to easy angled snow slopes above. The snow was extremely soft and wet, and

wet snow slides were present on some steeper slopes, so no chances were taken, and the 3 roped groups stopped below the steeper headwall and enjoyed the breath-taking views of the impressive glaciers dropping towards vertical serac walls above the sea. They then made their descent to join the main shore party enjoying the walk down through the penguin colonies to the pickup point.

#### **Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> December 2022, Hovgaard**



Thursday dawned in the amazing mountain landscape of the Lemaire Channel. We were anticipating an exploratory morning on the Antarctic continent just to the east of Winter Island. As often happens on expeditions, especially exploratory ones, conditions meant a radical change of plan. Significant amounts of brash ice blocked access to the continental landing spot, and even getting the ship back to the north involved a slow cruise with all

the zodiacs following behind Hondius in piper fashion.

The afternoon brought better results. Two teams of mountaineers made separate landings on the island of Hovgaard. One team landed near its northern tip, while another started halfway down the island's east coast and took a steeper direct line to the crest of its rounded ridge. We roped up for glacier travel, having observed major crevasses on both side of the island. A steady climb up the ridge gave us stupendous views of the iceberg graveyard to the north, as well as the jagged crest of Booth Island to the northeast whose mountains form one bank of the Lemaire.

On the descent back to the northern landing spot, we could see Weddell seals basking on nearby Pleneau Island. A short Zodiac ride then took us back to Hondius and welcome tea and scones in the observation lounge after a very satisfying afternoon.

### **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> December 2022, Jabet Peak**

This was to be a longer mountaineering excursion than usual starting after breakfast with a Zodiac drop off at Damoy Point, with a planned pick up in the mid-afternoon at Dorian Bay. After a short steep ridge, the 4 ropes of mountaineers were able to enjoy views of Port Lockroy from the gentle slopes leading towards Jabet Peak. As the gradient increased it became necessary to wear crampons, and the soft snow conditions made forward progress hard work. The weather was cloudy and flat light made it hard to pick out features in the snow ahead. There was a stop for a team photo on the fore summit before making a careful descent to the huts at Dorian Bay, which are a heritage site and fascinating to take the opportunity to visit. The group returned to Hondius mid-afternoon for a well-earned mid-afternoon tea and cake.

### **Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> December 2022, Sable Pinnacles**

New Year's Eve brought grey skies to the Peninsula, but we were not deterred from mountaineering. The guides were keen to explore a new area opposite the popular Cuverville Island. A short Zodiac trip took us to a rocky promontory just a few hundred meters right of a spectacular calving glacier. Donning snowshoes and roping up, we climbed a short steep snow to an impressive glacial plateau which looped behind a huge bastion of rock. Cunning interpretation of the glacier (and maybe some luck!) allowed the guides to find a way past the crevasses. A short snow slope led to a spectacular col overlooking the Errera Channel and great views of Cuverville and Danco Islands. We were possibly the first people ever to set foot there, a very satisfying thought.

### **George's Point**

In the afternoon, we wound up mountaineering for 2022 by landing on the rocky foreshore of George's Point, greeted by an elephant seal lounging in the surf. Roped up for glacier travel, we trended up towards a col on the north ridge of the impressive Mount Tennant. The light here was very flat, and Andy used a fly-fishing technique with the rope to show some of us the details of the snow ridges while Mal took a team higher up the ridge. The sea was quite choppy on the ride back to Hondius, with many of us being soaked and/or invigorated by the waves breaking over the bow of the Zodiacs.

