



Antarctic Peninsula

Ushuaia - Ushuaia

3rd January 2023 –14th of January 2023

On board *m/v Plancius*



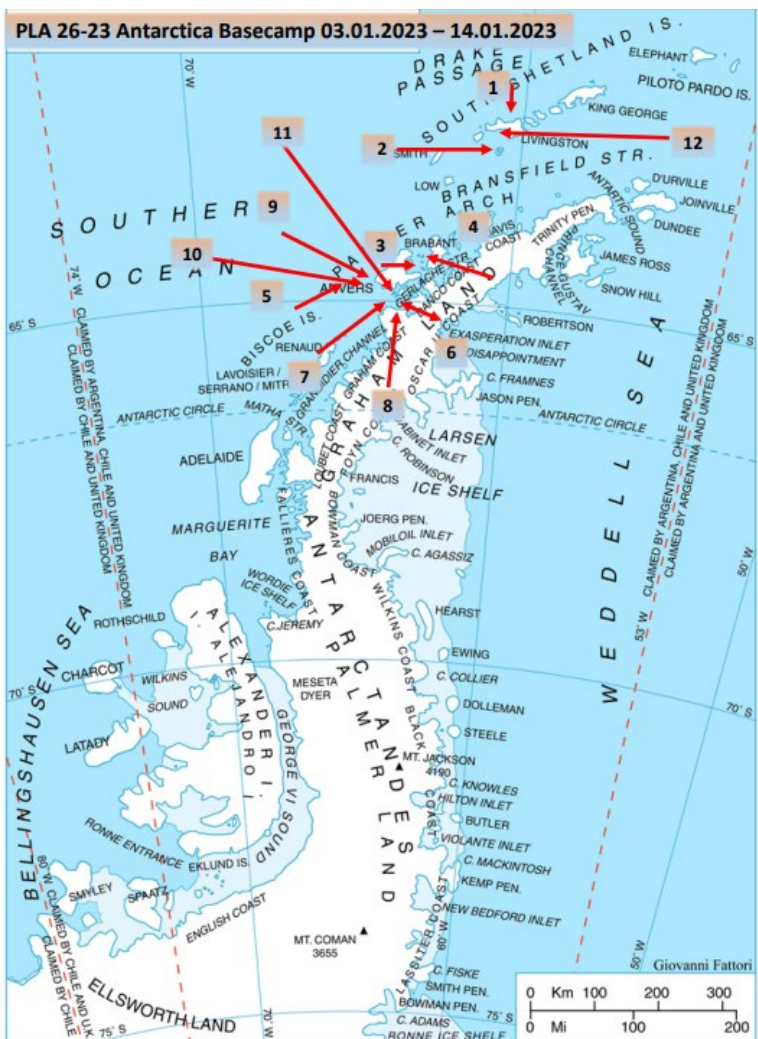
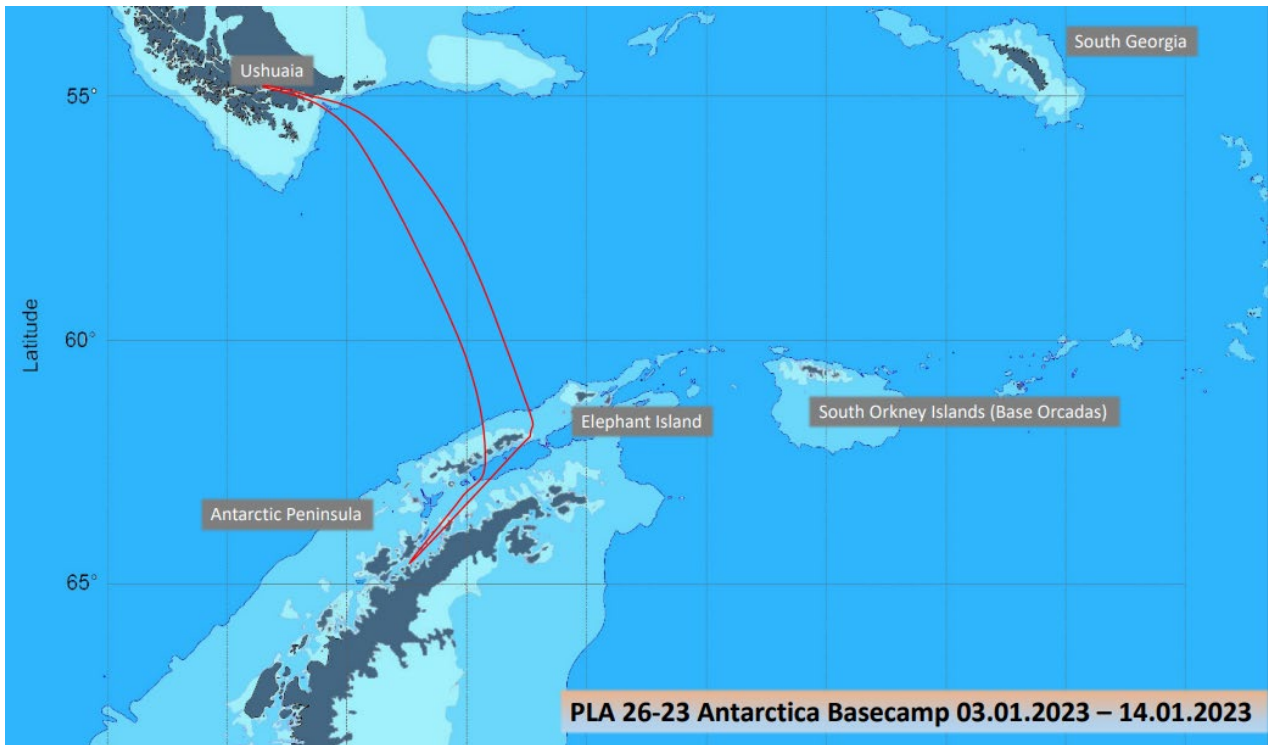
M/v Plancius was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was named "Hr. Ms. *Tydeman*". The vessel was completely rebuilt as a passenger vessel in 2009 and complies with the latest SOLAS-regulations (Safety Of Life At Sea). *M/v Plancius* is 89 m long, 14.5 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5 m, ice class 1D, 10,5 knots average cruising speed and has 3 Diesel- Electric engines.

Captain Remmert-Jan Koster

and his international crew of 50 sailors

Chief Officer:	Maikel Overbeeke	[Netherlands]
2nd Officer:	Warren Villaneuva	[Philippines]
3rd Officer:	Martin Hansson	[Sweden]
Hotel Manager:	Volodymyr Cherednychenko	[Ukraine]
Head Chef:	Ivan Yuriychuk	[Ukraine]
Sous Chef:	Sergiy Sklyarov	[Ukraine]
Ships Doctor:	Samuel Fidder	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Martin Berg	[Sweden]
Assis.-Expedition Leader:	Stefanie Liller	[Germany]
Kayak Guide:	Zet Freiburghaus	[Sweden]
Mountaineering Guide:	David Rudkin	[UK]
Mountaineering Guide:	Richard Mansfield	[UK]
Camping Guide:	Christiaan Luteijn	[Netherlands]
Camping Guide:	Anthonie Luteijn	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Esther Josten	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Beth Hitchcock	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	Daniel Hoehne	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Koen Hoekemeijer	[Netherlands]

We welcome you on board!



1. Walker Bay (Hannah Point) no landing
2. Deception Island (Whalers Bay)
3. Cuverville Island
4. Danco Island (Polar Plunge)
5. Useful Islands
6. Paradise Bay Base Brown
7. Damoy Point
8. Port Lockroy
9. Peterman Island
10. Pleneau Island
11. Lemaire Channel
12. Melchior Islands

Day 1 – Tuesday 3rd of January 2022, Ushuaia, Embarkation Day

16h00 GPS Position: 54°48.6'S / 068°18.0'W

Wind: W5 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Gust/Rain • Air temperature: +9°C • Sea temperature: 9°C

Finally, the day arrived for our adventure! Many of us have waited a long time for this day. We embarked on board our home for the next 13 days at about 4pm. It was windy in Ushuaia, but we got some sunny holes.

We entered the port and were welcomed by the Expedition Team and the Hotel Team at the Plancius' gangway. After we had been shown to our rooms, we started to explore the ship and our new environment, soon followed the briefing for the mandatory safety drill and drill itself.

It was interesting to see the 105 fellow passengers in the bulky orange lifevests. Before dinner Matin, our Expedition Leader (EL), invited us to the lounge where we went through some basic information about life on the Plancius, the general plan for the trip and the weather forecast for the upcoming days. Volodymyr, our Hotel Manager, gave us useful advice about practicalities of life on board.

