



The Falklands – South Georgia – Antarctica

Ushuaia - Ushuaia

14th January 2023 – 01 of February 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 48 sailors

Chief Officer:	Maikel Overbeeke	[Netherlands]
Second Officer:	Warren Villaneuva	[Philippines]
Third Officer:	Martin Hansson	[Sweden]
Hotel Manager:	Volodymyr Cherednychenko	[Ukraine]
Head Chef:	Ivan Yuriychuk	[Ukraine]
Sous Chef:	Sergiy Sklyarov	[Ukraine]
Ships doctor:	Marieke Timmerman	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Ali Liddle	[United Kingdom]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Eduardo Rubio Herrera	[Guatemala]
Expedition Guide:	Esther Josten	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Steffi Liller	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Pierre Gallego	[Luxemburg]
Expedition Guide:	Joshua Peck	[Falkland Islands]
Expedition Guide:	Annelou Hulsker	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Elodie Bouvier	[Switzerland]

We welcome you on board!

Day 1 – Saturday 14th of January 2023, Ushuaia, Embarkation Day

12h00 GPS Position: 54°78.6 S / 068°17.4'W

Wind: NW3 • Sea: calm • Weather: cloudy • Air temperature: +10°C • Sea temperature: 8°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 19 days at about 6pm.

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 fellow passengers in the bulky orange lifevests. Before dinner Ali, 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. She also introduced the expedition guides briefly. 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 to enjoy some wonderful views of the landscapes around us. The beautiful mountains together with the light in the evening gave us some stunning views. We even got lucky enough to see some Dusky Dolphins purposing! All this new information was processed with the help of a glass of champagne or a nice orange juice, and we toasted after the Captain introduced himself as well.

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 – Sunday 15th of January 2023, crossing the Argentinian Sea

12h00 GPS Position: 53°29.1'S / 063°27.1'W

Wind: NW5 • Sea: slight • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: +14°C • Sea temperature: 10°C

We spend our first day on board crossing an interesting area of South America, the area known as the “Argentinian Sea” which is the body of water that separates the Argentinian Waters from the Falkland Islands. We left the port the evening before, and we sailed along the Beagle Channel, an spectacular narrow passage that from Ushuaia, leads to the open sea in the east. Overnight, as we came closer to “Cabo San Diego”, the cape that landmarks the south east “tip” of the island of “Tierra del Fuego” and then, during the early hours of the 15th, we turned north east in order to sail the Strait of LeMarie yet another narrow passage which separates Staten Island from Tierra del Fuego. We sailed out of this passage during early today. By sunrise it was still possible to see the peaks of Staten Island. Soon after clearing this passage we turned our bow to the East aiming to the north west tip of the Falklands.

As the day started breakfast was served on board, and most of us started to develop what we call the “sea legs”. The weather was relatively smooth for this part of the ocean. We had winds blowing from the North East blowing at less than 20 knots, consequently our ship had a smooth crossing. Nevertheless, some of the waves caused some movement and consequently, a few of us felt a bit sick. Our doctor Marieke provided us with the adequate medicine and hence we had no reason to not to attend our first activities on board.



For this day, our expedition staff prepared a two part lecture under the title “The Falkland Islands” given by our expedition leader Ali Liddle, who had the chance to spend a few years living and working as a school teacher in the Falklands. The first part of the lecture was a brief description about the history of the islands and how she managed to come to work to these distant islands. This first part was presented by Ali during the first part of the morning. Shortly after we had our second lecture of the morning, presented by our expedition guide Steffi. Her presentation, made under the title “Sea birds”, was an excellent introduction for all those who wanted to learn more about the beautiful sea birds we can see at sea here in the Southern Ocean. She paid special attention to explain the flying techniques some of these birds use to maximize their energy use while flying.

Lunch was served on board at 12:30 and by this time we were very happy to see more of us joining the restaurant feeling a bit better after the rocky morning we had.

During the first part of the afternoon, our expedition guide Josh offered a second presentation about the Falklands, this time, an interesting exposition about how is to be a “Falklander” and the life on this archipelago. He spoke eloquently about his heritage and the people who preceded him inhabiting the island.

After this nice presentation, we were invited to come to the boot room in order to get our rubber boots, the kind of shoes we will be using to go ashore.

During the early evening we had our first daily recap, the moment when Ali presented the plans for the next day and where she briefed us about how we operate with our zodiacs when we go ashore. Shortly after this activity, dinner was served in the restaurant. During the night, we approached the Falklands, sailing quietly under a very dark and starless night.

Day 3 – Monday 16th of January 2023, Carcass and West Point Island, Falkland Islands

12h00 GPS Position: 51°17.9'S / 060°33.0'W

**Wind: SW3 • Sea: smooth • Weather: partly clouds • Air temperature: +16°C •
Sea temperature: 11°C**

Despite the fog which had rolled in the previous night, we were greeted by clear skies in the morning as we anchored off Carcass Island - our first landing spot in the Falkland Islands. After a tasty breakfast, we excitedly began making our way to shore in the zodiacs.

Carcass Island is a rodent-free island, unlike many other offshore islands in the Falklands, so it is a birding hotspot and a great chance for us to see the endemic Cobb's Wren and the Tussacbirds. We were lucky enough to be greeted by both as we landed at Dyke Bay, with some of us getting some great photos of these inquisitive birds flitting about the shore amongst the rocks and kelp. We were also treated to our first sightings of Penguins as soon as we landed, with groups of Magellanic Penguins on the beach and many more outside their burrows further inland. Our second species of Penguin was spotted soon after, with nesting Gentoos and their many chicks located just up from the beach towards Leopard Beach on the other side of the island.

Once we had enjoyed the sights and sounds of the Penguins, many of us began a hike towards the settlement on the other side of the bay. With the promise of a Falkland's 'smoko' at the lodge in the settlement (i.e. tea and cakes), many of us used the hike to work up an appetite. With little wind and sunshine overhead, the walk was very enjoyable, and it even gave us the chance to see more birds, such as the Grass Wren, Long-tailed Meadowlarks and the world's most Southerly raptor, the Striated Caracara.

With us all now at the beautiful and sheltered Carcass Island Lodge, we sat down to enjoy the numerous cakes and biscuits on offer. The owner of Carcass, Rob, was there to greet us all and we all enjoyed the unique hospitality on offer, especially the wonderful gardens outside where we could enjoy the small birds around and some more Caracara's perched in the trees.



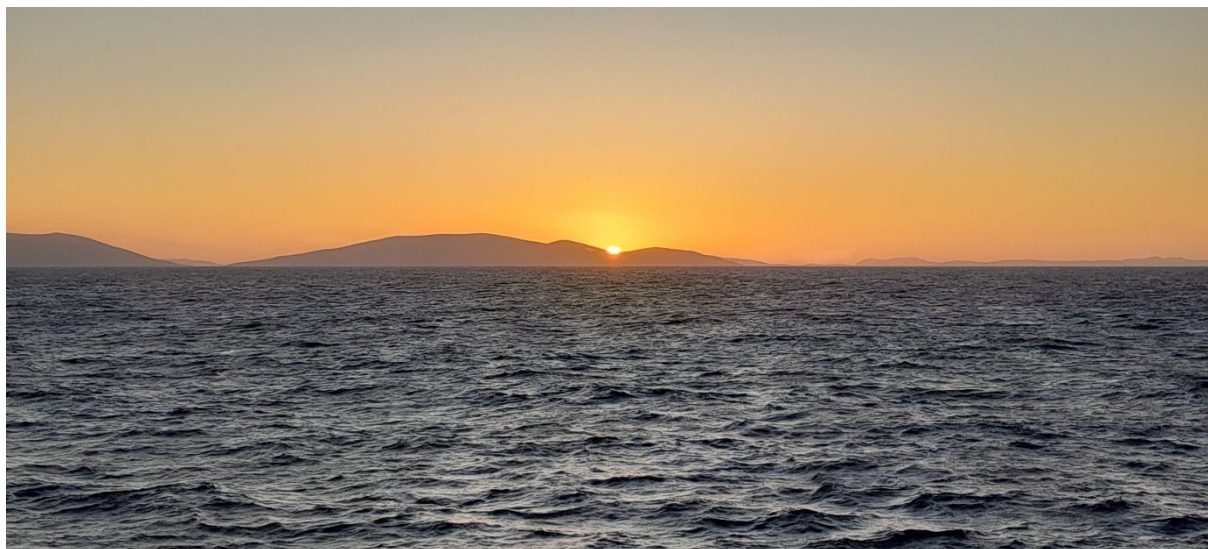
Back onboard *Plancius* we somehow squeezed more food in for lunch, before we made our afternoon landing at the neighbouring West Point Island. After a short steam across from Carcass, we arrived in the beautiful, sheltered bay of West Point settlement. We were in for another unique Falkland treat once we reached the jetty on our zodiacs, discovering some local shearers were also on the island and had welcomed us to have a look inside the shearing shed while they were shearing the sheep.