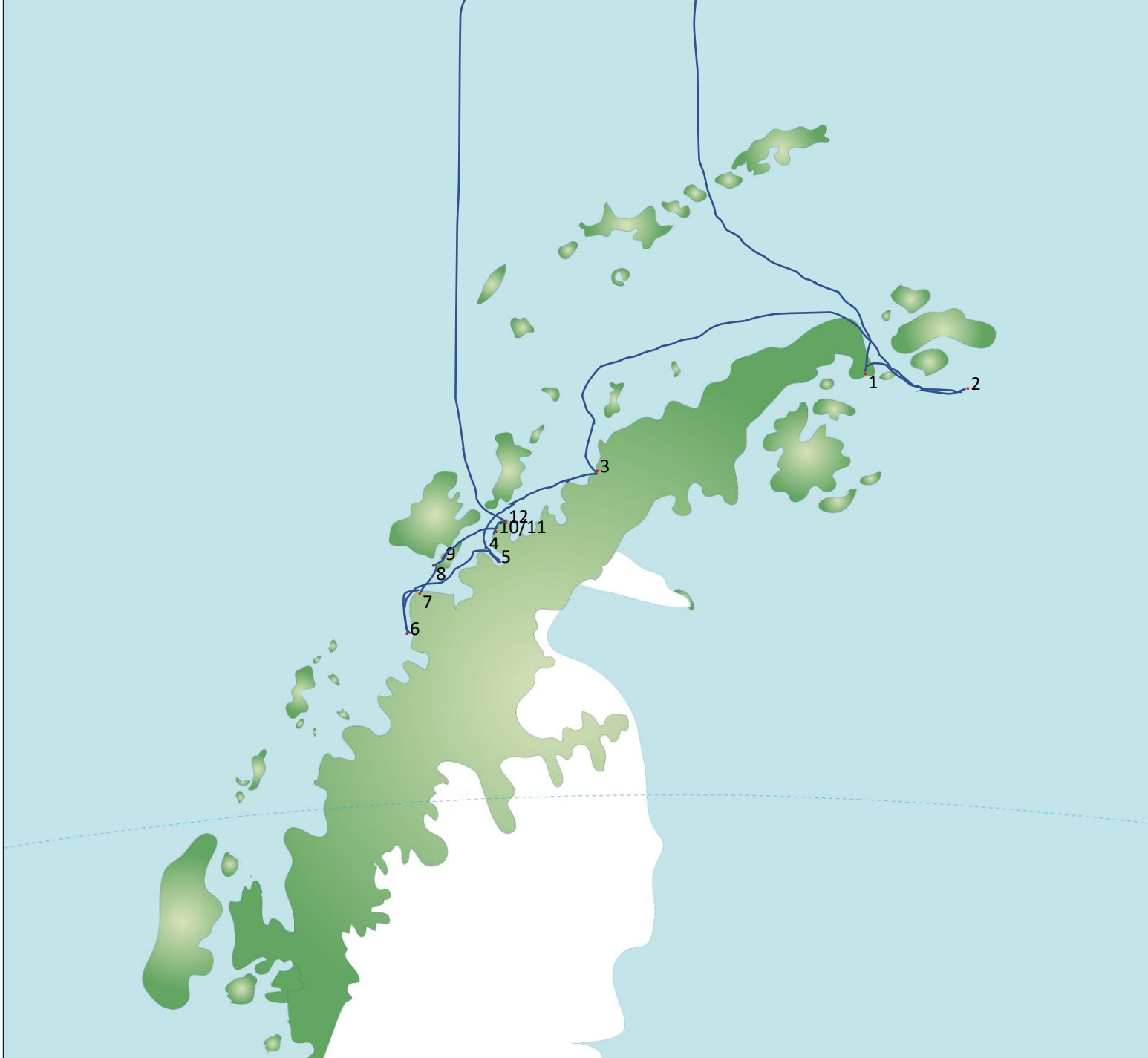
## 1<sup>st</sup> January 2023, Spigot Peak



The weather dawned fine for the final mountaineering excursion of the voyage, despite the less than favourable forecast. The team of 8 mountaineers and 4 guides landed safely at Orne Harbour and followed the route up to the col and chinstrap colonies. Crampons were donned and the ridge up to the summit presented little difficulty due to the generally excellent snow conditions. All the team made it to the summit in good time and enjoyed fantastic views of the surrounding peaks and coastal

scenery. Whales could be seen in the bay below. Chinstrap chicks were spotted on the descent, before returning to the Zodiac pick up, and returning to Hondius ready for the sailing back across the Drake Passage to Ushuaia.





1. (Dec 26<sup>th</sup>) Brown Bluff
2. (Dec 26<sup>th</sup>) Paulet Island
3. (Dec 27<sup>th</sup>) Cierva Cove
4. (Dec 28<sup>th</sup>) Danco Island
5. (Dec 28<sup>th</sup>) Neko
6. (Dec 29<sup>th</sup>) Vernadsky Station
7. (Dec 29<sup>th</sup>) Port Charcot
8. (Dec 30<sup>th</sup>) Port Lockroy
9. (Dec 30<sup>th</sup>) Damoy
10. (Dec 31<sup>st</sup>) Cuverville Island
11. (Dec 31<sup>st</sup>) Orne Island
12. (Jan 1<sup>st</sup>) Orne Harbour





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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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# 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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# Erin Bastian - Kayak Guide

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Erin is a UKCC level 3 sea kayak coach and BCU 5\* sea kayak leader.