After the drill was complete and the shore staff were ready to free our lines, it was time to leave Ushuaia behind. We set off down the Beagle Channel in a l

For many the travel days to reach the remote town of Ushuaia were long, so most of us went to bed shortly after the fantastic buffet. We enjoyed settling into our new temporary home and cannot wait for the adventures that will begin soon.

Day 2 – Wednesday 4th of January 2023, crossing the Drake Passage

09h00 GPS Position: 56°37.8'S / 065°40.3'W

**Wind: SW 7/8 • Sea: Rough • Weather: Partly cloudy • Air temperature: +5°C •
Sea temperature: 8°C**

Martin, our Expedition Leader, woke us up in the morning. The night passed with some rolling and pitching of our temporary home Plancius.

We had a nice breakfast, even though the dining room was not completely full. Well, some of us are still in the process of growing their sea legs.

The morning passed by with some mandatory briefings for Antarctica. During the IAATO-Briefing, we learned more about the rules and regulations for the white continent and afterwards we got information about the operation with the zodiacs – our mode of transport to get on shore.

Within the rules of Antarctica we need to ensure that we do not bring any invasive species in – bio security plays an important role in the protection and conservation of nature here. So during the afternoon we inspected all our outer gear, as well as our mugboots that the Expedition Team handed out. The times passed quick between mandatory briefings and laying down to not get more seasick.

In the evening we gathered together for our daily recap and some info about the upcoming day. The tasty dinner made us quite tired. So the bar was just occupied with some energetic guests, most of us went to bed dreaming of arriving to Antarctica.

Well, Martin mentioned 2 days sailing... so we need 2 more sleeps until we are there.

We can do it.



Daniel Höhne (lebedeinerreise.de)

Day 3 – Thursday 5th of January 2023, crossing the Drake Passage

09h00 GPS Position: 60°56.7'S / 063°15.2'W

Wind: W 3 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Clear • Air temperature: +3°C • Sea temperature: 4°C

This morning we got woken up just before 8 am by the voice of our lovely expedition leader, Martin. The rockin' and rollin' Drake of yesterday, seemed to be transformed into a Drake Lake today. Fortunately for most of us...



After breakfast we got a visit from a fin whale, the second largest whale species around here in the Southern Ocean. Furthermore, we got the exceptional sight of a group of long finned pilot whales, swimming by under the shining sun of today.



At the end of the morning, we came together in the observation lounge to sign ourselves up for all the activities that we will be doing when visiting the Antarctic Peninsula:

Mountaineering with Dave and Richard, camping with Anthonie and Chris and kayaking with Zet. What a special week we will have! After lunch we finished the last biosecurity actions, were able to rest a bit AND even got the stunning visit of a southern bottlenose whale! It was such a special and rare site, many of the guides never had a close sight of this species yet. Later in the afternoon, we got to learn more about the seabirds that are seen in this region. It was Martin who shared his passion of ornithology with us.

Before the dinner cooked by our exceptional kitchen crew, we talked about the plans for tomorrow in the recap. It will be a bit rougher qua wind than it was today, so fingers crossed whether we can make our first landings in the South Shetland Islands tomorrow morning!

Thereby, Koen gave us a quick heads-up about photography in sunny and "bright" circumstances. Christiaan ended the talk with a small introduction of the Antarctic Peninsula.

Day 4 – Friday 6th of January 2023, Walker Bay and Deception Island ships cruises

08h00 GPS Position: 62°42.7'S / 60°37.6'W

Wind: NW8 • Sea: slight • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: +6°C • Sea temperature: 3°C

Today marks our first day in Antarctica, early this morning we arrived at the South Shetland Islands. This group of islands lies about 120 km north of the Antarctic peninsula. This time of year, the islands are beautiful as they are only partially covered by the permanent layers of snow and ice, while other parts of the islands are exposed with geological structures and vegetation. For that reason, the islands have an abundance of wildlife around.

The site we visited first today was Walkers Bay on the south coast of Livingstone Island. As we know, Antarctica is one of the windiest places on earth, and today is not any different from that. The winds exceeded 40 knots, which made it impossible for us to get off the ship. The winds make the operations with the zodiacs and at the gangway too dangerous. Our expedition leader, Martin, made the call together with the captain to go for plan B. After weighing the anchor, we were back on our way leaving Walkers Bay behind and setting course for Deception Island!

Deception Island is one of the most special places in Antarctica! Deception Island is one of the most active volcanoes of Antarctica and over the past century it had undergone several eruptions, the most recent happening in 1970. It is located on the Bransfield basin, where extension over the last 4 million years (of a rate of 10mm/year) has caused the opening of the Bransfield Strait, and volcanism. The rifting is related to trench rollback which is related to the adjacent subduction zone.

The volcanism is mainly below sea level but three of these volcanic centers make it above sea level: Deception Island, Penguin Island and Bridgeman Island. These islands form the youngest emerged land of the South Shetland archipelago.

Whilst sailing through Neptune's Bellows, the storm was still blowing strong with restless gusts. On starboard side of Plancius, the huge and majestic basaltic cliffs of Cathedral Crags were welcoming us into the active caldera basin.

On the bridge, focus was high and M/V Plancius was capably steered through the narrow passage despite the intense wind. Once we passed the Bellows a great sense of relief and awe was in the air. We first went for a ship's cruise through the caldera called Port Foster, after which we dropped anchor in Whalers Bay. The winds were still too strong to start operations, we waited patiently, hoping for the winds to decrease. In the meantime, Esther gave a lecture on sealing and whaling, which plays a major role in the history of Deception Island. Steffi also gave a lecture on whales, how to identify different species and about their characteristics. We waited until 6 pm in the bay, but unfortunately the winds didn't drop. After we sailed out of the bellows, we sighted a pod of killer whales! We got a truly amazing sight of these magnificent animals, making up for the windy weather we got today. As we didn't get off the ship today, we did get our first impressions of the beauty of Antarctica!



Day 5 – Saturday 7th of January 2023, Cuverville Island and Danco Island

08h00 GPS Position: 64°40.6'S / 062°37.7'W

Wind: W2 • Sea: calm • Weather: rain • Air temperature: +5°C • Sea temperature: 2°C

This morning we were woken by our expedition leader at 7.15 am, ready for our first day of landings in Antarctica. After being ship-bound for three days due to the Drake Passage crossing and the windy weather yesterday, getting onto the land to move around and experience Antarctica beneath our feet was a moment we were all very excited for.

Out on deck first thing in the morning there was some wind, but thankfully not enough to prevent any landings. There was some low cloud over the mountains with the occasional clearing illuminating a bright patch on the hillside. The scenery was dramatic, and the ice laden mountains were spectacular.

Cuverville Island is a small island adjacent to Rongé Island. From Plancius' anchor position we could see the high mountains of the Antarctic Peninsula disappearing up into the clouds. The island is characterized by a snow-covered hill with a vertical rocky cliff on one side and a lower angled slope to the top on the side we landed. On this slope there are rocky outcrops hosting many gentoo penguins and their nests.

The morning's landing was split into two: a landing and a zodiac cruise. The weather was cold for a first landing and certainly turned all those stories that we've heard of wild weather on Antarctic expeditions into reality. There was some precipitation and with the added factor of the wind, the cold got through any gap in our layers. During the zodiac cruise we explored some of the large ice bergs that have been blown into the bay.



The shapes and the colors of the ice are entertaining as we discussed what animals or landmarks they looked like as well as how the different patterns will have formed. As we moved along the coastline, we saw penguins struggling about on the rocks. This is always entertaining to watch as they slip and trip in such a clumsy manner. However, we were impressed by their agility in the water as they jumped along passed the zodiacs from fishing grounds to colony. Some of us cruised a circumnavigation of Cuverville Island and saw the impressive views into the Errera Channel to the south. The smell of the penguins as we passed down wind of the island is something that we will not forget!

At the landing site it was time to get some steps in to warm up. Along the beach there were many gentoo penguins transporting stones and some returning from a fishing trip. We walked along the waterfront until we reached a good vantage point looking out across the colony. Some of us ventured up the hill slightly, where there were wonderful views back down on Plancius among the ice.

We returned to the ship for a lovely buffet lunch whilst sharing our stores with one another and, more importantly, tried to dry out our clothes ready for the afternoon!

After lunch we didn't go far, in fact just to the next island along called Danco Island. There was a nice open beach to welcome us where we landed where we could begin our walk onto the snowy slopes. Some of us made it to the summit of the island which is just less than 200 meters. At the summit we had fantastic views in very Antarctic weather! This was the time for a very special moment as two of our guests got engaged! It was certainly a fantastic spot with 360 panoramic views of ice-covered mountains and a sea, scattered with icebergs below.

On Danco Island we saw some empty eggshells lying on the ice. This is from where skuas have stolen the penguin eggs and carried them away from the colonies to eat them. The bright orange-red inside of the egg is interesting to see along with the greeny-blue of the inner egg surface. We have seen many lurking skuas, hanging around and waiting for the right moment to swoop in and take an egg.