With some of us still a little tired from the hike in the morning, we were offered the chance to drive over to the Black-Browed Albatross and Rockhopper Penguins in a typical Falkland farm vehicle, a Land Rover. While some bounced over in the Rover, the rest of us again hiked to the colony at the Devil's Nose. Located on the high cliffs on the West side of the island, the colony is awe-inspiring, with lots of large Rockhopper chicks nestled

in amongst the much larger Albatross and their cute chicks sitting on nests. Although only a small circuit above the colony, the views of the birds was incredible, and we all got to share some truly memorable moments with these great seabirds.

Despite wanting to stay forever, we eventually made our way back across the island to make our way back to *Plancius*. With a beautiful plated dinner prepared we settled in for another good and wholesome fed. While many of us thought the excitement for the day had passed, the Falkland's had one more surprise in store - a magnificent sunset accompanied by a large congregation of feeding Sei Whales. With most of us out on deck, we enjoyed the huge groups of Prions flying around feeding alongside the Whales in the lovely evening light.



Day 4 – Tuesday 17th of January 2023, Stanley, Falkland Islands

12h00 GPS Position: 51°41.3'S / 057°51.0'W

Wind: SW5 • Sea: slight • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: +16°C • Sea temperature: 10°C

With a memorable day on the outer islands of the Falklands behind us, we focused our intention this morning on the capital of the Islands, Stanley. Even though the wind had picked up and resulted in a few of us getting a little wet while heading ashore, we soon dried off as the sun continued to shine with hardly a cloud in the sky. We were all greeted by a few South American Sea Lions hauled out on the neighbouring pontoon as we came ashore, although these guys were more content to be snoozing than paying any attention to us.



Once ashore we all went our separate ways, but most of us made our way up the front road of Stanley, Ross Road, where the main shops and sites are located. Stanley is home to approximately 85-90% of the Falkland's population, about 3600 people, and has been the capital of the Falklands since the 1840s when it was moved from the first settlement, Port Louis. Stanley is a typical small town and is home to all the things you would expect from other small towns across the globe, including a museum, grocery stores, gift shops, cafes, and bars.

Many of us enjoyed the local museum and the surrounding historic dockyard, which was recently renovated in the last decade, and which showcases the unique history of the Islands. From the original discovery and the focus on sealing and maritime navigation, to the birth of large sheep farms and the Island's role in the whaling industry and Antarctic exploration during the 1900s. It also highlights the 74-day war fought in 1982 between Britain and Argentina over the sovereignty of the Falklands, and which cost the lives of nearly 1000 soldiers, including 3 local civilians.



With everybody up to date with the history of the Islands, many of us stopped by the local gift shops to purchase some local souvenirs and some even stopped by the local cafe to grab a bite to eat and enjoy a nice freshly brewed drink.

Once back onboard we enjoyed another great lunch, and after waiting a little longer for a delivery of local fresh produce than hoped, we began our journey towards South Georgia. Sailing out the Stanley Narrows, we enjoyed some great views of the local beaches nearby the town and got to view the Cape Pembroke lighthouse on the end of the Eastern peninsula of East Falkland.

Once out on the open sea we began seeing the larger Albatrosses, the Wanderers and the Southern Royal, and also smaller seabirds such as Sooty Shearwaters, Petrels and Prions. There were even a few sightings of Whales, although these were brief. For those who fancied more comfortable seats inside, there were two lectures to enjoy; one from Josh who spoke about the Falklands War and the other from Ali, who spoke about her time in the Falklands during the Covid Pandemic as a travelling teacher and a worker on Sea Lion Island.

Despite the swell beginning to roll a little more throughout the evening, we all enjoyed some wonderful time out on deck enjoying the evening sunshine and the many birds following the vessel. After another great buffet dinner, many of us settled down for a drink in the lounge before making our way back to our cabins in preparation for a full day at sea tomorrow and a busy lecture program with lots of informative presentations prepared by the expedition team.

Day 5 – Wednesday 18th of January 2023, at sea towards South Georgia

12h00 GPS Position: 52°19.4'S / 050°38.2'W

Wind: WNW5 • Sea: slight • Weather: overcast • Air temperature: +14°C • Sea temperature: 8°C

We spend our fifth day on board crossing an area of the South Atlantic which lies along the north border of the Scotia Sea a region of the world known for its treacherous waters. This was our first full day at sea after visiting the Falkland Islands, and the second day in our crossing from the Falklands to South Georgia.

We left the continental waters shortly after leaving Port Stanley the day before and we entered true oceanic waters where the depths can reach up to 4 km. This allowed us to witness real pelagic life forms around the ship such as many Wandering Albatross, Black Browed Albatross, and several other types of birds, mostly Prions and other types of Albatrosses. This made our navigation very pleasant and given the calm conditions of the ocean, we enjoyed a joyous morning with a sunny deck and blue skies.

As the day started breakfast was served on board. By this day, most of us had already developed our “sea legs” and most of us attended the call.

For this day, our expedition staff prepared a set of informative lectures about various topics describing the environment where we are. The first of the lectures for the morning was a presentation about penguins, offered by our biologist Steffi. This lecture was offered to all the German speaking guests we have on board. In this presentation she described the various types of penguins as well as their habitats and strategies to survive the intense cold of the Antarctic and sub-Antarctic waters.

Shortly after, during the second half of the morning, we had our second lecture, presented by veterinarian and biologist Pierre. His presentation, made under the title “Humpback Whales”. This was a superb introduction to all the non-experts about the life and habits of these beautiful cetaceans that populate the oceans of the world. In his presentation, Pierre paid special attention to describe all the aspects of the life cycle of whales, their migrations, their feeding habits and the dangers that can threat them. He showed us various videos and sounds bringing very of his vivid experiences with humpback whales.

Lunch was served on board at 12:30 and by this time of the day we were very happy to see more guests joining the restaurant even though we had no longer calm waters. Since the early morning we encountered heavy swell and consequently the ship rolled every now and then.

For today we planned to launch an Argo floating probe at 14:00. Hence, we were invited to witness how this device was deployed into the open ocean. The Argo is an international collaboration program that uses profiling floats to observe various parameters of the oceans such as temperature, salinity, currents, and bio-optical properties (for more information visit <http://www.argo.net>). Once the floats are deployed on the surface of the water, the floats “sink” to a parking depth of 1000 m. After 10 days they go deeper to a new parking depth of 2000 m where they stay for another 10 days. After this, the floats come to the surface, deliver their data to research centres, and begin a new cycle of 20 days.

The launching was a success, and we were all very curious to know and learn more about the program and the findings of this program.

Once the Argo float was launched, we continued with our program of presentations for the afternoon. At 15:00 our expedition guide Josh offered an interesting review about the first explorers who reached the South Pole, the Norwegian team led by Roald Amundsen and later, the British team led by Robert Falcon Scott. During his exposition, Josh mentioned some of the facts of this so-called “race to the pole” and how it ended tragically for Scott’s party. This presentation brought some of the highlights of the “heroic” era of Antarctic exploration.

After this nice presentation, we then had the second presentation of the afternoon, this time given by Eduardo our assistant expedition leader. Under the title, “The exploration of the bottom of the oceans” Eduardo took us on a journey of discovery covering three main topics. In the first part, he described the sea features we encounter below the waves at the bottom of the oceans. Then in the second part, he spoke about the history of the exploration of the bottom of the oceans touching major expeditions such as the one of the HMS Challenger and the most modern ones made using deep-sea vehicles. Finally, he presented some of the major discoveries that all these activities have brought to the scientific community and how these discoveries have helped to understand the past and future geology of planet Earth. Additionally, he spoke about the significance of the life forms discovered deep below the waves, making emphasis on the hydrothermal vents.

During the early evening we had our daily recap, with Ali presenting the weather and the plans for the next day. Additionally, Eduardo gave a recap about the Argo floats, Annelou gave a recap about the history of the Aurora Islands, a group of islands sought by early navigators in the South Atlantic but that were never to be seen again. The last recap was presented by Elodie who spoke about the cloud formations we witness over the mountains of South Georgia. Shortly after this activity, dinner was served in the restaurant. During the night, we continued our sailing towards South Georgia under a dark starless night.



Day 6 – Thursday 19th of January 2023, at sea towards South Georgia

12h00 GPS Position: 52°58.7'S / 042°52.2'W

Wind: WSW5 • Sea: moderate • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: +8°C • Sea temperature: 5°C

Ali woke us up this morning to a rolling sea. The ship has been rocking the entire night with objects moving in our cabins. We have set our clocks to South Georgia time, so we lost one hour of sleep. Most of us still managed to join breakfast in the dining room, but we all struggled walking around with our plates.