Erin is a passionate sea kayaker with over 15 years experience leading expeditions around the world, from the icy fjords of Patagonia, Greenland, and Arctic Norway, to the warm waters of the Mediterranean, circumnavigating the islands of Sardinia, Corsica, and Menorca. In 2019 Erin crossed the Aegean sea by kayak, planning a route which linked 17 Greek islands and making 16 significant open water crossings.

Erin's keen sense for adventure and love for the ocean inspired her to row across the Atlantic ocean in 2021. Making the 3000 mile crossing from La Gomera to Antigua, as part of a team of 4 women, in 40 days.

Erin finds herself drawn to the colder waters of the poles, where exploring by kayak allows her to enjoy the incredible wildlife, navigate between enormous icebergs and watch glaciers calve into the ocean. Erin has a real love for introducing others to the sport of kayaking with its freedom to explore and ability to get people closer to nature.

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# Mal Haskins – Mountain Leader / Guide

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## NZMGA / IFMGA Mountain and Ski Guide

Mal has been calling the mountains and high ranges of the world his home now for the last 25 + years.

He really enjoys sharing his passion and enjoyment of the great outdoors with others and so guiding was a natural progression for him.

He works throughout the world in both summer and winter conditions taking people mountaineering and skiing and calls Wanaka, New Zealand home. He spends time working from Nepal, India, Peru, New Zealand and Antarctica.

Mal first had the opportunity to come down to work and experience the Antarctic Peninsula in late 2015 and has since been working regularly with Oceanwide Expeditions down on the Antarctic Peninsula

He finds all mountain ranges around the world special but with Antarctica there is extra magic – the wildlife, amazing glaciers, weather and the people you meet on these journeys – it's an experience you can't match anywhere else in the world.

He looks forward to sharing his joy of the mountains with you in this very special place.

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## Massimo Candolini – Mountaineering Guide

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I have been climbing mountains since I was young, doing activities in the Alps, especially in the winter, such as winter ascents, icefalls, ski touring, freeride, and steep ski.

In 2001, I left my job of programming computers/electronics and I attended the Italian Mountain Guide National Course. I was qualified in 2003 and ever since have been working as a professional Mountain Guide.

In 2010 I founded the Mont – Mountain Guiding, Mountaineering School and Adventure Travels company, which focuses on climbing in the Alps (rock climbing, ski touring, high mountain), consultancy (Natural Parks Organizations, Snow and Avalanche Office Forecast, via Ferrata building and maintenance), publishing (I wrote several ski touring and rock climbing guide books) and adventure expeditions organization (Nepal, Perú, Bolivia, Norway, Greenland, Alaska, Spitzbergen, Peninsula Antarctica, Russia, Kyrgyzstan and others).

Having skied all the continents and summited several mountains, I chose the extreme north and the white slopes as my mountaineering home. In 2015 I started to work on board of Rembrandt Van Rijn in Greenland and Spitzbergen. I continue to travel searching to push my skis over untouched snow trying to calm my desire of adventure into a natural, wild, and savage environments. I am definitively convinced; my favourite mountain is the next one

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# Robin Beadle - Mountain Guide

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Robin's love of the outdoors began at a young age in the Peak District, UK, and this interest progressed to rock climbing on his local outcrops. During his time as a mechanical engineer he made frequent personal trips to the Alps, and mountaineering expeditions to Peru, Africa and the Indian Himalaya, including the first ascent of Kharcha-Kund North Ridge.

He climbed Broad Peak as a guide during the first British professional expedition to the summit of an 8000m peak.

Since qualifying as an International Mountain Guide Robin has spent much of his life guiding, teaching and leading climbs and tours throughout the European Alps in summer and winter, with worldwide expeditions or UK based activities at other times. He is a professional and thoughtful guide who loves to share his experience with others who are seeking their own adventures. His strong interest in expedition guiding has seen him lead expeditions to Antarctica, Arctic East Greenland, Svalbard and Iceland as well as to the highest peaks on earth. He has climbed in the Himalaya, Karakoram, South America, Africa and most recently to Kyrgyzstan, and led groups to the summits of Everest and Mount Vinson, and to the South Pole on ski. As well as exploratory mountaineering in East Greenland, Robin has made 4 ski ascents of Gunnbjornsfjeld, the highest peak in the Arctic, the first British ski descent from the summit, and several other first ski descents in Greenland.

Closer to home in the English Lake District Robin continues to enjoy his lifelong passion for traditional British rock climbing, but is a keen mountain sports all-rounder and has recently taken up mountain biking in his spare time. He derives immense satisfaction and pleasure from introducing people to wilderness and mountain areas in a safe and challenging way.