Back at the landing site the sleet was still coming down heavily and the temperature was about 3°C, however, today was the day for our polar plunge! Once everyone had assembled at the beach, it was time to remove our layers and expose our skin to the air, sleet and snow. Many of us with our socks on, as recommended by our expedition leader on this rocky bottom, took some wobbly steps towards the icy waters. Even in these cold and windy conditions with the sleet hammering down, it was a good turnout for the polar plunge. This was probably due to the fact that it was likely to be the only chance on the trip.

After a very quick zodiac journey back to the ship we were lucky enough to have a warm shower and a hot chocolate before dinner.

Unfortunately, the wet conditions had not eased much throughout the day and the forecast was unsettled for the night so we were not able to carry out our planned camping. Instead we will have a good sleep in the warmth of Plancius and look forward to tomorrow.



Daniel Höhne (lebedeinerreise.de)

“So what!?”

Mountaineering Log

In the morning we attempted to climb to the summit of Cuverville Island via the north-west face. It was raining heavily with moderate wind chill. We made it halfway but turned back at the steepest slope due to avalanche conditions. The snowpack was saturated from the persistent rain and the chances of west slab avalanche was high, so Richard and Dave made the safety call to retreat.

In the afternoon we ice climbed on the glacial ice cliffs found on the west side of Danco. The weather was wet and cold, but this didn't change our enthusiasm. Richard and Dave had set up three different ice climbs for us to try, so, armed with two ice axes in hand, and crampons on our boots, we all got to try the challenge of climbing the 30 metre (100ft) ice walls.

Day 6 – Sunday 8th of January 2023, Useful Island, Gerlache Strait ship cruise, Paradise Bay zodiac cruise, continental landing at Brown Station

08h00 GPS Position: 64°43.35'S / 062°51.7'W

Wind: NE 6/7 • Sea: slight • Weather: overcast • Air temperature: +5°C • Sea temperature: 1°C

The day started with a light breeze that quickly increased into pretty strong winds with breaking waves. Our Expedition Team landed at Useful Island to assess the conditions but almost got blown off the hill and therefore made their way back to the ship as quickly as they could. Instead of a landing, we cruised through the Gerlache Strait towards Paradise Bay. Along the way we got surprised by some very happy Humpback Whales breaching right in front of the ship. What an extraordinary sight! But that wasn't all. Beth gave us a deeper insight into ice – sounds like a simple topic, but surely isn't! She explained the thickness of the ice sheet in Antarctica, how sea ice forms, how glaciers move and what scientific clues can be found in and all around the ice. And every couple of minutes she got interrupted by someone shouting "WHALE"!!! The absolute highlight of the morning was a family of Orca Whales swimming around the ice in the vicinity of the vessel! Especially the males are easy to distinguish with their immense dorsal fin that can reach up to 2m! We felt super lucky spotting Orcas, that definitely doesn't happen on every expedition.

After lunch we finally got out again. The wind died down and the guides were ready by the gangway to pick us up for a zodiac cruise through Paradise Bay. The mountaineers were the first ones to go ashore for a continental Antarctic landing at Brown Station. All others went to cruise along the shoreline to observe nesting Blue Eyed Shags and see the majestic glaciers fronts that cover most of the shore along the Antarctic Peninsula. The bay was filled with impressively shaped ice bergs and... the sound of blowing Humpback Whales – they were everywhere! More than six whales spent the entire afternoon feeding and relaxing in the bay.



Daniel Höhne (lebedeinerreise.de)



Daniel Höhne (lebedeineise.de)

It was an absolutely incredible experience drifting around in the zodiac and the kayaks being surrounded by the surreal sounds and the unbelievable beauty of these animals that are easily triple the size of our boats. We took a short break from our cruise to visit Brown Station and officially set foot on the mainland of Antarctica. The views over the bay were stunning and we enjoyed the little walk around the breeding Gentoo Penguins. Back on the zodiac we went to see some lazy Weddell Seals chilling on shore and spotted some more Humpbacks. All in all it was an absolutely fantastic afternoon and we had a lot of good stories to share during dinner and in the bar.

Mountaineering Log

In the afternoon Richard and Dave guided two teams to the exposed summit behind Brown Station, from there we roped-up to walk further to the second summit across the glacier. The weather was clear, the views were awesome, and because of the light winds it was possible to hear the calls of Humpback Whales down below in the bay.



Day 7 – Monday 9th of January 2023, Damoy Point and Port Lockroy

08h00 GPS Position: 64°48.3'S / 063°29.7'W

Wind: Light air • Sea: Calm • Weather: snowfall • Air temperature: +6°C • Sea temperature: 0°C

We woke to calm and snowy conditions surrounding the ship. It felt silent out on deck without the wind that we are now used to and the waves lapping against the hull. This morning we had a landing at Damoy Point. This is a promontory pointing to the west on Wienke Island which is glaciated and surrounded by high mountains.

We arrived at the landing site of a rocky outcrop with some steps cut into the snow. From here we were able to have a lengthier walk up to the high point which overlooks Neumayer Channel. At the high point there were many gentoo penguins nesting and taking care of their eggs. We walked with snowshoes which was a good way to warm up. Although fog was covering the landing site, the conditions occasionally cleared and a dramatic view opened up. We could get a glimpse of the high mountains surrounding us and the glassy calm water surrounding Plancius. It was nice to be able to observe the penguin behavior for some time without getting cold as there wasn't any wind.

Before boarding the zodiacs back to the ship we looked inside the British hut. This was used until 1993 when British Antarctic Survey staff flew to Rothera from here in the early season before the ice had opened up and allowed the ships to get so far south. The hut was a place to stay on the land until the conditions allowed the flight to leave. Inside the hut we could see old artifacts such as the food packaging, old maps and whalebones. Many commented that it was like going back in time when they looked in through the door. There was also an Argentinian emergency hut next to the British one.



Daniel Höhne (lebedeinerreise.de)

After a great lunch we arrived at Port Lockroy which is a British base, established in 1944. The area was discovered in 1904 by Jean Baptiste Charcot, captain of the 'Francais', during the first French Antarctic expedition. The British base was initially established during the war but was handed over to science after and the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) continued to operate the base for this purpose until 1962. The primary scientific work at Port Lockroy was ionospheric research (the study of the upper atmosphere) which was critical in understanding high frequency radio. Other scientific work included the study of how lichens, birds and mammals survived the harsh conditions of the Antarctic. Port Lockroy's historical importance was recognised in 1995 when the Antarctic Treaty designated the site as Antarctic Historic Site and Monument (HSM) No 61. In 1996 a small team of four carpenters spent two to three months restoring the base as much as possible to its 1962 condition.

Today we were able to see the base as it is now managed by the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust (UKAHT) where we met the team of four girls who operate the base and welcome visitors during the summer months.



Daniel Höhne (lebedeinerreise.de)

Our afternoon we split the time over two landings. Half of us landed at Jougla Point and the other half at Port Lockroy before we swapped. This provided the chance to read about the history of the area in the museum at Port Lockroy and make purchases in the small shop and post office too.

At Jougla Point we were able to explore the rocky coastline and have some time to observe the penguin behaviour. There were also some large Finn whalebones on the beach from the whaling days in this area.

When we returned to the ship there was a lot of penguin poo cleaning to be done. The strong smell which these cute little animals leave is hard to confine to the soles of our boots!

After recap it was time to get our layers on again and head back outside as we passed through the Lemaire Channel in true Antarctic weather! The bridge team carefully navigated us through the narrow, steep sided channel heading southwards. There was heavy snow which was almost horizontal due to the strong winds. The mountain peaks were not visible due to the conditions, but with any short sighting we got, the base vertical mountains near us could be seen and the dramatic nature of this passage could be appreciated.

What a day experiencing one of Antarctic's historic sites, seeing the wildlife and icy landscapes with iceberg scattered glassy waters below! It was a day to remember.



Daniel Höhne (lebedeinerreise.de)

Mountaineering Log

In the morning we set off from Dorian Bay towards the mountain Jabet. The weather was calm with thick cloud and 15cm of fresh snow had fallen overnight. We broke a trail through the snow across the plateau where there had once been an aeroplane runway. Serac fall, avalanches, and calving glaciers could be heard in the distance indicating snow and ice instabilities brought on by the change in weather. As we walked further the clouds began to clear and the summit of Jabet showed itself, as did Plancius down below us in the distance. Richard and Dave explained to us that the avalanche risk was too high to continue into the steeper more exposed parts of the mountain above, so we moved little higher up the broad spur to the right of the avalanche terrain and made that our high point for the day.