Soon after breakfast we attended an introduction to South Georgia by Ali, as we will be arriving tomorrow. Ali has been coming to South Georgia since 1997 when she spent 9 months there working as the post mistress. Then we proceeded to the biosecurity briefing for South Georgia which emphasises on the importance to preserve this fragile ecosystem by avoiding introducing invasive species and germs. Rats and mice have been eradicated, but we could potentially introduce plant seeds with our gear, and the transmission of germs from one landing site to the next is also a risk. After the briefing we were called deck by deck to proceed to the observation lounge to clean our gear. Our outer layers, backpacks and camera bags had to be vacuumed, with special attention to velcro which were cleaned with brushes. This procedure took the end of the morning and the beginning of the afternoon.

Josh then proceeded giving us a lecture about life in South Georgia. He spent 4 months working as a government officer at King Edward Point in 2020. At the same time Pierre gave his lecture on humpback whales for our German guests in the dining room. The sea conditions were quite challenging but almost all of us managed to make it to the presentations.

At 6:30pm we all met in the observation lounge where we watched another briefing about South Georgia and Ali gave us information about our landing tomorrow in Salisbury Plain. We expect to find a beach filled with fur seals, elephant seals and of course the impressive colony of 70000 king penguins. The wind forecast seemed to be ok for tomorrow. As we listened to Ali, we could see the first iceberg in front of Plancius. We were all very excited, even knowing that this is the first of many, and that the ones to come in Antarctica will be far more impressive than this one. Steffi gave a short recap on the different definitions on where Antarctica starts, and from her biological point of view, as we crossed the Antarctic convergence, we are in Antarctica already.

We all headed for dinner after recap and then met at the bar for a nightcap. We were very excited about our adventures to come.

Day 7 – Friday 20th of January 2023, Salisbury Plain & Prince Olav Harbour

12h00 GPS Position: 54°03.3'S / 037°19.3'W

Wind: S3/4 • Sea: slight • Weather: overcast • Air temperature: +8°C • Sea temperature: 4°C

Our first day in South Georgia began! Ali woke us up early in the morning, the weather appeared a bit overcast but dry and the wind just blew gentle. All seemed alright for a landing at Salisbury Plain. The Expedition Team left already early towards the beach to prepare everything but soon they took us over as well. The first impressions of the beach were just WOW! We did our best to concentrate and listen to the



briefing but as soon as we went off the zodiac, we just were speechless what we saw. The beach full of little fur seal pups and king penguins, and in the water close to the beach many colourful king penguins as well.

We did a small hike towards the colony on the back of the beach, and we enjoyed all these little pups running around, playing in groups, bathing in incredible stinky pools or just trying to impress us. Some older females were still around to care for their pups. We walked between the king penguins, and we also saw many moulting penguins. They were not afraid of us, and we enjoyed their presence and see these beautiful special birds up so close.

When we arrived at the colony, we were overwhelmed by how many penguins we saw. The colony is home to 70.000 breeding pairs. We could observe older chicks ready to fledge and losing their brown downs. Many other penguins just started the breeding cycle and just had an egg on their feet, well protected by the warmth of the belly, the breeding patch, and the feathers. The breeding cycle is quite complicated for the king penguins and takes about 14 months. In theory, they can have 2 chicks in 3 years but normally, just one will survive. We have yet so much to learn about this incredible place.



The morning passed by quick, but we enjoyed every minute that Ali offered us, even though four hours are not always enough.

After a great lunch, offered by our favourite Kitchen Team, we got into Prince Olav Harbour. While we approached it looked quite windy, but as we got more shelter, the wind dropped down to 15 knots. The Expedition team dropped the Zodiacs, and we got on a trip around the area. The old whaling station was originally a sealing station in the 19th century, then was abandoned and was active again in the 20th century to produce oil blubber of marine mammals. The station kept active until 1931. Also, an

interesting shipwreck was possible to observe, the old “Brutus”. The ship is one of the first steel ships manufactured in 1831 and was used as a coal storage for the station later in its life. All that is left now, is the overgrown shipwreck and the story that it tells of the past. The birds decided it is an incredible place for their nesting.

While we moved around the bay with the huge areas of kelp forest, we observed the wildlife around. We saw many fur seals in the water and on land, kelp gulls, Giant Petrels, and other seabirds in search of food.

The weather showed its “South Georgian” way, which means we got soaked by the rain but that did not stop our explorer attitude. A rainbow kept our mood high. We used all available time to enjoy, and the Hotel Team welcomed us back with some hot juice with a whiskey shot, not too bad this kind of life onboard *Plancius*!

After a well-deserved shower, Ali shared the plans for tomorrow with us, an incredible dinner was served and after a drink most people headed to bed. Well, we guess some people were still looking at the endless number of pictures they took during the day!



Day 8 – Saturday 21st of January 2023, Stromness & Grytviken

12h00 GPS Position: 54°09.3'S / 036°40.4'W

Wind: VAR 3/5 • Sea: smooth • Weather: clear sky • Air temperature: +8°C • Sea temperature: 3°C

Plan A for the morning was a zodiac cruise through Hercules Bay, which was supposed to be a beautifully sheltered bay. This morning however, the winds were blowing so strong inside the bay that the air was filled with the mist of the nearby waterfall and the morning sun painted rainbows and unicorns. A magical ambiance, but maybe not the best time to go zodiac cruising here. We therefore relocated the ship into the nearby bay of Stromness. Ali and the Captain spent some time assessing the conditions until we finally got our 'Go!'. And what an incredibly beautiful morning this plan B turned into! Clear blue skies over the black mountains dipping their tussac-green feet into the dark blue ocean... On shore we were greeted by the excited howls of the baby fur seals playing on the beach in front of the rusty old whaling station of Stromness. We dropped our life-vest and made our way over to Esther, who was standing next to a little group of puppies. Amidst these pretty, dark brown creatures played a leucistic one, a blond fur seal pup, too cute to be real. We could have spent the entire day just watching the seals play on the beach.



But Stromness had more to offer. Josh led us up the valley on a nice decent walk along the final descent of Shackleton's walk over South Georgia. We went until the end of the valley from where we could see "Shackleton's Waterfall", that he came down in 1916 after his incredible voyage across the sea in a small lifeboat from Elephant Island all the way over to the west coast of South Georgia. An unbelievable story...



We leisurely hiked back down to the beach and enjoyed the beautiful scenery around us until we got shuttled back to the ship for lunch.

In the afternoon we made our way over to Grytviken, which was once the biggest whaling station of the Southern hemisphere. Before we were able to go on land, we needed to go through the bio-security check by the government officer of South Georgia. We

had already cleaned all our outer layers from potential threats such as foreign seeds hidden in small deposits of dirt or dust in our pockets, backpacks, or Velcro. At the

bottom of the staircase, we got a last check from the expedition team before they send us out to the official inspection before we were allowed to board the zodiacs. We were super proud and happy to hear that we passed the bio-security test with a 100%!!!

Once we landed in Grytviken, we first visited the cemetery and the grave of Sir Ernest Shackleton, who got buried here in 1922. We had to make our way around a huge pile of moulting elephant seals that were blocking the path to the cemetery but once we reached the white wooden gate, Eduardo and Pierre welcomed us with a glass of Shackleton's Whiskey, so we all had a toast to "the boss".

Afterwards we had the afternoon to roam freely through the remains of the old whaling station. A somewhat sobering place and remainder of the dark chapters of Antarctic exploration and exploitation. Today, the sun was shining in the idyllic little bay and in every corner of Grytviken you could see how nature is claiming back the land. Fur seals and elephant seals live and play around the old buildings and grass and moss are covering the remaining ships. The South Georgia Heritage Trust has restored some of the old buildings and made them accessible for guests so we could get a better idea of how life used to be on the old whaling station. An interesting little walking tour was offered by the museum staff, and we were able to visit the small Norwegian church as well as the post office and the South Georgia Museum. All in all, it was an incredibly informative afternoon, and the abandoned, rusty red buildings created a beautiful contrast to the rough beauty of the surrounding nature.

Once we got back to the ship, we changed into more comfortable, but still warm clothing, since the Hotel Management Team invited us to an Antarctic barbecue in the evening sun on the outer deck. We shared our extraordinary dinner with the government officer and his wife, the staff from the local post office and the museum and the few other people living and working in and around Grytviken. The perfect way to end this incredible day in South Georgia.