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# Andy Perkins – Mountain Leader

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Andy Perkins is an IFMGA mountain guide living in Chamonix at the foot of Mont Blanc, western Europe's highest mountain. He has been climbing and skiing since he was a teenager and has worked as a qualified mountain guide for over twenty years.

His "normal" work is as a guide in the European Alps. In the summer he guides climbing and mountaineering clients from all over the world. In winter he works with off piste skiers in and around lift-served ski resorts and by using ski touring equipment to access more remote spots. It's in that capacity

that he discovered the magical combination of mountains and ocean, initially through ski sail trips in Arctic Norway. He has pursued that fabulous formula with trips to Iceland and Greenland over recent years.

Here are three highlights from his mountain experience:

- 17 days on Cerro Kishtwar's north face in the Indian Himalaya . Intensity of experience is his goal in personal climbing, and this one had it in spades.
- 2 rescues on Denali, the second of which earned him the Denali Pro Award and an Award for Bravery from the US Department of the Interior.
- Skiing in Arctic Norway with his wife Lise, 60 years after his dad was pioneering there in the 1950's. Mountains run in the family!

He speaks fluent English and French and basic German and Italian.

His aim as a guide is to share his love of the wild places of the world and to maximise his clients' potential - to exceed their expectations of what they're capable of. This often means taking on new skills as well as sharpening existing ones. The big grins when someone finally "gets it", whether skiing or climbing, makes his job as a guide a real joy.



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# Alexander Romanovskiy - Expedition Guide

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

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

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

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

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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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# 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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# Szymon Niezabitowski - Expedition Guide

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Szymon was born in 1993 in Cracow, Poland. He studied Biology and Geography in Cracow where he received graduate degree in "Faculty of Biology and Earth Sciences".

His graduate thesis was about Volcanic Soils on Iceland.

After he finished his studies he worked for the Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals, where he was a guide and keeper of exotic animals.

From the earliest years of his life he is a passionate naturalist with a special interest in the geography and the wildlife of the higher latitudes.

## Deutsch

Szymon ist 1993 in Krakau, Polen geboren. Er hat Biologie und Geografie in Krakau studiert wo er ein Bachelor in "Faculty of Biology and Earth Sciences" bekommen hat.

Seine Abschlussarbeit war über Vulkanische Böden Islands.

Nachdem er seine Studien abgeschlossen hat hat er fürs Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals gearbeitet, wo er Guide und Tierpfleger für Exoten war.

Seit seinen jüngstem Alter ist er ein leidenschaftlicher Naturalist mit besonderem Interesse in Geografie und Wildtiere der höheren Breiten.

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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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## Julia Wellner – Expedition guide

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Julia grew up in northern Germany, roaming and exploring nature from her early childhood on and quickly developed quite a taste for travelling. After studying photography in the tiny village of Vevey on the shores of the Lake of Geneva in Switzerland, she has worked and lived in the USA and France. Once back to the calm grounds of Switzerland, she spent almost ten years organizing medical emergency evacuations and repatriations worldwide – a passionate work with one big problem: a lack of nature and real adventure!

Several winter months spent in Iceland made her remember that the Far North, the cold and barren landscapes are the place where she feels the most at home. An artist residency that was taking place on a sailboat in the high arctic brought Julia to Svalbard, better known to some by the name of Spitzbergen. Two weeks that changed her life: touched by the incredible nature, she decided to leave Switzerland and move north and take on a new professional path.

Since 2017 she is now working as a guide and expedition leader: in winter & spring as a snowmobile guide on Svalbard, summers as a guide and expedition leader on expedition cruises in Svalbard and Greenland and when the darkness settles in the northernmost settlement of the world, she travels south and joins the expedition cruises for a great part of the Antarctic season. She speaks German, French, English and some Norwegian.

Julia still continues her work as a photographer with commercial mandates and as an artist with her work being show in exhibitions.

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# Júlia Baldursdóttir – Expedition Guide

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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.

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# Julia Angermeier - Expedition Guide

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Julia was born Germany in a small village outside of Frankfurt.

She has always had a love of the outdoors. Camping, hiking, mountaineering, kayaking have been her favorite activities since her childhood.

She started her professional career as an Intensive Care Nurse in 1998 and finished her studies in 2003. She continues this profession today in her time off.

The majority of her time, however, is spent in Puerto Natales (Chile) where she works as a trekking and outdoor guide in Torres Del Paine Nationalpark and other regions in Patagonia some of the most remote and beautiful parts of the world.