Day 8 – Tuesday 10th of January 2023, Lemaire Channel, Petermann Island, Pleneau Island zodiac cruise

08h00 GPS Position: 65°11.05'S / 064°07.3'W

Wind: SW5 • Sea: slight • Weather: overcast/snow • Air temperature: +1°C • Sea temperature: 1°C

This morning we got woken up by Martin while being located next to Petermann Island, the southernmost destination of our expedition and known for its Adelie penguin colonies. How exciting!

A bit of insecurity was caused by the weather forecast for today, which was constantly changing and on the edge of being too rough to perform our operations... So before going ashore, the expedition team needed to observe and assess whether the wind and swell were becoming too risky or not. Fortunately, we were able to jump into the zodiacs and drove out to Petermann Island, where we even spotted some Adelie and Gentoo chicks! The other half of our group first went a zodiac cruise and saw loads of Adelie and Gentoo penguins and even some Weddell seals.

After visiting Petermann Island, we made our way towards Pleneau Island. The mountaineers went for the first ascent of the year on Hovgaard Island and the rest of us took a zodiac cruise through the iceberg graveyard (iceberg garden). We saw some Weddell seals and some of us even spotted a Leopard seal swimming in the water... Thereby, the clouds drifted away for a bit, so we clearly experienced some “tan-tarctic” weather! The zodiac cruise was a great success, after all we enjoyed ourselves while being on the water for more than 3 hours!

When we came onboard our beautiful ship, we skipped our original plan of having a recap, to enjoy and drive-through the Lemaire Channel one more time! This time the visability was perfect and the imposing sail-through was enjoyed by everyone of us. When we reached the north side of the channel, the Oceanwide-famous BBQ started



on the aft of deck 3. Our hotel team made it a spectacle again. Nice music, good people, amazing food and the view... What an extraordinary sundowner experience.

After dinner, all tables were cleared to set up a proper dance floor. Till late in the evening, we enjoyed dances and drinks while cruising at the Antarctic Peninsula. What a day...

Mountaineering Log

In the morning we landed on Petermann Island and headed towards the summit. We roped up before the steep slope that accesses the summit plateau but quickly found the slope to be completely frozen solid with sheet ice. These conditions made the slope impassable in snowshoes, and in these conditions would only be attempted by experienced mountaineers, as the chances of a slip would be high for our team. We returned to the landing and spent the rest of the morning exploring the local Penguin colonies.

In the afternoon the weather improved enough to be able to attempt to summit the top of Hovgaard Island. We moved efficiently at two roped teams with Richard and Dave leading the way and setting the pace. Due to the fresh snow from the previous days storm a trail though the snow had to be made. The views around the islands were phenomenal as the sun broke through the clouds. Eventually after an hour and a half of effort and many blind summits we made it to the top, at 369 metres above sea level. After summit celebrations and photos we returned via our line of ascent.



Day 9 – Wednesday 11th of January 2023, Melchior Islands in the morning then heading North into the Drake Passage

08h00 GPS Position: 64°19.25'S / 062°58.7'W

Wind: Calm • Sea: calm • Weather: rain • Air temperature: +5°C • Sea temperature: +1°C

This morning we arrived at the Melchior Islands, an island group between Anvers and Brabant Islands. Here we got off the ship for the last time this trip, before heading back towards Ushuaia on the Drake Passage. The winds were calm, and the weather was grey and rainy, we did a full ship zodiac cruise around the islands. Zet took the last kayak groups out for an awesome tour around the bay where the ship was anchored. The surroundings we saw during the zodiac cruise were magnificent with impressive glaciers and rocks formations all around. We also spotted some wildlife, Chinstrap penguins, Weddell seals and a couple of Furr seals, we didn't see before this trip!



Daniel Höhne (lebedeinerreise.de)

It was a great morning to finish of the amazing trip we had. After about two hours of cruising in the rain, everyone was happy to get back on board for a nice warm shower. Which made us ready for the Drake Passage, as the doctor handed out the seasickness medicine before lunch.

After lunch, Martin gave a lecture about penguins as many of us had a lot of questions about these typical Antarctic animals. And as we know Martin is an expert in the field of birds, so he explained everything we wanted and needed to know to call ourselves penguin experts from now on.

Our photography guide Koen gave a lecture on how to exactly tell a story when capturing pictures. As we all made a lot of pictures on this trip, we can now also share the stories what we experienced on this voyage.

At recap Beth talked about the geology in the formations we saw today at the Melchior Islands. Chris and Anthonie gave a recap on the length of the whales we saw today, using a rope to show the length of all the whale species we saw on this trip.

In the meantime, we entered the Drake Passage, this time the sea state is calm for Drake standards. For that reason, we can name it a Drake Lake more than a Drake Shake. Hopefully it will remain that way!

Day 10 – Thursday 12th of January 2023, Crossing the Drake Passage

12h00 GPS Position: 59°39.7'S / 064°37.7'W

Wind: N 6 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Rain • Air temperature: +6°C • Sea temperature: +7°C

Today has been a leisurely day for many as we had the chance to catch up on sleep, sort photos and chat. There was no wakeup call this morning and breakfast was served from 8am until 9am. Throughout the morning the conditions were quite calm so it was nice to be able to attend the lectures without feeling unwell. Out on deck there were Cape Petrels about as well as some albatrosses. Watching them glide over the water effortlessly in the wind is a lovely way to connect with the environment around us.



In the morning we had a talk from Steffi which answered some of the questions we have been asking ourselves on adaptations of animals in the polar environment. These included, why don't penguins wear socks and what the true colour of polar bears is.

During the morning the conditions were calm enough to be able to get out on deck. After some time in the fresh air, it was then time for a lecture from our chief engineer

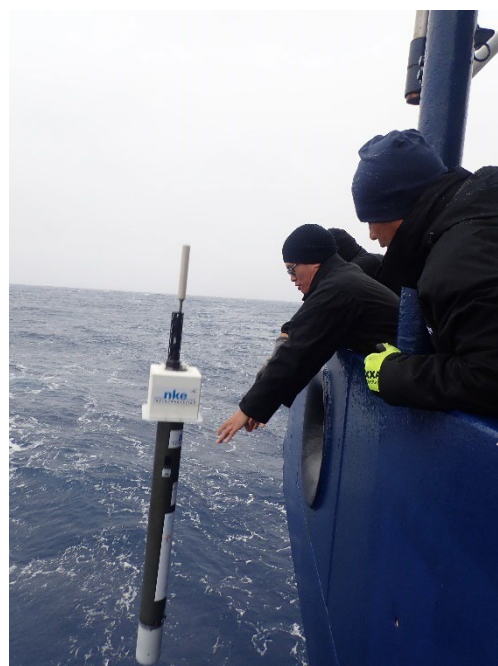
on board, Floris. He gave us a talk on behind the scenes on Plancius. This was fascinating and made us appreciate the whole progress of what goes on onboard. There were many questions after his talk and a specifically high interest in our total fuel consumption of this trip. Floris had therefore prepared the following figures:

Antarctica 04-01 to 14-01-2023

- *Fuel: 55,000 liters – 5,500 liters per day, 50 liters per day per person*
- *Potable water: 190,000 liters – 19,000 liters per day – 180 liters per day per person*
- *Zodiac fuel total: 350 liter*
- *Energy: 190,000 KW = 190 MV – 19,000 KW per day – 180 KW per day per person*

That all sounds like a lot but is actually quite good for such a ship and such conditions.

Next it was time for lunch. The weather was changing slightly and the conditions becoming more rocky. There was time for some napping between lectures, but it was always nice to see a good turn out as everyone emerged for the lectures. Over lunch some of the crew also launched an Argo float. These are scientific floats which go overboard and monitor salinity, temperature, and currents as part of an international effort to better understand our oceans. More can be found out online about the Argo floats which Oceanwide contribute to but launching the floats in the Drake Passage, which is a region that is less densely monitored due to its remoteness.



Next up was Koen with a photography lecture. He has a fantastic way of discussing photography with us all and highlighting what makes images so special, even to those who would not consider themselves as photographers.

Later on in the afternoon, after the chocolate cake afternoon snack was served, it was time for a lecture from Beth. She explained some of the landscapes which we had been seeing and how the ice and the geology have carved them into what we see today.

During recap we learnt about the history of the Drake Passage which we were experiencing and what has been inside these mysterious white and red barrels which we've been taking ashore throughout this trip. Finally, for those who were still feeling up to it, there was a plated dinner in the dining room.

Day 11 – Friday 13th of January 2023, Complete the Drake Passage crossing and continue up the Beagle Channel

12h00 GPS Position: 55°41.9'S / 066°08.7'W

Wind: WNW 7/4 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Partly cloudy • Air temperature: +10°C •
Sea temperature: +7°C

Friday the 13th on the Drake Passage... Sounds like the intro to a thriller. And indeed the day started with a proper “drake shake” – strong wind, big waves and a lot of rolling around last night. In the morning we all took it easy since it was quite challenging to move around on the ship.