Day 9 – Sunday 22nd of January 2023, St. Andrews Bay & Godthul

12h00 GPS Position: 54°26.3'S / 036°10.6'W

Wind: W3 • Sea: smooth • Weather: overcast • Air temperature: +7°C • Sea temperature: 5°C

At 4 am, Plancius was at anchor in front of St. Andrews Bay, the biggest king penguin colony of South Georgia. Through the windows of our ship, we could see the horizon with some magical colors. Before us, the scenery was stunning, we could see some high glaciated peaks with flowing glaciers, a barren and desolate landscape covered with thousands of pinnipeds and penguins that make the atmosphere of this place quite special. In the sky, there wasn't a single cloud, and a light wind was undulating the surface of the sea.



As soon as we arrived ashore, we just got the first rays of sun illuminating the amazing scenery. As usually, the beach is very crowded, and we were welcomed by a group of elephant seals and baby fur seals. Some penguins were going in and out from the shore to the sea to feed. The early mornings lights were given a surreal atmosphere to the place.

The expedition team has already prepared and flagged the route until a nice high viewpoint to have a look at the penguin colony. After an easy 15 minutes' walk, we reached the point where we had to cross the river. Helped by our staff team and ABs, we were able to cross without problems. As soon as we arrived at the point of view, the display was difficult to describe as we were overwhelmed by the place and the huge amount of wildlife; it is difficult to imagine that we are standing in front of half of millions of king penguins! At the time of the year, the colony is mainly occupied by adults incubating an egg and by chicks that are about to fledge.

Around 8am, we could go back to the ship for a quick breakfast or staying at the colony to spend more time with the penguins. Meanwhile, the expedition Team opened a new path to the lagoon that allows us to experience a new point of view, closer to the glacier. Around 11:45, the last guests were leaving the shore with a large smile and with this relieved feeling to have spent an amazing morning.

Although we spent 7 hours on land, the day is not over because it is only 12am. For the afternoon, Plancius is taking the direction of a sheltered cove, Godthul, which means “Good Cove” and was named by Norwegian sealers and whalers. For the afternoon activities, we had three choices: a long hike until a pass that offers nice view over the bay; a medium lake to reach a lake and a gentoo penguins and finally the non-hikers had the opportunity to do a Zodiac cruising around the bay.



As soon as we arrived ashore, we were welcomed by our beloved fur seals and their cute pups. We even had the opportunity to see a blondie female; this genetic modification happens once in every 1000 births. The hikers walked through the very thick tussac grass to reach a plateau where the gentoo penguins established their colony. It was full of chicks that were about to fledge and started molting; we could observe the chicks running everywhere and playing in the pond. Meanwhile the long hikers were reaching the pass below Edda Hill in stormy, cloudy, and wet weather. Seeing the smile on their faces when they came back, it seemed that they all enjoyed this adventurous hike!



The day is ending with the traditional recap where Ali presented the plan for the next day: exciting adventures are coming ahead!

Day 10 – Monday 23rd of January 2023, Drygalski Fjord and Larsen Harbour

12h00 GPS Position: 54°49.7'S / 035°57.0'W

Wind: VAR 3/5 • Sea: slight • Weather: overcast • Air temperature: +11°C • Sea temperature: +9°C

Our last day in South Georgia! We woke up with excitement and renewed energy as our last day was promised to be awesome. Arriving at Cooper Bay around 8 am however, we were told by our Expedition Staff that the wind was too extreme. Most of us went outside to see for ourselves and seeing the swell and feeling the gust of wind that were over 40 knots, most people were more than happy to enjoy the weather from the Plancius onboard and not from the Zodiacs themselves. Although we could not zodiac cruise in Cooper Bay, we did spot loads of sea birds. In the water we still luckily spotted several large groups of macaroni penguins and even some chinstraps as well. We also saw several light mantled sooty albatrosses fly by! These incredible birds have a beautiful color and are easy to recognize.



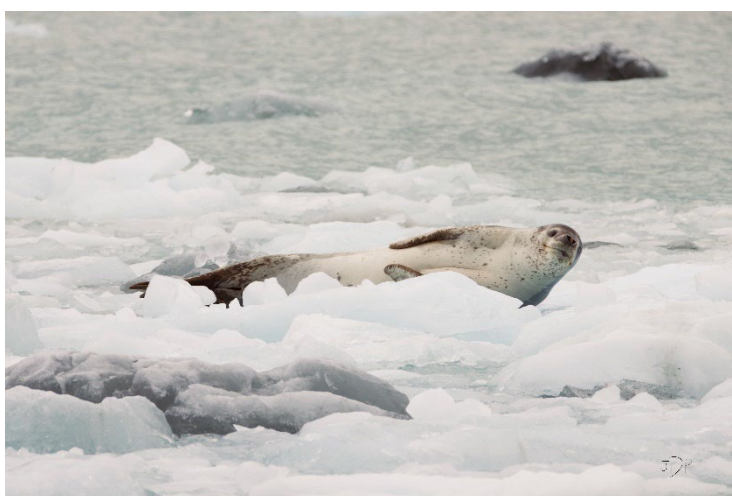
It was decided that we headed straight to the Drygalski Fjord, which was quite close and as we sailed towards the Fjord, most of us were out on the deck to enjoy the stunning scenery and wildlife around us. Drygalski Fjord was named after Professor Erich von Drygalski, leader of the German Antarctic Expedition 1901-1903.

As this area of South Georgia is more exposed than other parts of the coasts, the landscape looked rougher. Sailing into the 14 kilometer inland deep Fjord, everybody was amazed. We have not seen anything like this on South Georgia before! It felt like we already were seeing some bits of Antarctica, with stunning mountain peaks, rough rocks, and lots of snow and ice. The Fjord was filled with floating ice coming from the glaciers that surrounded us. As we sailed deeper into Drygalski Fjord, Annelou explained over the announcement system that we were seeing some of the oldest rock

found in South Georgia. A fault running from the length of the Fjord separates the Northern shore from the Southern shore; the Northern shore exposes the Drygalski complex, and the Southern shore the Larsen Harbour Complex. The Larsen Harbour complex exists of remnants of an ocean floor which was formed by volcanic activity, while the Drygalski complex exists of remnants of the once existing supercontinent Gondwana.

We got a close-up view from the Risting and Jenkins glaciers; we even heard some ice carving, even though we did not see it breaking. When we sailed into the fjord, the water looked beautiful clear. When we got further, a sharp boundary occurred in the water, due to the meltwater of the glaciers, which looked almost milky. While sailing in the Fjord, we got lucky enough to see four leopard seals on pieces of floating ice! They were resting and they were quite well visible. We even saw one or two snow petrels flying around the ship.

After a quick lunch, we went on a zodiac cruise to Larsen Harbour, a smaller fjord near Drygalski fjord. The sun was out and there was a little breeze. We saw lots of fur seals, but we came for the Weddell seals! They are the most southernly breeding seals of the world, but there is a small population of around 30 in Larsen Harbour as well. We got lucky enough to see at least 10 of them. They usually live solitary. After this last beautiful zodiac cruise in South Georgia, it was time to go back to the ship...



Everybody was exhausted but very content and happy. Most people went for a short nap and afterwards we enjoyed the extended recap in the evening. Ali talked about the size of seabirds, with her excellent science assistant Steffi, and Elodie followed up with a recap about glaciers. Annelou told us about katabatic winds, which we by now all have experienced on the outer decks at some point in time. Eduardo finished by telling the interesting story of the German and Norwegian Expeditions to Antarctica and South Georgia. While we were sad to leave South Georgia, we have had an incredible time, and our trip is not over yet. While sailing to the open ocean, we already saw some big tabular icebergs. This is very promising for the next coming days!

Day 11 – Tuesday 24th of January 2023, on the way to the Antarctic Peninsula

12h00 GPS Position: 56°53.5'S / 041°42.0'W

Wind: W2 • Sea: slight • Weather: overcast • Air temperature: +7°C • Sea temperature: +3°C

The first of our 2 seadays heading to South Orkneys started really smooth, not much movements on the ship, just 15-20 knots of wind. In the morning we started with our Lecture programme for the day. Eduardo told us more about Alien Oceans on other planets. The lecture was interesting, as many of us never thought so much about other planets and the universe. The following lecture was about seals, and we got more information about the different types and what is the difference between true and eared seals. At least one can run much faster than the others. It was a nice wrap up on the past day in South Georgia and a good forecast for the new species we would see. Ali did the lecture in English in the lounge while Steffi was doing it in German in the restaurant. In between we had time for a coffee and even the whole crew of the ship seemed to enjoy the calm day at sea.

For lunch the Galley Team prepared nice Mexican wraps and we even were able to observe some whales out of the window.