In 2019 she started working as a camping- and expedition guide for Oceanwide Expeditions in Antarctica. From the first day on she fell in love with the beautiful and breathtaking nature of the deep south. Becoming a Polar guide was now her goal.

Julia's "Speciality" are still people...telling the known and unknown stories of the most interesting people in the history of exploration of the polar regions became her passion.

Another passion of her is connecting people with nature, and showing the beauty around them. Getting people away from their computers, social media and stress, and giving them a life changing experience.

Julia looks forward to sharing these amazing adventures with her guests on every trip.



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# Tiphanie May - Expedition Guide

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Tiphanie is an 8<sup>th</sup> generation Falkland Islander living in Stanley. She was raised on a small group of islands called Speedwell Island Group, owned and worked by her parents as a sheep farm and family crab business.

Tiph was raised surrounded by Falkland's wildlife with her family island boasting rookeries of Magellanic penguins, Gentoo penguins as well as several other breeding birds. The islands also include haul outs of South American sealions and elephant seals. Surrounded by all this wildlife it was of no surprise that she found nature

fascinating. From the penguin couple that lived under her house to the wonderful variety of creatures found in the crab pots, marine life was a theme. This led to her to travel to the UK at 16 to study to be a marine biologist.

Tiph spent 6 years in the UK studying to get her BSc (HONS) Marine Biology and MSc in Marine Biology. Using her holidays to volunteer in the Falklands for various conservation projects to gain experience. Upon completing her studies, she joined the Government Fisheries Department, spending 200 days per year at sea monitoring seabird activity and collecting research material. The sea has been a big part of her life, from a young age she worked to haul crab pots with her father's boat. Later she went on to work for an experimental sustainable fish farm which allowed her to get her RYA qualifications in Power Boat. Tiph currently works full time operating a small boat in the Falklands.

Tiphanie started working in the tourist industry at the age of 23. Having grown up with no roads her whole life, 4X4 tour driving just made sense. Tiph has worked to provide a variety of tours such as hiking, 4X4 and penguin colony visits. In 2018, Tiphanie was offered the amazing opportunity to go to Antarctica and South Georgia with Oceanwide as guide. She fell in love with the scale of the landscape and has never looked back.

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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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# Saskia van der Meij – Expedition guide

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Saskia is an adventurous girl born in the Netherlands. With a huge national park in her backyard, she felt on a young age how great it is to be active in nature. Getting up early, when the world is still asleep, that's when you hear nature at his best.

For more than 20 years she was a dedicated product manager for a nature-orientated tour-operator offering tailor-made self-drive holidays with stays in special accommodations. She's coming home to amazing destinations like Alaska, Canada, Iceland, Australia, New Zealand, Argentina, Chile and

Southern Africa.

In November 2019 she followed her heart and managed a lodge in Namibia for a few months. That was the start of her new career. Working as Head Service on a Tallship taking guests to beautiful places around the Baltic Sea, the interesting north of Norway looking for whales and northern lights and expeditions to mind-blowing Spitsbergen/ Svalbard. In the meantime, also complete various guide-training programs.

Being active outdoors makes her really happy. Multiple-day hikes in the Andes or Himalayas, canoeing around remote islands in Canada or camping on a mountain top overlooking glaciers in Alaska. Ask her and she's up for it. Her heart beats faster when nature 'talks' to her. What better way to share her passion and also finding a way to contribute to nature conversation at the same time!

Hospitality lies in her core and her ongoing 'sunshine' is what guests remember Saskia by. She loves motivating people and sharing her enthusiasm with others is what goes naturally. Colleagues describe her as an energetic Jack-of all-trades with eye for detail.

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# Carina Ketterer – Expedition Guide

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This is Carina, she grew up in the swiss capital of Bern far away from the sea. Her studies in renewable energies and environmental engineering gave her a curiosity in energy production and civil engineering. She would like to share this curiosity with you! Carina is a sports nut and runs triathlons in her spare time. But don't worry, she has vowed to slow down the tours to half-tempo.

Carinas favorite animal since childhood, was the penguin. In 2019 she finally hopped on a boat to the Antarctic to see them in their natural habitat. That journey bore in her a new fascination with these cute animals and their

dominion.

Being the happiest outside, Carina chose to make the world her workplace and to become an international guide for Oceanwide Expeditions.

Carina is a passionate and optimistic person who always likes to learn new things and has a broad interest in geography, history, archaeology, the arts and the natural sciences. As the cheesy Instagramposts say: "The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step". So step up and let Carina share her passion for civil engineering and penguins with you and take part in your once in a lifetime adventure!