After lunch the waves eventually calmed down as we moved into wind shelter of Cape Horn. The skies opened up and the sun came out so this afternoon turned into a very beautiful cruise with mild temperatures, we could feel that we now officially left Antarctica behind us.

Martin shared a very interesting lecture about climate change, ecosystems, and conservation work with us. Afterwards he invited to an open discussion round about these topics which many of us attended. A was a great way to share some opinions and points of view with others.

Afterwards, Chris and Anthonie organized a very entertaining Antarctic Quizz where they assessed our knowledge acquired over the past two weeks. The winning team was the “Slippery Decks” – congratulations!

It was now time to return our gum boots, the loyal companions that kept our feet warm and dry. We enjoyed some more time chilling at the entrance of the Beagle Channel enjoying the sight of green hills outside the windows.

In the evening the team invited us all to a beautiful Captain's Cocktail and the farewell dinner. We were all moved by the wonderful slide show Daniel and Koen prepared for us that sums up all our incredible memories from this incredible voyage.

During dinner we honoured all the wonderful people from the hotel department, the kitchen and the laundry who have been working so hard to make this trip enjoyable and comfortable for us.

We spent the rest of the evening all together in the lounge with some nice drinks and good talks. The people we met on this journey are all part of this unforgettable experience. Yes, we've been to Antarctica, and we'll take home countless unforgettable memories. What an incredible journey...

Day 12 – Saturday 14th of January 2023, Disembarkation in Ushuaia

08h00 GPS Position: 54°48.61'S / 068°17.87'W

Wind: NW 3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Partly cloudy • Air temperature: +10°C • Sea temperature: +8°C

While we enjoyed a last breakfast on board, our suitcases were taken off the ship. It is a sad moment to disembark from the Plancius, which has been a comfortable and cozy home during this unforgettable journey. We have shared many unique moments, seen a range of rarely sighted wildlife, and made new friends. Loaded with fond memories we now must head home.

We will continue our adventures, whether it be returning home or experiencing what South America has to offer. On the pier, beside our little blue ship moored alongside in Ushuaia, we say our goodbyes, many hugs, and a few tears... and until next time, we wish each other good health and fair winds.

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

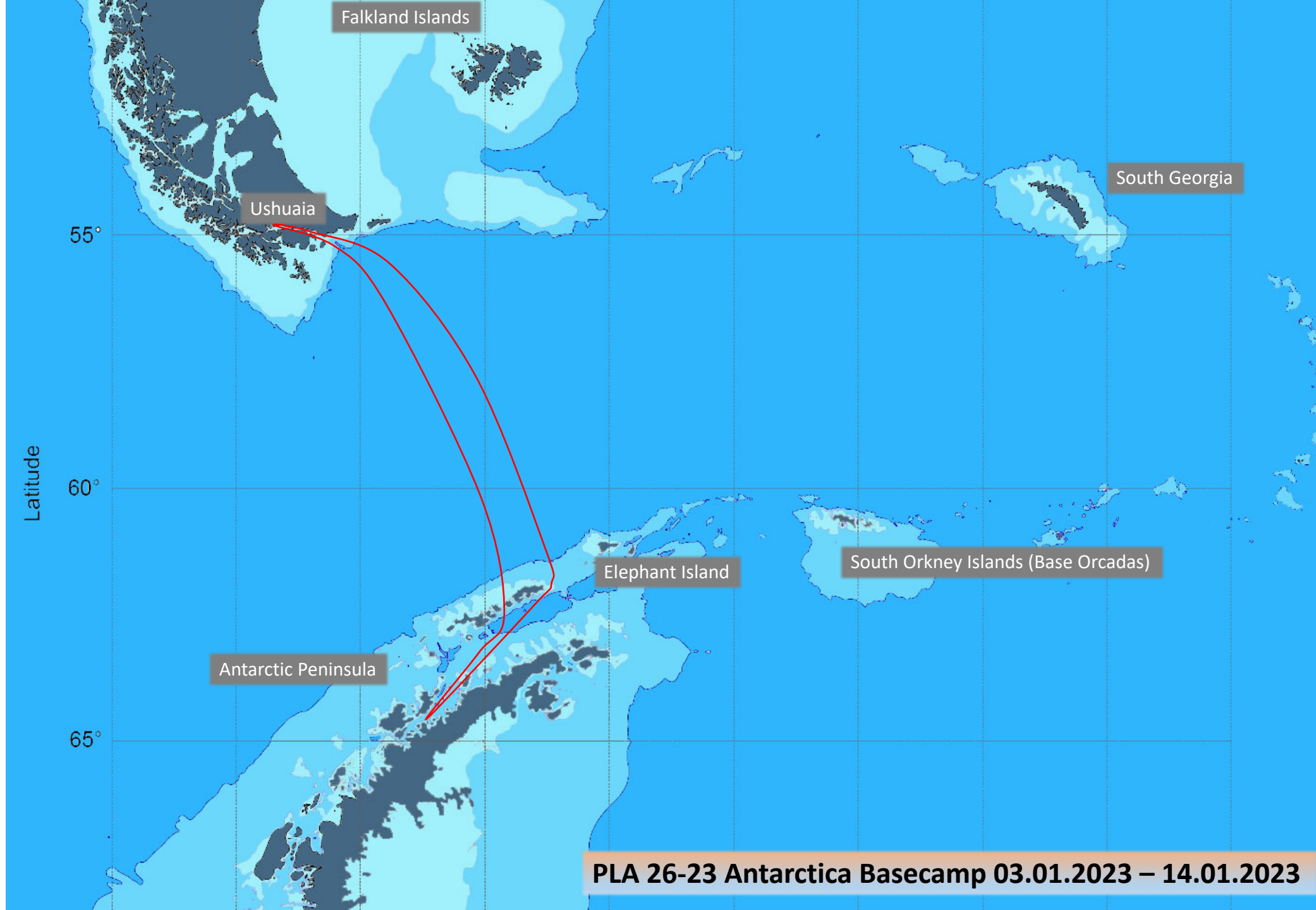


The expedition team has enjoyed exploring together with all the guests. Of course, these operations only run smoothly due to the coordination between all the departments on board Plancius. So, to all the dedicated and determined individuals involved in this adventure, we all give our thanks and appreciation.

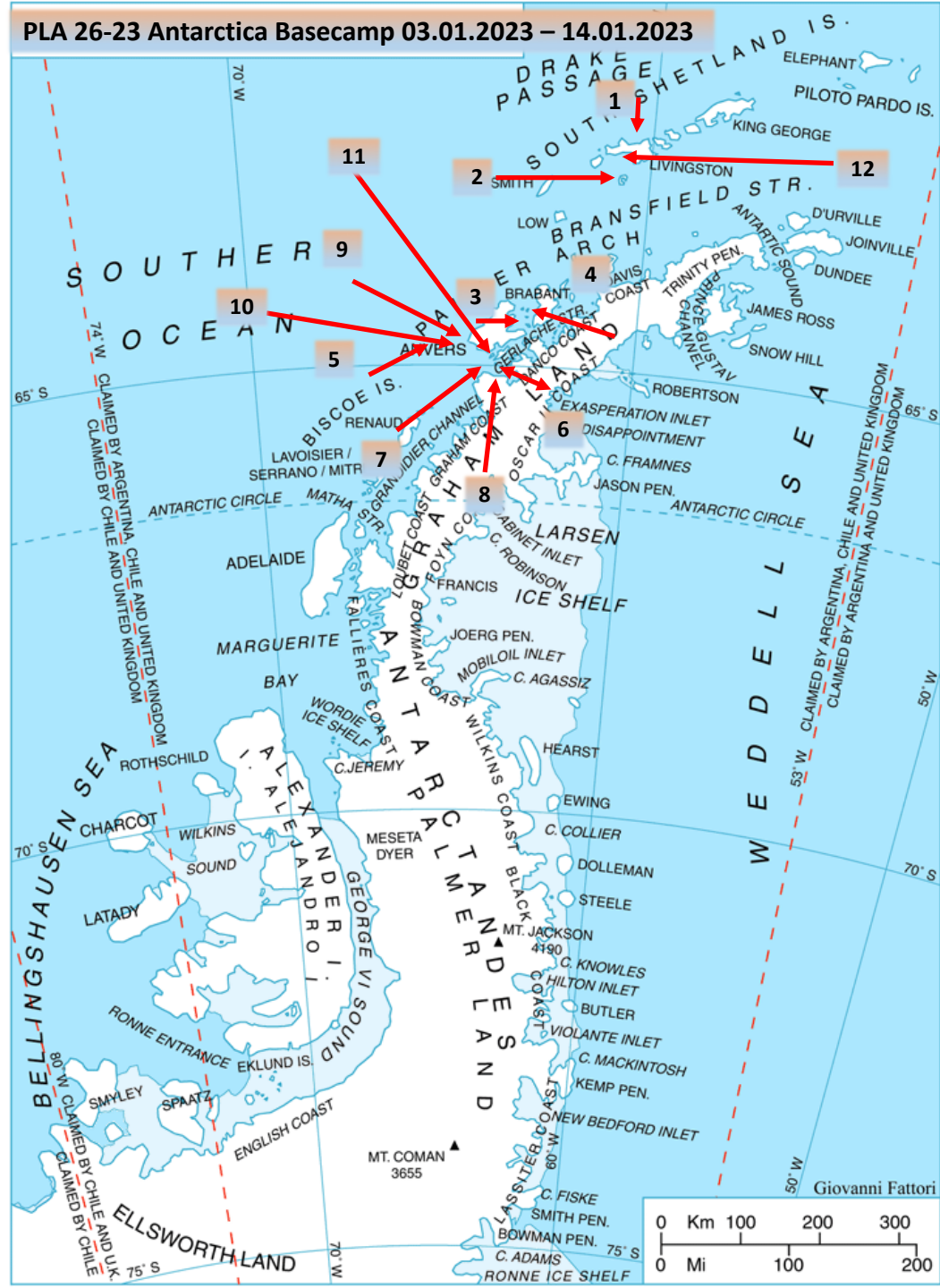
Of course, this would not be possible without you, the guests. Thank you for travelling with us on this voyage, for your enthusiasm, support, and good company. We very much hope to see you again in the future, wherever that might be!