Most people were using probably the chance for a short nap, as the ship was almost empty after lunch. The Team made every effort that we will not get bored, so the next lectures about the whaling and sealing times in the Southern Ocean started already at 14:30. While Josh was telling about this interesting but also sad topic in the lounge, Esther presented in the Dining room to our German fellow passengers. But the lecture about butchering thousands of whales was interrupted by an interesting whale sighting of beaked whales. What could be better than being interrupted by wildlife in their natural habitat. Unfortunately, the whales were quick gone, as most species of them are known as deep divers and their time on the surface to fill up the oxygen storage is normally limited.



Just after a short break Elodie told us more about Continental Ice, Shelve Ice and Tabular Icebergs around the Antarctic continent. We could not wait to see ice!

Before Recap Ali hosted an auction to the benefit of the South Georgia Heritage Trust that also funded the rat eradication programme in the past years. We started this social event first with a free drink sponsored by Oceanwide Expedition for our 100% Biosecurity Check Result. We deserved that, for sure. The auction was entertaining, and some specials goods were sold. The best items were for sure the amazing painting of an artist about South Georgia on a chart. The final prize was 600 British Pounds, but also other nice stuff, like the flag of our trip or the leftover of our toast to Shackleton changed the owner for a good price. We made a good effort to support the South Georgia Heritage Trust and their future work to monitor and protect the incredible habitat of this remote island.

After another fantastic dinner and a few drinks at the bar, we went to bed and were dreaming of the upcoming adventure that would happen soon.

Day 12 – Wednesday 25th of January 2023, sea day & A76a

12h00 GPS Position: 59°22.4'S / 048°51.4'W

Wind: NNW3 • Sea: moderate • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: +4°C • Sea temperature: +2°C

Overnight the ship has started to roll again, the swell we're experiencing is the remainder of a decent storm that is supposed to hit the South Orkneys tomorrow and is the reason why we are headed directly towards Elephant Island instead. Like every morning we got woken up by Ali's lovely morning announcement and Volodymyr calling us for breakfast. The wind outside was quite calm, and the sun was out, but we've had waves splashing up to the windows of the dining room.

After breakfast we all went out on deck to see the gigantic iceberg A76 that forced us to change course. It looked like we were going to hit a wall of ice. No end could be seen to either side. F

The iceberg broke off the Filchner Ice Shelf (part of Ronne Ice Shelf in the Weddell Sea) in May 2021 and is currently on its' way towards South Georgia. Even though it has split into three pieces by now, it is still the largest iceberg in the world at this moment. When it first broke off, it was 170km long and 45km wide. The part we passed today was called A76a (the largest of the currently 3 parts of A76) and it was 135km long, 26km wide and approximately 30-40m high. The size of the iceberg underneath the water surface must have been around 8-times this height. A truly massively impressive piece of ice... and a once-in-a-lifetime-experience for all of us since we will never get to see this specific iceberg at its' current shape and location ever again. Close to this giant swam many smaller icebergs, many still bigger than our ship. And the ocean waves that broke on the bergs looked like house-high water explosions. What a special experience...



After this very unique morning, we got back to more serious business: bio security, round 3. After achieving 100% in South Georgia, we now knew exactly what to look for and therefore were done cleaning our outer gear pretty fast.

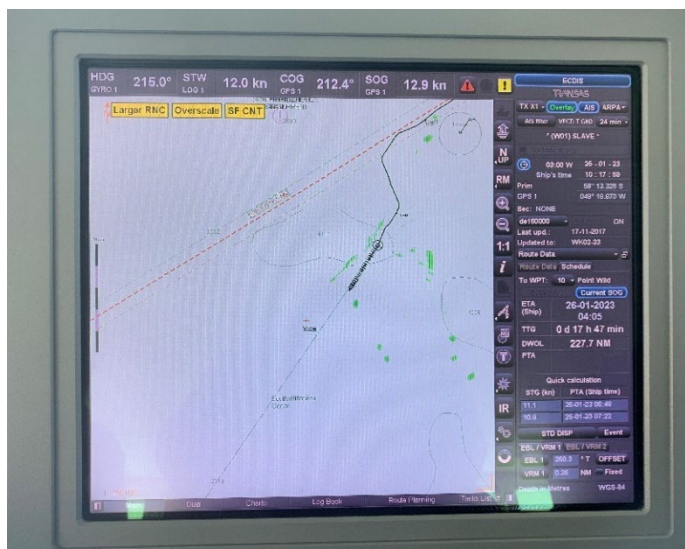
We then enjoyed a good lunch in the moving restaurant and many of us went for a little nap before the afternoon lecture programme. The ones who stayed awake were lucky to spot a good amount of fin whales passing the ship, some even so close that we could see their massive blowholes.

Following today's topic, Elodie gave us insights into how sea ice forms and which role it plays in the fragile eco system of Antarctica.

Since we'll be arriving at Elephant Island tomorrow, Josh gave a presentation about Shackleton and his incredible journey to South Georgia. A story that has inspired thousands of people throughout the last century.

The day ended with our recap and the plans for tomorrow. We're excited to see land again after two days at sea.

Right is a picture of the waypoints and the trace that we onboard *Plancius* followed to get around the iceberg, as it was blocking our original path!



Day 13 – Thursday 26th of January 2023, Elephant Island

12h00 GPS Position: 61°16.3'S / 055°09.7'W

Wind: W5/4 • Sea: slight • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: +7°C • Sea temperature: +2°C

We spend our thirteenth day on board making landfall to Elephant Island early in the morning. After crossing the Scotia Sea, we came to Point Wild. Our Plan A was to make a zodiac cruise in the area. Here we wanted to show the place where the 22 men from Shackleton's Endurance expedition waited patiently for Shackleton's rescue. It is here also the place where a few hundreds of chinstrap penguins nest.



To commemorate the rescue, the Chilean Navy built here a monument, the bust of Piloto Pardo, the captain of the trawler Yelcho which came finally in August 1916 to rescue the men stranded there. Regrettably our plans here were thwarted by the heavy swell and fog present in the area. Hence our Expedition Leader Ali decided to wait to see if conditions would improve. We were lucky with the fog, it lifted above the horizon, and we were able to see from the decks Pardo's bust. Similarly, we were able to see the glaciated surface of the area around point Wild and to have an overall view of how desolated and inaccessible Elephant Island is.

We were lucky with the fog but not with the swell and the wind. The wind kept on blowing above 30 knots and the swell consequently did not decrease. Hence it was decided to go for a Plan B: to visit Cape Lookout. It took us about one hour and a half to cross the island from one side to the other area for a possible activity. It took us one hour to cross the northern side of the island and when we came to Cape Lookout, conditions were much better.

Here we did our planned zodiac cruise and before 10 AM we launched 10 zodiacs. Here we had the chance to contemplate a colony of chinstrap penguins and a colony of macaroni penguins. We managed to negotiate with the waves and the swell and all

of us got the chance to see both penguins as well as a few other guests of the islands such as fur seals and leopard seals.

For the afternoon of this day, our expedition staff prepared a set of informative lectures about various topics describing some of the aspects related to the environment where we are. At 15:00 our biologist on board Steffi offered a presentation under the title Krill. In her presentation, Steffi described how these little creatures are the basis of all marine life in Antarctica and how they despite their size, are the creatures that feed the largest mammals of the ocean.



After this nice presentation, we then had our second presentation of the afternoon, this time given by our Earth Scientist on board, Annelou. In her presentation she described how by studying the contents of ice samples, scientists learn about the past climate of planet Earth. In her presentation under the title “Ice Core Drilling”, Annelou explained in detail how ice samples are collected from the ice sheets of Antarctica and Greenland and how these cores contain valuable information to quantify the changes of our oceans, atmosphere, and climate over the last hundreds of thousands of years.

During the early evening we had our daily recap, with Ali presenting the weather and the plans for the next day. Ali took the opportunity to talk about the convoluted story related to the rescue of the expedition led by Anton Carl Larsen in the Antarctic Sound and how he and his stranded crew was rescued miraculously by a fortunate encounter and then by the Corvette Uruguay from Argentina. This is one of the most incredible stories of Antarctica’s Heroic Age of Exploration.

Additionally, Elodie gave an interesting recap called “Breaking News from Antarctica”, where she informed us about the latest iceberg A81 which calved from the Brunt Ice-Shelf on the 23rd of January 2023. This iceberg seems to have calved close to Halley Station in the Weddell Sea. This iceberg has the same area of Great London Area covering an area larger than a thousand square kilometres. Shortly after this activity, dinner was served in the restaurant. During the night, we continued our sailing towards the Weddell Sea under a dark foggy night.