## 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).
- 0915      **Zodiac & IAATO Briefing** - Please join us in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our **mandatory** zodiac and IAATO briefings.
- 1100      **Mountaineering briefing** – Please join Mal and Andy in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a mountaineering introduction and briefing. If you plan on doing a mountaineering activity this briefing is mandatory.  
*If you have brought mountaineering boots with you – **please bring one of your boots to this briefing.***
- 1200      **Muck Boots** - We will call you by colour group 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      **Camping Briefing** – Campers please meet Saskia and Gonzalo in the **lounge** (deck 5) for your camping introduction and briefing. If you plan on camping this briefing is mandatory.
- 1530      **Kayaking briefing**– Please join Alexis and Erin in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a kayak introduction and briefing. If you plan on kayaking this briefing is mandatory.
- 1700      **Photography** – Please meet Julia in the **lounge** (deck 3) for your first introductory lecture on photography.
- 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.*



- 0745      **Wakeup Call** – Good Morning :)
- 0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 0915      **Activities sign up** - We will call you by group to the **lecture room**, (deck 5) to sign up for the activities you plan to do in Antarctica. These include Mountaineering, Kayaking and Camping. If you wish to Mountaineer, please sign up for this activity first. You can then sign up for kayaking and camping afterwards. ***Please listen for announcements.***
- 1130      **Geographical Introduction to Antarctica** - Please join Sasha in the **lounge** (deck 5) to learn the basics about the physical features of Antarctica.
- 1230      **Lunch** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400      **Biosecurity:** We will call you by colour groups to **deck 3** to complete our biosecurity cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, footwear and tripods/walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. ***Please listen for announcements.***
- 1630      **Antarctic Penguins** - Please join Carina in the **lounge** (deck 5) for her lecture exploring the penguins we are likely to encounter on our voyage.
- 1730      **Kayaking Gear** – For those Kayaking tomorrow (Monday) morning - please come to **deck 3** to collect it.
- 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.*
- 2100      **Christmas Movie night!** *Please listen for announcements.*

***Merry Christmas from all onboard Hondius!***





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

*This morning we hope to offer a continental landing and a zodiac cruise at Brown Bluff. Brown Bluff is a great example of a “tuya”, a volcano that has been flattened by erupting through a glacier! The site is home a large Adelie penguin colony. The **Antarctic krill** and **Humpback Whales** will go to shore while the group **Adelie penguins** and **Leopard Seals** will go zodiac cruising first. We will then swap through the morning.*

- 0730 **Mountaineering** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) **to the zodiac boarding area**.
- 0800 The **Antarctic krill** and the **Humpback whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Brown Bluff.
- 0815 The **Adelie penguins** and the **Leopard seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Brown bluff.
- 0830 **Kayaking group 1** Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3).
- 0945 **Kayaking group 2** Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3).
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1400 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap.

*This afternoon we hope to land and zodiac cruise at Paulet Island. Paulet Island is home to the remains of a hut from 1903 – built by the survivors of the wrecked vessel the ‘Antarctic’ and thousands of Adelie Penguins! The **Antarctic krill** and **Leopard Seals** will go to shore while the **Humpback Whales** and **Adelie penguins** will go for a zodiac cruise. We will then swap halfway through the afternoon.*

- +/-1530 **Mountaineering** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) **to the zodiac boarding area**.
- +/-1600 The **Antarctic krill** and the **Leopard seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Paulet Island.
- +/-1615 The **Humpback whales** and the **Adelie penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise around Paulet Island.
- +/-1630 **Kayaking group 1** Please come to the zodiac boarding area (deck 3).
- +/-1745 **Kayaking group 2** Please come to the zodiac boarding area (deck 3).

- 1900  **Christmas Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. **Merry Christmas!** 



- 0745 **Wake up call.** Good morning!  
0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we will ship cruise the Gerlache straight, named after the Belgian Adrien de Gerlache, who explored the Strait in 1898. During our cruise, we hope to see glistening icebergs, diving Humpbacks and towering mountains. We encourage you to enjoy the landscapes and wildlife from the outer decks.*

- 0930 **The Swedish Antarctic Expedition** – please join Saskia in **the lounge** to learn about the the crew forced to over winter on Paulet Island in 1903.  
1030 **Kayaking gear** – If you are kayaking this afternoon, please meet Alexis & Erin on deck 3 to collect your kayak gear.  
1100 **Antarctic Ice** – Please join Szymon in the **lounge** for his presentation examining the different types of ice that can be found in Antarctica.  
1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This afternoon we hope to offer a full ship zodiac cruise around the spectacular Spert island. The island lays off the west extremity of Trinity Island, in the Palmer Archipelago. Charted by the Swedish Antarctic Expedition under Nordenskjold, 1901-04.*

**Photo Workshop** – This afternoon, we will offer some passengers who have registered for our photography workshops the opportunity to join Lotti on a zodiac cruise. Lists will be posted at reception. If your name is listed, please join Lotti at the **Aft Shell door** at 1330, **irrespective of your colour group**.