**Total distance sailed on our voyage: 1,651 nm
Southernmost position: 65°10.74'S / 064°07.96'W**

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Remmert-Jan Koster, Expedition Leader Martin Berg, Hotel Manager Volodymyr Cherednychenko and all the crew and staff of M/V Plancius, it has been a pleasure travelling with you.



PLA 26-23 Antarctica Basecamp 03.01.2023 – 14.01.2023



1. Walker Bay (Hannah Point) no landing
2. Deception Island (Whalers Bay)
3. Cuverville Island
4. Danco Island (Polar Plunge)
5. Useful Islands
6. Paradise Bay Base Brown
7. Damoy Point
8. Port Lockroy
9. Peterman Island
10. Pleneau Island
11. Lemaire Channel
12. Melchior Islands

Martin Berg - Expedition Leader



Martin is a marine biologist based in Stockholm, Sweden. After finishing the compulsory Swedish military service in the Navy Marines, he found himself working from field camps deep into the Amazon rainforest to carry out conservation assessments and bird surveys for BirdLife International. This experience led him to return home to Sweden to earn an Honours Degree Biology at Lund University followed by an MSc degree in marine biology divided between Bamfield Marine Sciences Centre in Canada and Lund University in Sweden.

Martin is a keen birder and botanist and has been involved with several research projects with a focus on seabird ecology and conservation on islands in the North Atlantic Ocean as well as around New Zealand and the Southern Ocean. Martin arrived in Antarctica for the first time in 2015 as a researcher and have since then made more than 30 voyages to the frozen continent. He is skilled in bird and mammal identification, and while almost constantly focused on the horizon busy finding seabirds and whales, he always welcomes a good chat about Antarctica and its fascinating wildlife.

Stefanie Liller – Assistant Expedition Leader



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

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

Zet Freiburghaus - Expedition Guide



Zet is a former successful member of the Swedish national kayak team who after his active career has travelled around the world.

Just last year he hiked and rode a horse in the Tien Shen mountains of Kyrgyzstan and explored big parts of Ethiopia, where he saw the Ethiopian wolf and were standing on the rim on an active volcano.

His sharp eyes and great experience in nature implies he rarely misses an animal.

Zet has a Master of Science in Biology from Lund University.

Today he works as a guide with the whole world as his office. Zet is new to the Oceanwide crew and very excited to share his enthusiasm and energy on board our vessels this season.

Dave Rudkin – Mountain guide



Dave is an avid, lifelong enthusiast of climbing, alpinism, and skiing. He loves nothing more than questing into the unknown, whether that's on remote expeditions around the globe or exploring the mountains in his back garden of Snowdonia. He's travelled the world and experienced some of the best climbing and skiing there is, and is still thirsty for more. Dave has spent the last 30 years having adventures, with trips and expeditions to Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Greenland, Alaska, USA, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia. He's also explored the mountains of Europe extensively, in particular France,

Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Norway, and Spain. He especially loves climbing on the sea cliffs of the British Isles, the granite big-walls of Yosemite and Arctic Greenland, and skiing fresh powder snow from summit to sea in Arctic Norway.

Dave's interest has grown deeply in the polar and mountain environment: the flora and fauna, and the geography and geology.

Dave is as psyched about guiding and teaching as he is about doing it himself, and he loves seeing people challenged, achieving their goals, visiting places they might not ordinarily go to, and having fun in wild places.

Dave has guided and instructed since completing his first qualification in the late 90's, and is now involved in the delivery of training of new Mountain Guides and Instructors.

He is qualified as a IFMGA Mountain and Ski Guide as well as a Summer and Winter Mountaineering Instructor (WMCI).

Richard Mansfield - Mountain Leader



Richard first started climbing at the age of 10 and found his passion in life.

Since then he has climbed, skied and guided extensively in the European Alps as well as Greenland, Alaska, N America, S America and Antarctica. Richard has also been on many expeditions to the Nepalese, Indian and Tibetan Himalayas.

A fully qualified IFMGA International Mountain Guide for almost 30 years Richard is based in Chamonix, Mont Blanc, in the French alps. He still remains passionate about his skiing and climbing trips and loves nothing more than sharing the next adventure where ever it may be with his guests.

Christiaan Luteijn – Expedition guide



Christiaan is a passionate starter in the medical field and a life-long ocean lover at the same time. He enjoys exploring the cultural and scenic diversities of different countries, as well as to connect with the people he meets along the way.

He grew up in the southwestern coastal province of The Netherlands, Zeeland. For his studies, he moved to Amsterdam where he completed a three-year bachelor's program in medicine at the Vrije Universiteit. During this program, he took part in several exchanges and conducted research about health care onboard expedition cruise ships. Currently, he is busy with his second year of clinical rotations as part of his

masters in medicine.

As a side project, Christiaan learned the Spanish language at the same university. Besides a sufficient level in Spanish, he is fluent in Dutch and English, but also able to express himself in French.

Last year, he was part of the medical team onboard m/v Hondius and worked as an expedition guide in the Antarctic and Arctic as well. During these five months in the Antarctic, South Georgia, the Falklands and the Arctic region, he got even more interested and acquainted with becoming an expedition guide. As Christiaan would say: "I like to be challenged and am passionate to impact other people's lives positively. Another source of inspiration that gives me energy is the sea. So, it might not be surprising that the work of an expedition guide in polar regions appears very interesting to me. To be part of this Antarctic expedition is a unique and much-appreciated opportunity in many ways!"

Anthonie Luteijn – Expedition guide



Anthonie is a passionate surfer and a life-long ocean lover. He enjoys exploring the cultural and scenic diversities of different countries, as well as to connect with the people he meets along the way.

He grew up, right on the beach, in the southwestern coastal province of The Netherlands, Zeeland. For his studies, he moved to Delft where he completed his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and his master's degree in Hydraulic Engineering at the Technical University of Delft. He has a coastal specialisation, which embraces a great interest in oceanography and climate change.

During this program, he took part in several projects around the world and conducted research on an artificial fish migration river in the Netherlands.

In the summer months, Antonie enjoys sharing his passion for the oceans as a surf coach. He sees the ocean as a diverse and unique place which feels like home.

One of the projects he has done was on the plastic waste problem in Indonesia. By creating a real-world, coupled economic-environmental model, focusing on one of the plastic polluted rivers.

He is very much looking forward to his first season working as an expedition guide on board with Oceanwide. As Antonie would say: "I like to be challenged and am passionately hopeful to impact other people's lives positively. The sea is one of my greatest passions and I would like to share the energy it gives me and this passion on board. To be part of this Antarctic expedition is a unique and much-appreciated opportunity in many ways!"

Esther Josten – Expedition Guide



The place she calls home is a small village in a western German hillside area called Eifel. It's surrounded by extinct volcanoes, vast forests and steep valleys. From this base she started exploring the world and found my great passion in the travel industry and outdoor life.

She studied International Tourism Management in the Netherlands, lived in France, Spain, and New Zealand for a while. She worked as a guide for over 7 years now and in many different countries. My recent time I spent working as an outdoor guide and skipper for a small locally owned tour company in the beautiful fjord lands of Southern Norway.