Day 14 – Friday 27th of January 2023, Paulet Island & Brown Bluff

12h00 GPS Position: 63°34.9'S / 055°47.6'W

Wind: VAR2 • Sea: smooth • Weather: overcast • Air temperature: 0°C • Sea temperature: 0°C

Early wake-up for some of us as we enter the Antarctic Sound. Early birds get out on the decks at 4:30 am to see the sunrise and look for whales! And we are rewarded with fin whales, humpback whales, and an amazing sunrise. Right after breakfast we approach Paulet Island, and we prepare for our first landing in Antarctica. Ali has warned us about the ubiquitous penguin poo, and the smell does not lie... There is a little swell on the landing site, but our zodiac drivers take us to shore safe and sound. We then meet the thousands of Adelie penguins, and the extent of their dejections. It is impossible to avoid them, everything is covered in it... Nevertheless, the colony is amazing, with the chicks being already quite big. It is so much fun observing the chicks chasing the parents around the colony until these give in and regurgitate. There are a couple of fur seals around, but they are not disturbed nor interested by our presence at all. We have a nice long landing, and we return to the ship after heavily cleaning our boots, only condition for Steffi to let us get back on the zodiacs.



After a nice lunch we have a 3 hour transit to Brown Bluff where we plan to land in the afternoon, and where we will do our continental landing and our polar plunge. But nature has other plans for us. As we are on the outside decks looking at the incredible scenery and looking for wildlife, it does not take Ali 10 minutes to announce that she has spotted killer whales in the distance, and that the ship is changing course to try to observe them. It takes us a little while to get there, but indeed there are 40+ orcas swimming alongside 2-3 fin whales.

But they do not seem to be chasing them. They seem to be Type B small or Gerlache Strait orcas, an ecotype that feeds predominantly on penguins. We even observe them swimming alongside a fur seal which does not appear to be the least scared. We observe them for about an hour, as they approach the ship several times, and then we go back to our plan to sail to Brown Bluff, slightly delayed by this incredible encounter!!!

We arrive in Brown Bluff at about 4:30pm and the landing site is amazing, with scattered icebergs, a beautiful beach with thousands of penguins, and a glacier on the left side of the beach. The sun is out again. We have an amazing time observing both gentoo and adelic penguins, and we spot a white morph of giant petrel.

At the end of the landing some of our guests are brave enough to do their polar plunge, and a Weddell seal is part of the beach team. As the sun sets, we are taken back to the ship, making our way through infinite rafts of penguins returning to the colony.



After dinner we all head out on the decks as we sail back through the Antarctic Sound and we watch a beautiful set of colours as the sun reaches down towards the horizon. Whales, leopard seals, icebergs, birds... what more can you ask for after a day like this?



Day 15 – Saturday 28th of January 2023, Devil Island and Zodiac Cruise in the Weddell Sea

12h00 GPS Position: 63°47.6'S / 057°18.4'W

Wind: N3 • Sea: smooth • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: +5°C • Sea temperature: 1°C

A new day in Antarctica started and it started really well. Some of us got up quite early to enjoy the sunrise in one of the most isolated places on earth. Well deserved, amazing sunrise and some whales, what could we ask more for.

For most of us it started a bit later. Ali woke us up and we watched out the window and the view was amazing. Calm sea, icebergs and the volcanic view over Vega Island and its little neighbour Devil Island. The Expedition Team went out, early as usual and the Zodiacs picked us up at 8:30. We walked along on the nice beach enjoying our new friends the Adelie Penguins. The young chicks were running around everywhere, searching for their parents and a new supply of food. We saw plenty of feeding behaviour and the little chicks did not mind explaining their parents how hungry they are. The chicks were chasing the parents all over the place, in the hope to get more food. We were actually quite impressed how much food the parents could deliver after one foraging trip.



Additional we got a small highlight, Ali gave us the chance to go for a walk and climb the horns of the devils. Well, some say it was the northern peak. It was a nice hike in the volcanic scenery and amazing blue icebergs in the sea around us. The weather, again, treated us nice and we enjoyed warm temperatures and sunshine. This was not



enough for the moment, we additionally got a small drive by at the icebergs and one lazy leopard seal enjoyed the sun on an icefloe as well. What a great morning in Antarctica.

For the afternoon the plan was Expedition! The plan to find an Emperor penguin, with our luck, should be manageable. Well sometimes even we run out of luck. There was less ice than expected, what makes it quite difficult. But the ice was incredible, so we went out for a ride into the ice with our beloved Zodiacs. We did not find Emperors but the biggest number of leopard seal in a small area we could imagine. The guides even mentioned that they never saw so many of these solitary top predators in one spot. So, we just float around and check out the next leopard seal and after number 10, we got even again excited about the Adelie penguins on wonderful blue icebergs. This was a wonderful last activity close at the Antarctic continent.



Ali invited us for the daily recap into the lounge and told us, that we would head north towards the South Shetland Island to explore a nice area. Additionally she also provided the weather forecast....and our luck is back, we also get the unique chance to experience a real Drake. The wind forecast showed a lot of orange and purple what means Rock'n roll. Well not everybody was happy about that, but not much we can change about.

During the recap Steffi brought us the proof that ice is not only beautiful, it can also sing. In grounded icebergs water is getting squeezed through little channels by current and tide and that makes interesting sounds. On top of it Eduardo explained us why ice appears blue and takes the reference of Snow White and the seven Dwarfs. Steffi and Eduardo showed with plenty of running effort how the spectrum of light travels through ice. The little blue dwarf Eduardo got through and Steffi, the yellow dwarf, got slowed down and got stuck in the ice. Now we know!

What a fantastic day, one more to go.

Day 16 – Sunday 29th of January 2023, towards Drake Passage

12h00 GPS Position: 62°25.2'S / 059°53.6'W

Wind: SE 5/7 • Sea: moderate • Weather: snowfall • Air temperature: +2°C • Sea temperature: +2°C

At around 8am, Plancius, surrounded by fog and snow, is at anchor in front of Half Moon Island, a small island that belongs to the South Shetland Islands. Half Moon is the site where we planned to do our morning activity that would allow us to see mor chinstrap penguins. The air temperature is around minus 1°C, there is 30 knots of wind, the swell is impressive. Expedition Leader Ali tries to postpone the landing to see if the conditions improve; after waiting for a little bit more than 1 hour, Ali decided to set sail and have a look at Yankee Harbour, another site just around the corner. Same conditions occur at Yankee Harbour; strong wind and swell, the perfect combo for unsafe landing conditions.

After Plan A & B, Ali always has a Plan C in her pocket. It is decided to go to Barrientos Islands, near the English Strait, a couple of hours away from Yankee Harbour. We hope for the best! During this time, Pierre gave an interesting lecture about killer whales. We all know everything about these fascinating marine mammals; from the social structure, the behaviour to the treats that these animals must face nowadays with climate change.



Around 11am, Plancius was in front of Aitcho Island. The coastline is rugged, wild, remote, made of basaltic rocks battled by the harsh weather conditions. Same problems occur here as well: too much swell and wind. So, we decided to wrap up and to head North towards the infamous Drake Passage. As soon as we leave the sheltered coves, we start to feel the swell and Plancius started rolling from side to side. It is time to take a last glimpse at those landscapes that made us dreamt during the last couple of days, taking a last picture of this marvellous world.

During the afternoon, we had the opportunity to watch in the Lounge a couple of documentaries about nature and wildlife that give us the desire to keep exploring our amazing planet. At 18:30, it is time for the traditional recap and the plans for the next days. Ali showed us some weather forecasts of the Drake Passage; windy and swelly conditions are coming ahead of us!

Day 17 – Monday 30th of January 2023, crossing Drake Passage

12h00 GPS Position: 59°03.6'S / 062°54.1'W

**Wind: NW6 • Sea: moderate • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: +8°C •
Sea temperature: +4°C**

Another day at sea and a decent Drake-Shake today. The dining room was rather empty this morning as many of us were forced to use these last days on the ship to catch up on some sleep, making sure we're feeling fresh for further travels once we get back to Ushuaia.

The team made sure to keep us entertained with various lectures and documentaries throughout the day. In the morning we embarked on a journey with Eduardo into the history of 500 years of circumnavigating the world. We learned about the adventurous stories of Magellan and Elcano, Francis Drake, Willem C. Schouten and Jakob Lemaire. After this voyage into times long passed, Ali invited us to take a glimpse into the lives of the "Ice Maidens" – the stories of women in Antarctica. She told us more about the loyal wives of famous explorers and brave women who stood their ground in a world that was ruled by men. When Ali started in 2009, she was one of the only women working in the industry. Today, almost half of our expedition team is female.

Our lunch was still accompanied by big waves, we needed to make sure to hold on to our tables to not fall over with our chair. We're still amazed by our brilliant team of waitresses and waiters who balance so gracefully through the dining room!

In the afternoon, Annelou gave a lecture about the geomorphology of the polar regions we have visited explaining the geological features of the rock formations we have seen. The formation of these sites gives us a better understanding of how the places we have seen came to exist.