- 1330 The **Antarctic krill** and the **Leopard seals** - Please come to the zodiac **boarding area**.  
1330 **Kayaking group 1** Please come to the zodiac **boarding area**.  
1345 The **Humpback whales** and the **Adelie penguins** - Please come to the zodiac **boarding area**.  
1500 **Kayaking group 2** Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1800 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.  
1900 **Buffet Dinner** served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!  
+/- 2100 **Camping** – This evening we hope to offer camping at Leith Cove in Paradise Bay. We will confirm whether camping will proceed once we have assessed conditions. Please standby for announcements.

- 0715 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**. **Mountaineering**, please go first at the buffet.

*This morning 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. The **Leopard Seals** and **Humpback Whales** will go to shore while the group **Adelie penguins** and **Antarctic krill** will go zodiac cruising first. We will then swap through the morning. In addition, we hope to offer a **polar plunge** at the end of the landing, please wear your polar swimsuit/trunks under your clothing this morning – we will bring towels!*

- 0820 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.
- 0830 The **Leopard seals** and the **Humpback whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Danco Island.
- 0845 The **Adelie penguins** and the **Antarctic krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Danco Island.
- 0900 **Kayaking group 1** - Please come to the of the **zodiac boarding area**.
- 1015 **Kayaking group 2** - Please come to the of the **zodiac boarding area**.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*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 **Humpback Whales** and **Leopard Seals** will go to shore while the group **Antarctic krill** and **Adelie penguins** will go zodiac cruising first. We will then swap through the afternoon.*

- +/- 1400 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.
- +/- 1430 The **Humpback whales** and the **Antarctic krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Neko Harbour.
- +/- 1445 The **Leopard seals** and the **Adelie penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Danco island.
- +/- 1500 **Kayaking group 1** - Please come to the of the **zodiac boarding area**.
- +/- 1615 **Kayaking group 2** - Please come to the of the **zodiac boarding area**.
- 1930 **A special Antarctic Dinner** – Dress warmly.

*At approximately **0530** 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.*

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

*This morning we hope to land and zodiac cruise at Winter Island to visit Wordie Hut, and cruise amongst the Argentine Islands. It will be the southernmost point of our voyage.*

- 0715 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
0800 The **Antarctic krill** and the **Adelie penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Winter Island.  
0815 The **Humpback whales** and the **Leopard seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Winter Island.  
0900 **Kayakers** – Please come to the of the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1230 **Lunch** will be served in the dining room.

*This afternoon we aim to zodiac cruise in Salpetriere Bay at Port Charcot, one of Antarctica's most spectacular 'iceberg graveyards'.*

**Photo Workshop** – This afternoon, we will offer passengers who have registered for our photography workshops the opportunity to join Lotti on a zodiac cruise. The list will be posted at reception. If your name is listed, please join Lotti at the **Aft Shell door** at **1400, irrespective of your colour group**.

- 1315 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1345 **Kayaking group 1** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1400 The **Humpback whales** and the **Leopard seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Salpetriere Bay.  
1415 The **Antarctic krill** and the **Adelie penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Salpetriere Bay.  
1515 **Kayaking group 2** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1815 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge  
1900 **Buffet dinner** will be served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!  
+/- 2115 **Camping** – We will confirm whether camping will proceed once we have assessed conditions. Standby for announcements.

- 0745      **Wake up call.** Good morning!  
0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to offer a landing at Jougla Point, as well as a zodiac cruise amongst the surrounding islands – home to Port Lockroy. Here we hope to enjoy nesting Gentoo Penguins & Imperial Cormorants.*

**Photo Workshop** – This morning, we will offer passengers who have registered for our photography workshops the opportunity to join Lotti on a zodiac cruise. The list will be posted at reception. If your name is listed, please join Lotti at the **Aft Shell door** at 0915, **irrespective of your colour group**.