What she loves about her job is not only getting out into nature and being in touch with the elements, but also the meaningful connections with people from all corners of the world. Travelling opens our eyes and expands our horizon. She personally takes a lot of inspiration from all the beautiful people and experiences along the way. Besides all natural beauties our planet offers, she is fascinated by its' history, cultures and languages.

And at the end of the day, she believes there's nothing better than sharing stories and memories with your travel companions and eventually with your beloved ones back home.

She is grateful for all the opportunities and chances she has been given in life and she loves to share her enthusiasm and knowledge with other passionate globetrotters. One of her biggest motivations for every tour is to help create a truly unforgettable experience for the travellers she guides.

Deutsch

Meine Heimat ist ein kleines Dorf im Westen Deutschlands, in der Mittelgebirgsregion Eifel. Die Landschaft dort ist geprägt von erloschenen Vulkanen, weiten Wäldern und tiefen Tälern. Von dort habe ich begonnen, die Welt zu entdecken und fand dabei meine Leidenschaft in der Reise- und Outdoor-Branche.

Ich habe Internationales Tourismus Management in den Niederlanden studiert und habe eine Weile in Frankreich, Spanien und Neuseeland gelebt. Als Guide arbeite ich nun schon seit mehr als 7 Jahren in verschiedenen Ländern. Die meiste Zeit als Skipper und Outdoor Guide für Gebirgs- und Schneeschuhwanderung und Klettersteige für eine kleine lokale Firma in den wunderschönen Fjorden Südnorwegens.

Was ich an meinem Beruf liebe, ist nicht nur die Nähe zur Natur und den Elementen, sondern auch die wunderbaren Begegnungen mit Menschen aus aller Welt. Reisen öffnet uns die Augen und erweitert unseren Horizont. Ich persönlich ziehe unglaublich viel Inspiration und Energie aus dem Austausch und den gemeinsamen Erlebnissen. Neben all der natürlichen Schönheit, die unser Planet zu bieten hat, faszinieren mich auch dessen Geschichte, Kulturen und Sprachen. Und ich glaube, am Ende des Tages gibt es nichts schöneres, als Geschichten und Erlebtes mit Reisegefährten und letztlich den Lieben in der Heimat zu teilen.

Ich bin dankbar für all die Möglichkeiten und Chancen, die ich im Leben bekomme und ich liebe es, meinen Enthusiasmus und mein Wissen mit anderen leidenschaftlichen Weltenbummlern zu teilen. Eine meiner größten Motivationen für jede Tour ist es, dazu beizutragen, dass die Reisenden, die ich begleite, mit zahllosen wundervollen Momenten und unvergesslichen Erinnerungen zurückkehren.

Beth Hitchcock – Expedition Guide



After graduating from her Geology honours degree in 2018 at Glasgow, Beth balanced two jobs until she succumbed to full time in the guiding world in 2021. Beth worked as a deckhand / guide on a tall ship and, when on the land, as an Engineering Geologist working mainly on Scotland's road and railway networks.

On the tall ships, Beth visited many places around the Atlantic Ocean from the Azores to Cape Town and Tristan da Cunha. In the austral summers she guides on the ship when they visit Antarctica and South Georgia. These

are ideal places to interpret the landscape and explain to the guests how the glaciers and geological processes have carved what we see today. The incredible human history in these regions has a significant impact on the regional geological story and on our understanding of geology globally.

Beth also enjoys spending time in the mountains of Scotland where she works when she is not guiding on board ships. She grew up sailing around the islands of the west coast of Scotland - home to some fascinating geology where she spent many field trips during her undergraduate years. This sparked the desire to explore and embark on adventures to discover new landscapes and cultures around the world.

Daniel Höhne - Expedition guide



A well photographed picture is more than just looking at it again and again. It is emotional and unforgettable passion and a story behind.

Most of the past years it was more my hobby to get outside and take nature photos. But today it is my profession and beside working as a fulltime guide I work also for newspapers and magazines.

Taking people hand by hand outside and show them what to see and what outside can be felt is one of the greatest things for me to do. It is even more important and necessary to understand our ecosystems and for that reason I try to take people out in the wilderness. To understand why things in nature happen and what our part as humans is in different environments. We only can protect what we really know and love.

I studied Geography and Geology in the south of Germany, Tübingen. Since then I was fascinated by the power and sensibility of our white and cold ecosystems. Combined with nature photography I am self-employed within different kinds of guiding nature and photography journeys.

My hot spots are Iceland, Svalbard, Greenland, Antarctica and Germany. Most of my time I spend in Iceland for exploring and working in unique places and feel the strength of the old Viking land.

Koen Hoekemeijer – Expedition Guide



Koen Hoekemeijer was born in 1974 in The Netherlands. When it comes to nature and wildlife Koen was quite a late bloomer as he had always been more into nightlife and sunny beaches. But that all changed when he discovered his passion for wildlife and photography in 2009 in Costa Rica. It was during this trip that Koen saw his first humpback whales and he fell in love with them instantly. Not only did it make him eager to see more and different types of whales in locations all over the world, but he also wanted to learn to take better photos of these amazing creatures. And with the love for whales

and photography, came a broader passion for all sorts of wildlife.

Since that memorable vacation in 2009, Koen has been travelling the planet to see and photograph the world's most beautiful places. Usually from boats, jeeps or simply face down in the mud, but since 2016 also underwater. Snorkeling in the presence of whales and orcas is bringing Koen pure happiness.

Among his favourite animals are whales, orcas, penguins, tigers and jaguars. But in between safaris, he also likes to do street photography and capture life and portraits of people all over the world.

Koen believes that travelling does not only enrich your life, it also makes you more humble, more appreciative and it provides new levels of perspective and understanding.

Koen has won the prestigious WWF Frans Lanting Photo contest, and in 2020 he won the Ellen Fitzgibbon Memorial Photography competition

It's Koen's dream to one day have a Vizsla dog and own a small cabin somewhere in northern Norway surrounded by snow and trees ;).



Antarctic Basecamp

Ushuaia

Embarkation

Tuesday, 3rd January 2023

1600 **Welcome on board!** Your luggage should be in your cabin when you arrive. Please check carefully if you are missing any luggage and if there is luggage in your cabin that does not belong to you then please let one of the staff know. Please feel free to look around the ship.
Tea and coffee is available in the Lounge on Deck 5.

Approx.

1700 **Mandatory Safety and Lifeboat Instruction** in the Lounge. **ALL PASSENGERS** are required to participate in this very important instruction.

1800 Departure from the pier.

1845 Please join us in the Lounge for an **introduction to the ship** from your Hotel Manager Volodymyr Cherednychenko. This will be followed by **Captain's Cocktails**, a chance to meet your Captain for this voyage and you will meet your Expedition Leader Martin Berg. He will explain the plans for the coming days and it will be a chance to meet with your Expedition Team.

1930 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3 behind the reception desk.
Enjoy your meal.

Tonight we will be sailing in open water and expect the ship to move. Please make sure that all your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are properly stowed in your cabin to avoid accidents. Always use the railings and handholds when moving around on the ship, especially in rough seas. Always one hand for the ship and one hand for yourself.

Thank you.



Antarctic Basecamp

At Sea: Drake Passage

Wednesday, 4th January 2023

- 0745 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Martin Berg.
- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **IAATO Briefing and Zodiac Briefing.** Please join Martin and the Expedition Team in the Lounge for these two **mandatory briefings**. You will get all the information regarding our behaviour in Antarctica and how we can keep our impact minimal. The zodiac briefing will give you important safety information about our small boat operations.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1330 **Boots.** We will call you by Deck to collect your rubber boots from the boot Room on Deck 3. We call you by deck.
- 1400 **Bio-security begins.** We will call you by Deck to check your outer gear, back packs and camera bags. We will ask you to sign the bio-security declaration form with the staff before you leave the lounge.
- 1700 Lecture: **"Wildlife Photography"** by our Photoguide Koen
- 1830 **Recap and Briefing.** Please join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for a recap of our first day on board Plancius and the plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3 behind the reception desk.

Today we will be sailing in open water and expect the ship to move. Please make sure that all your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are properly stowed in your cabin to avoid accidents. Always use the railings and handholds when moving around on the ship, especially in rough seas. Always one hand for the ship and one hand for yourself.

Thank you.



:

Antarctic Basecamp

At Sea: Drake passage.

Thursday, 5th January 2023

- 0745 **Wake up** call from your Expedition Leader Martin.
- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **Meet the Expedition team** in the Lounge for an introduction to your Basecamp trip. There will be a series of **briefings** from your activity guides which will give you more information about the activities.
- 1230 **Lunch Buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 1400 **Registration** for activities with the activity leaders.
- 1700 Martin will present a lecture about "**Seabirds**". Join him in the Lounge.
- 1830 **Recap and Briefing.** Please join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for the plans for tomorrow when we arrive the South Shetland Islands.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3. Enjoy your meal.