After a little coffee and tea break with delicious muffins from our baker Roger, we were invited to the lounge to watch another episode of the BBC Blue Planet documentary. This time it was about the Big Blue – the vast open ocean that we were crossing on several occasions during this journey.

Our daily recap brought an overview of tomorrow's weather and the timetable for our arrival in South America. Additionally, Ali took us on a little virtual tour through the engine room of Plancius. Due to safety and insurance reasons, we can't go down there in person, but it was great to get some information during this recap. Plancius operates with three diesel generators that create electricity for the ship's propulsion which is the main reason why she is such a silent ship – perfect for the polar regions. Another interesting fact is that there's a system on board that uses a reversed osmosis process to turn salt water into drinking water, which gets checked every single day. And then the question that many people ask after a tour like this: how much fuel do we actually use? To break down the numbers into smaller bites that are easier to digest: on a full sea day, every person uses around 60 litres of fuel. That's a similar amount if we're going on a road trip back home.

The recap ended with a little history of the Beaufort Scale and how people used to try to measure wind speed and its effects on the sea in the past. We currently had around 35 knots of wind which equals around wind force 7 on the Beaufort Scale: "near gale". Esther invited us to keep observing the sea and the behaviour of the waves, guess the wind force and then go up to the bridge to check if we were right.

Our last full sea day ended with a delicious dinner and some nice talks with a drink in the lounge. We're looking forward to seeing land again tomorrow.

Day 18 – Tuesday 31st of January 2023, Drake Passage and Beagle Channel

12h00 GPS Position: 55°20.4'S / 066°11.2'W

**Wind: WNW3 • Sea: slight • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: +14°C •
Sea temperature: +10°C**

After a few days rolling around in the Drake Passage, it was a relief to most of us to feel the swell easing when we awoke as we neared South America again. If we were not already on deck enjoying the sights of the seabirds and the pitching seas, we were again awoken for the penultimate time by the now familiar voice of our expedition leader, Ali.

With our usual wholesome breakfast finished, many of us made it up to the bridge and out on deck to spy the first sights of Tierra Del Fuego and the surrounding islands on the horizon. Maybe a welcome sight for some who had been suffering from 'Drake Shake' the previous couple of days. We were all treated to our final morning of lectures from the excellent expedition team. Pierre was first up with his brilliant insights into the International Whaling Commission (IWC), an organisation he has been apart of for almost 20 years on behalf of his homeland, Luxembourg. He also gave us a brief overview of the work he is involved with through CCAMLR, the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. After a short recess and a quick coffee, we were then treated to another fantastic presentation by Eduardo on the role of science in Antarctica and the role of Antarctica on science, while Steffi simultaneously gave a lecture in German on the adaptations creatures have made to live in such cold environments such as those we visited on this trip.

After some brilliant lectures, we rushed to the dining room where we all feasted on the pizza and chips the galley team had been brewing up all morning. With all the lectures finished, many of us took to the outer decks to enjoy the views as we entered the Beagle Channel after lunch, while another BBC wildlife documentary was screened in the lounge. We were joined by Dusky Dolphins and Sei Whales as we entered the mouth of the Channel, with the dolphins putting on an impressive show bow riding and playing around the ship.

With the afternoon snack served and the pilot coming onboard, we began our final approach to Ushuaia. The evening's activities gave us all a chance to reflect together on the amazing adventures and encounters we have had over the past two and a half weeks. First, we all got to share a drink at Captain's Cocktails before toasting to the journey and enjoying one final recap from the Expedition team. Pierre had prepared a brilliant slideshow of the trip, which encapsulated all the wonderful things we have seen on the trip and took us back to begin of our trip in the Falklands to our final stops in Antarctica.

After enjoying a final wonderful plated dinner - with lamb, trout, salmon, and baked Alaska all on the menu – many of us enjoyed a catch up together before preparing for our departure the following morning.

Day 19 – Wednesday of February 1st of 2023, Disembarkation in Ushuaia

12h00 GPS Position: 54°78.6 S / 068°17.4'W

Wind: NW3 • Sea: calm • Weather: 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: 3264,5 nautical miles

Southernmost position: 64°02.3'S / 057°52.9'W

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

Birds and Marine Mammals of the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the Antarctic region

Birds

English	Latin	14-jan	15-jan	16-jan	17-jan	18-jan	19-jan	20-jan	21-jan	22-jan	23-jan	24-jan	25-jan	26-jan	27-jan	28-jan	29-jan	30-jan	31-jan
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>																		
King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>				X		X	X	X	X	X								
Ad�lie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>														X	X			
Southern Rockhopper Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysocome</i>			X															
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>			X				X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>										X			X	X		X		
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>							X			X			X					
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>			X	X														
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>		X		X	X	X	X		X		X						X	
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>																X		
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X	X
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>						X	X			X			X			X		
Light-Mantled Sooty Albatross	<i>Phoebetria palpebrata</i>							X		X	X		X	X					
Northern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>		X			X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	
Southern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	X	X	X	X	X		X		X				X	X		X		X
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialoides</i>												X	X			X		
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>		X							X	X		X	X	X	X	X		
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>																		
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>										X	X			X	X			
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>						X			X	X	X					X		
Grey Petrel	<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>				X	X													
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Soft-Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>				X	X	X			X							X	X	
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>		X		X	X	X												
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>		X		X	X	X												
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>						X	X		X	X	X		X			X	X	
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>																		
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>		X	X	X													X	
Wilson’s Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>					X	X			X	X	X	X	X			X	X	
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>					X											X		
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides (urinatrix) berard</i>			X						X	X								
South Georgia Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides georgicus</i>									X	X								
Magellanic Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>																		
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	X		X	X														
Rock Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax magellanicus</i>			X	X														
South Georgia Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax georgianus</i>							X	X	X	X								
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>												X	X	X	X	X		
Snowy (Pale-faced) Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>							X	X	X	X			X	X	X			
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>													X	X	X			
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta lonnbergi</i>		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X				
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>				X														
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>			X	X			X	X	X	X			X	X	X			
Brown-hooded Gull	<i>Larus maculipennis</i>																		

[illegible]

Birds and Marine Mammals of the Falkland Islands

Birds

English	Latin	14-jan	15-jan	16-jan	17-jan	18-jan
King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>				X	
Southern Rockhopper Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysocome</i>			X		
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>			X		
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>					
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>			X	X	
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>		X		X	X
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>					
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	X	X	X	X	X
Northern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>		X			X
Southern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	X	X	X	X	X
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>		X			
Grey Petrel	<i>Procellaria cinerea</i>				X	X
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>		X		X	X
Soft-Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>				X	X
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>		X		X	X
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>		X		X	X
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>					
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>					
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>		X	X	X	
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>		X			X
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>					X
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>					X
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides (urinatrix) berard</i>			X		
Magellanic Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>					
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	X		X	X	
Rock Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax magellanicus</i>			X	X	
Snowy (Pale-faced) Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>					
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta lonnbergi</i>		X	X	X	X

Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>				X	
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>			X	X	
Brown-hooded Gull	<i>Larus maculipennis</i>					
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	X		X	X	
Upland Goose	<i>Chloephaga picta</i>			X	X	
Kelp Goose	<i>Chloephaga hybrida</i>			X	X	
Ruddy-headed Goose	<i>Chloephaga rubidiceps</i>				X	
Flying Steamer Duck	<i>Tachyeres patachonicus</i>					
Falkland Flightless Steamer Duck	<i>Tachyeres brachypterus</i>			X	X	
Patagonian Crested Duck	<i>Lophonetta specularioides</i>				X	
Chiloe Widgeon	<i>Anas sibilatrix</i>					
Speckled Teal	<i>Anas flavirostris</i>					
Yellow-billed Pintail	<i>Anas georgica spinicauda</i>					
Silver Teal	<i>Anas versicolor fretensis</i>					
Cinnamon Teal	<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>					
Black-Necked Swan	<i>Cygnus melanochoryphus</i>					
Black-Crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax falklandius</i>			X	X	
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>			X	X	
Red-backed (Variable) Hawk	<i>Buteo polysoma</i>					
Striated Caracara	<i>Phalcoboenus australis</i>			X		
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>					
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus cassini</i>					
Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba tuidara</i>					
Short-eared Owl	<i>Asio flammeus sanfordi</i>					
Magellanic Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus leucopodus</i>			X	X	
Blackish Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ater</i>			X	X	
Two-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius falklandicus</i>				X	
Rufous-chested Dotterel	<i>Charadrius modestus</i>					
Magellanic Snipe	<i>Gallinago paraguaiiae magellanica</i>			X	X	
Blackish Cinclodes (Tussac Bird)	<i>Cinclodes antarcticus antarcticus</i>			X		
Dark-faced Ground Tyrant	<i>Muscisaxicola m. macloviana</i>			X	X	
Falkland Pipit	<i>Anthus correndera grayi</i>				X	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>				X	