- 0830      **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
0900      The **Antarctic krill** and **Humpback Whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Jougla Point.  
0915      The **Adelie penguins** and **Leopard Seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise in the surrounding bay of Jougla Point.  
0930      **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*In the afternoon we hope to land and cruise at Damoy point. Here we hope to enjoy gentoo penguins, a long walk and stunning Antarctic scenery.*

- 1430      The **Adelie penguins** and **Humpback Whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Damoy Point.  
1445      **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1515      The **Leopard Seals** and **Antarctic krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Damoy point.  
1845      **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.  
1900      **Buffet dinner** served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!  
+/- 2115      **Camping** – We will confirm whether camping will proceed once we have assessed conditions. Standby for announcements.

- 0745 **Wake up call.** Good morning!  
0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning hope to offer a landing and zodiac cruise at Cuverville Island – one of the largest Gentoo Penguin colonies on the Peninsula.*

**Photo Workshop** – *This morning, we will offer passengers who have registered for our photography workshops the opportunity to join Lotti on a zodiac cruise. The list will be posted at reception. If your name is listed, please join Lotti at the **Aft Shell door** at 0915, **irrespective of your colour group**.*

- 0815 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
0900 The **Leopard Seals** and **Humpback Whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Cuverville.  
0915 The **Adelie penguins** and **Antarctic krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise in the surrounding bay of Cuverville.  
0915 **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1300 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This afternoon we hope to offer a landing and zodiac cruise at Orne Island – with beautiful Antarctic scenery and the chance of spotting Chinstrap Penguins!*

- 1415 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
1500 The **Leopard Seals** and **Antarctic krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Orne Island.  
1515 The **Adelie penguins** and **Humpback Whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Orne Island.  
1845 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.  
1930 **New Year Dinner** served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!  
+/- 2200 **Polar Quiz**. Please join George and the expedition team in the Lounge for some fun polar trivia.

**New Year's Celebrations** – *We hope to offer drinks on the bow of Hondius to ring in the New Year!*



*We wish you a very happy 2023 from all Crew and Staff onboard Hondius!*

- 0745      **Wake up call.** Good morning!  
0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to offer a landing and zodiac cruise at Orne Harbour – A continental landing with Chinstrap Penguins. On the zodiac cruise, we hope to spot lots of wildlife, as well as beautiful icebergs.*

**Photo Workshop** – *This morning, we will offer passengers who have registered for our photography workshops the opportunity to join Lotti on a zodiac cruise. The list will be posted at reception. If your name is listed, please join Lotti at the **Aft Shell door** at 0915, **irrespective of your colour group**.*

- 0830      **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.  
0900      The **Leopard Seals** and **Antarctic krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Orne Harbour.  
0915      The **Adelie penguins** and **Humpback Whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Orne Harbour.  
1300      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This afternoon we will sail through the Gerlache Strait, on our way North. We hope to spot wildlife and enjoy our last views of Antarctic Scenery.*

- 1600      **History of Antarctic Whaling** – Please join Pippa in the lounge for her lecture on the history of whaling in the Southern Ocean.  
1800      **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.  
1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

*This evening we will sail into open water – please secure your belongings and take your seasickness medication as required. Please remember to keep one hand for the ship and take care when moving around. We may need to close the outer decks – please pay attention to the signs on the outer doors.*

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

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

0900-1000 **Photo competition** – Did you take some amazing images during our trip? Enter your best shot into our photo competition! Please join George in the **library** near the coffee machine 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 drifting critters of the Southern Ocean.

1200 **Muck Boot & Rental Gear Collection** – We will call you by deck to return your muck boots and any rental gear to the **shell doors on deck 3**. Please listen for announcements.

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

1400 **Whales of the Southern Ocean** – Please join Charlotte in the **lounge** for her lecture on the ocean giants of Antarctic waters.

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.

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 George in the **lounge** to reveal the competition winners.

*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.*

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

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

1030 **Killer whales** - Please join Szymon in the **Lounge** to learn more about these exceptional marine mammals of the Southern 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 **Antarctica Documentary** - Please join the expedition team in the lounge for a viewing of 'Antarctica' from 'Seven Worlds, one Planet', a documentary series narrated by David Attenborough.

1600 **Belgium Antarctic expedition**– Please join Rose in the **lounge** for her lecture on the first overwintering South of the Polar circle.

1815 **Farewell Toast & Trip Slideshow** - Please join the Captain and the expedition team in the **lounge** 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.*

*“The Sea, once it casts its spell, holds one in its net of wonder forever.”  
— Jacques Cousteau*

*‘No one has lost courage; with such comrades one should be able to  
manage under, I may say, any circumstances.’  
— Salomon August Andrée, Swedish polar explorer*





Antarctica Basecamp  
Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023  
Disembarkation - Ushuaia

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.***