Antarctic Basecamp

Walker Bay & Whalers Bay

Friday, 6th January 2023

- 0715 Antarctic wake-up call from your Expedition Leader Martin.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 **Walker Bay.** We will visit Walker Bay on Livingston Island at the South Shetland Islands. We take the first half of the guests on land and the second half of the groups goes for a Zodiac cruise.
We swap after half of the time, so everybody gets to do both activities.
We hope to see plenty of wildlife: Elephant-seals, Chinstrap- and Gentoo penguins and many other seabirds.
- 1145 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for some interesting facts about **Deception Island**, our afternoon destination.
- 1230 **Lunch Buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- ca. 1330 We will sail into the caldera of Deception Island passing the narrow "Neptunes Bellows". Deception Island is still an active volcano.
- ca. 1500 **Whalers Bay.** We will visit the remains of an old whaling station inside the caldera of Deception Island. We will see an extraordinary landscape.
- 1845 **Recap and Briefing.** Please join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for a recap of our first day in Antarctica and to hear of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3. Enjoy your meal.



Antarctic Basecamp

Cuverville Island & Danco Island

Saturday, 7th of January 2023

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Martin.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 **Cuverville Island.** This morning we want to visit Cuverville Island. There is a colony of Gentoo Penguins and you will have nice views over the glaciated mountains around the island.
Group 1 and 2 come to the gangway at 8:30
Group 3 and 4 come to the gangway at 8:45
- Kayak Group #1: meet Zet 08:15 in boot room for gear**
Mountaineering Group: Please be ready at 8:15 at the gangway
Please listen for announcements regarding the activities.
- 1230 **Lunch Buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 1400 **Danco Island.** We plan to visit Danco Island. You will encounter more Gentoo Penguins and fantastic views over the Errera Channel with hopefully many icebergs.
We will offer a **polar plunge** in the end of the landing. We bring the towels, you the courage!
- Kayak Group #2: meet Zet 13:45 in boot room for gear**
Mountaineering Group: Meet at the gangway at 13:45
Please listen for announcements regarding the activities.
- 1830 **Recap and Briefing.** Please join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for a recap and to hear of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3. Enjoy your meal.
Campers, please come first to the buffet.
- 2015 **Camping Group 1, will get ready for their night on the snow at Kerr Point! Please listen for announcements!**

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Martin.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0900 **Useful Island.** We want to visit this island in the heart of the Gerlache Strait. We will be able to see more gentoo penguins and enjoy the surrounding glaciated mountains.
- Kayak Group #3: Please meet Zet 8:45 in the boot room for gear.**
Mountaineers Group: Please, be ready at the gangway at 8:00.
- 1230 **Lunch Buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 1500 **Paradise Bay.** We will spend the day in this beautiful bay and explore with the Zodiacs the area and search for wildlife. We will stop by and land at Brown Station, an Argentinian Base, to give you the chance to set foot on the Antarctic continent, as Brown Station is a continental landing.
- Kayak Group #4: Please meet Zet 14:45 in boot room for gear.**
Mountaineers Group: Please be ready at the gangway at 14:45.
- 1830 **Recap and Briefing.** Please join the Expedition Team in the Lounge to hear of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3. Enjoy your meal.
- 2015 **Camping Group 2, will get ready for their night on the snow at Stony Point! Please listen for announcements!**



Antarctic Basecamp

Damoy Point & Port Lockroy

Monday, 9th of January 2023

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Martin.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0845 **Damoy Point/Dorian Bay.** We will visit Damoy Point. We will find several colonies of Gentoo penguins and stunning views over the surrounding mountains.
- Kayak Group #5: Please meet Zet 08:30 in boot room for gear.**
Mountaineers meet 08:15 at the gangway.
- 1230 **Lunch Buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 1330 Martin will give you a **short briefing** about our visit of **Port Lockroy** in the Lounge
- 1400 **Port Lockroy.** We will land at the southern most post office in the world. Due to the limited space we will do this in 2 groups. We call you by the groups displaced in the entrance of the lounge. Additionally we go to Jougla Point where you find nesting Shags, Gentoos and interesting whalebones. We will switch over the groups after half of the time.
- Kayak Group #6: Please meet Zet 13:30 in boot room for gear.**
- 1830 **Recap and Briefing.** Please join the Expedition Team in the Lounge to hear of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3. Enjoy your meal
- Ca. 2030 We will transfer the **Lemaire Channel**, probably one of the most scenic passages at the Antarctic Peninsula.
Join the Expedition team on the outer decks.



Antarctic Basecamp

Peterman Island & Port Charcot

Tuesday, 10th January 2023

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Martin.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0900 **Peterman Island.** We plan to take you ashore on Peterman Island. We will see Adelie and Gentoo penguin rookeries, nesting Shags and we can enjoy the beautiful scenery south of the Lemaire Channel. We do this in 2 groups and offer a Zodiac Cruise as well and switch groups after half of the time.
- Kayak Group #1: Please meet Zet 08:45 in boot room for gear.**
Mountaineers : Please be ready at the gangway at at 8:30
- 1230 **Lunch Buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 1430 **Port Charcot.** We take you on a Zodiac Cruise around Port Charcot in Salpetrie Bay. We cruise around the Iceberg Graveyard in search for seals and whales and enjoy the spectacular variety of ice.
- Kayak Group #2: Please meet Zet 14:15 in boot room for gear.**
Mountaineers : Please be ready at the gangway at at 14:15.
- 1830 **Recap and Briefing.** Please join the Expedition Team in the Lounge to hear of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 The Hotel Team will prepare a special **Antarctic Dinner**. Dress warmly.

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Martin.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 **Melchior Islands.** We will offer a **Zodiac Cruise** around this beautiful Island group. Let's enjoy the Antarctic environment and search for some wildlife.
- Kayakers, Please listen to announcements!**
 Mountaineers, Please listen to announcements!
- 1230 **Lunch Buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- Today afternoon we will be sailing in open water and expect the ship to move. Please make sure that all your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are properly stowed in your cabin to avoid accidents. Always use the railings and handholds when moving around on the ship, especially in rough seas. Always one hand for the ship and one hand for yourself.**
- 1500 Martin will present a lecture about **"The Life of a penguin"** in the Lounge.
- 1700 Koen invites you for a talk about **Photography** in the Lounge.
- 1830 **Recap and Briefing.** Please join the Expedition Team in the Lounge to hear of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3. Enjoy your meal.



Antarctic Basecamp

At sea in the Drake Passage

Thursday, 12th of January 2023

There will be **no wake up call this morning** but we will wake you for breakfast anyway!

- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **Steffi** will talk about **Adaptation of animals** in the cold regions. If you want to know why penguins do not wear socks, come and join her.
- 1100 **Chief Engineer, Floris Oskam** will give a presentation about the engine room and the other mechanics of Plancius. This will happen in the Lounge.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be available in the Dining Room.
- 1430 Our Photoguide **Koen** will give a lecture in the Lounge about processing pictures.
- 1600 **Beth** presents more interesting facts about **Rocks and Ice** of the Antarctic Peninsula. Come to the Lounge to learn more about this fascinating white continent.
- 1730 We collect your **rubberboots**. We will call you by deck.
- 1830 **Recap and Briefing**. Please join the Expedition Team in the Lounge to hear of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant.



Antarctic Basecamp

At sea in the Drake Passage

Friday, 13th January 2023

- 0745 Wake up call from Martin!
- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 1000 **Lecture** if conditions allow.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be available in the Dining Room.
- 1430 **Martin** will present a lecture at the Lounge:
“What we don’t understand about wildlife conservation”
- 1600 **Chris and Anthony** are inviting you to the Lounge for an **Antarctic Quiz**.
If you want to test your knowledge, come to the Lounge for some fun entertainment.
- 1730 We collect your **rubber boots** and call you by deck.
- 1815 **Captain’s Cocktail and Farewell Dinner**. Please join us in the Lounge to toast our successful voyage with the Captain and the Expedition Team.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant.



Antarctic Basecamp

Port of Ushuaia, Argentina

Saturday, 14th of January 2023

0700 Your final wake up call from Expedition Leader Martin!

Before breakfast at 0730 please could you put your large check in luggage outside your cabin so that we can get it onto the pier for 0800.

Keep your hand luggage in your cabin or take it to the Lounge.

If you have other arrangements to stay in Ushuaia please keep your luggage in your cabin.

0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.

0900 It is time to leave the Little Blue Ship, Plancius. Please make sure you have all your belongings with you and that you have taken your key card holder back to Reception.

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions the Captain, Crew and Expedition staff would like to thank you for travelling with us and wish you a very safe journey home.

We hope to see you on board again in a future voyage on board any of our vessels!