Falkland Grass Wren	<i>Cistothorus platensis falklandica</i>			X		
Cobb's Wren	<i>Troglodytes cobbi</i>			X		
Black-throated (Canary-winged) Finch	<i>Melanodera melanodera</i>			X		
Falkland Thrush	<i>Turdus falklandii falklandii</i>			X		
Black-chinned Siskin	<i>Carduelis barbata</i>			X		
Long-tailed Meadow Lark	<i>Sturnella loyca falklandica</i>			X	X	

Marine Mammals

English	Latin	14-jan	15-jan	16-jan	17-jan	18-jan
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>					
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>	X				
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	X			X	
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>					
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>			X		
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>			X		
Killer Whale (Orca)	<i>Orcinus orca</i>					
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>				X	
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>				X	
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>	X				
Commerson's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>				X	
Burmeister's Porpoise	<i>Phocoena spinipinnis</i>	X				
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>			X		
South American Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>				X	

Birds and Marine Mammals of South Georgia

Birds

English	Latin	19-jan	20-jan	21-jan	22-jan	23-jan	24-jan
King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>		X	X	X	X	
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>					X	
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>		X			X	
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	X	X		X		X
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>						
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>	X	X			X	
Light-Mantled Sooty Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>		X		X	X	
Northern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	X	X	X	X	X	
Southern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>		X		X		
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>						
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>				X	X	
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>					X	X
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>	X			X	X	X
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X
Soft-Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>	X			X		
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	X					
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>	X					
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>	X	X		X	X	X
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>	X			X	X	X
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>						
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides (urinatrix) berard</i>				X	X	
South Georgia Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides georgicus</i>				X	X	
South Georgia Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax georgianus</i>		X	X	X	X	
Snowy (Pale-faced) Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>		X	X	X	X	
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>						

Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta lonnbergi</i>		X	X	X	X	
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>		X	X	X	X	
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>		X	X	X	X	
South Georgia Pintail	<i>Anas georgica</i>		X	X	X	X	
Pectoral Sandpiper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>		X				
South Georgia Pipit			X	X	X	X	

Marine Mammals

English	Latin	19-jan	20-jan	21-jan	22-jan	23-jan	24-jan
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>						
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>						
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>						
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>						
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>						X
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>						
Sperm Whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>						X
Southern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>						X
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>						
Killer Whale (Orca)	<i>Orcinus orca</i>						
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>	X					X
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>					X	
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>					X	
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>		X	X	X	X	
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>	X	X	X	X	X	

Birds and Marine Mammals of the Antarctic region

Birds

English	Latin	25-jan	26-jan	27-jan	28-jan	29-jan	30-jan	31-jan
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>							
Adélie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>			X	X			
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>		X	X	X	X		
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>		X	X		X		
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>		X					
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>						X	
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>					X		
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	X	X				X	X
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>		X			X		
Light-Mantled Sooty Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>	X	X					
Northern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>		X	X	X	X	X	
Southern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>		X	X		X		X
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialisoides</i>	X	X			X		
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X		
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>							
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>			X	X			
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>					X		
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	X	X			X	X	
Soft-Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>					X	X	
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>		X			X	X	
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>						X	
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>	X	X			X	X	
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>					X		
Magellanic Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>							
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>							
Rock Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax magellanicus</i>							
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>	X	X	X	X	X		

Snowy (Pale-faced) Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>		X	X	X			
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>		X	X	X			
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta lonnbergi</i>	X	X	X				
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>							
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>		X	X	X			
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>							
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>		X	X	X	X		
Red Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>							X

Marine Mammals

English	Latin	25-jan	26-jan	27-jan	28-jan	29-jan	30-jan	31-jan
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>							
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>				X			
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>		X	X	X			
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>							
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	X	X	X	X	X		
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>			X				
Sperm Whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>							
Southern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>							
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>							
Killer Whale (Orca)	<i>Orcinus orca</i>			X				
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>		X		X		X	
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>							
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>							X
Commerson's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>							
Burmeister's Porpoise	<i>Phocoena spinipinnis</i>							
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>		X		X			
Crabeater Seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophagus</i>							
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>			X	X			
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>		X					
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>		X	X	X			
South American Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>							

Map of the Falkland Islands

- **1:** Carcass Island (16/01)
- **2:** West Point Island (16/01)
- **3:** Stanley (17/01)



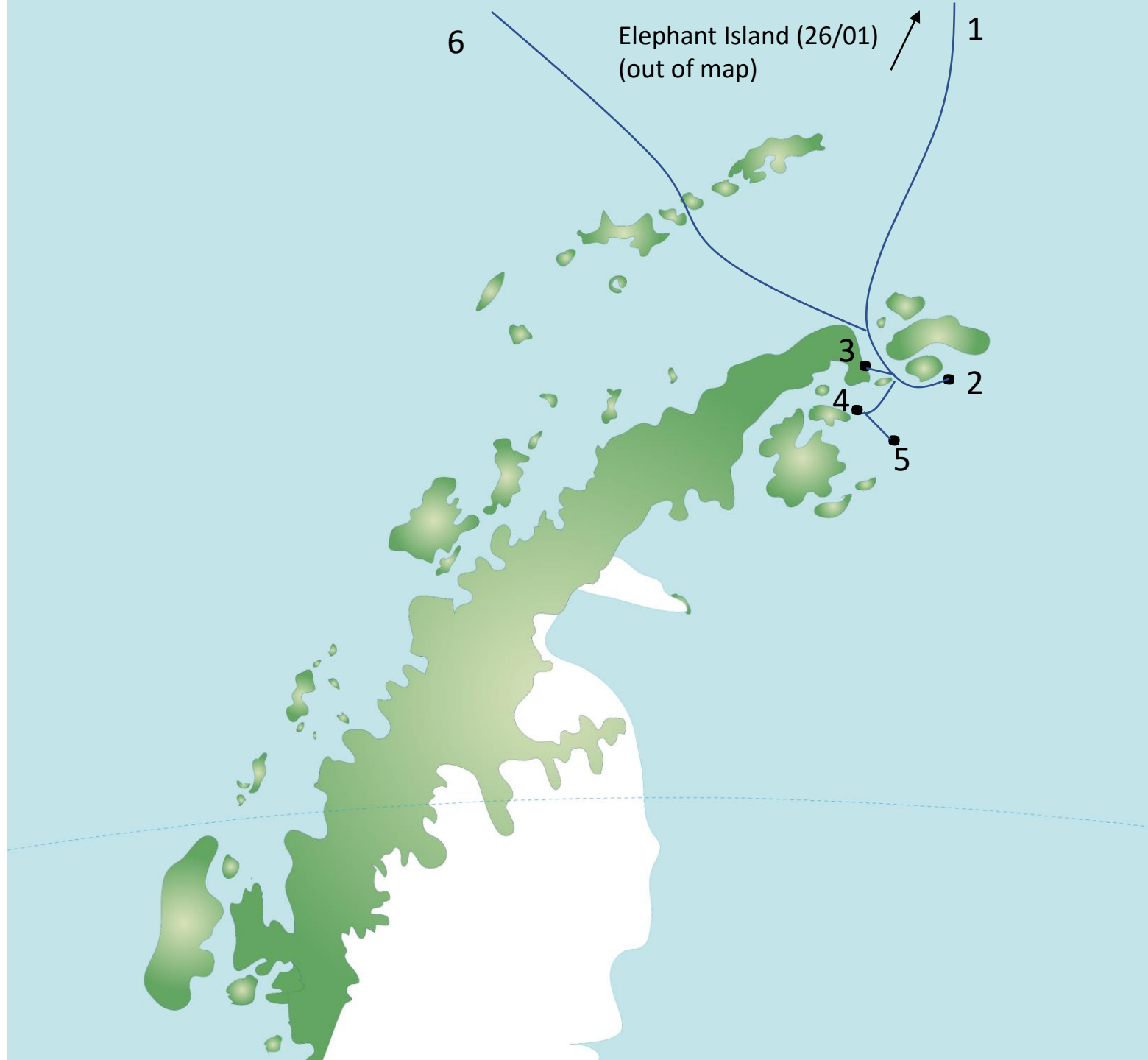
Map of South Georgia

- **1:** Salisbury Plain (20/01)
- **2:** Prince Olav Harbour (20/01)
Zodiac cruise
- **3:** Stromness (21/01)
- **4:** Grytviken (21/01)
- **5:** St. Andrews Bay (22/01)
- **6:** Godthul (22/01)
- **7:** Drygalski Fjord (23/01)
Ship cruise
- **8:** Larsen Harbour (23/01)
Zodiac cruise



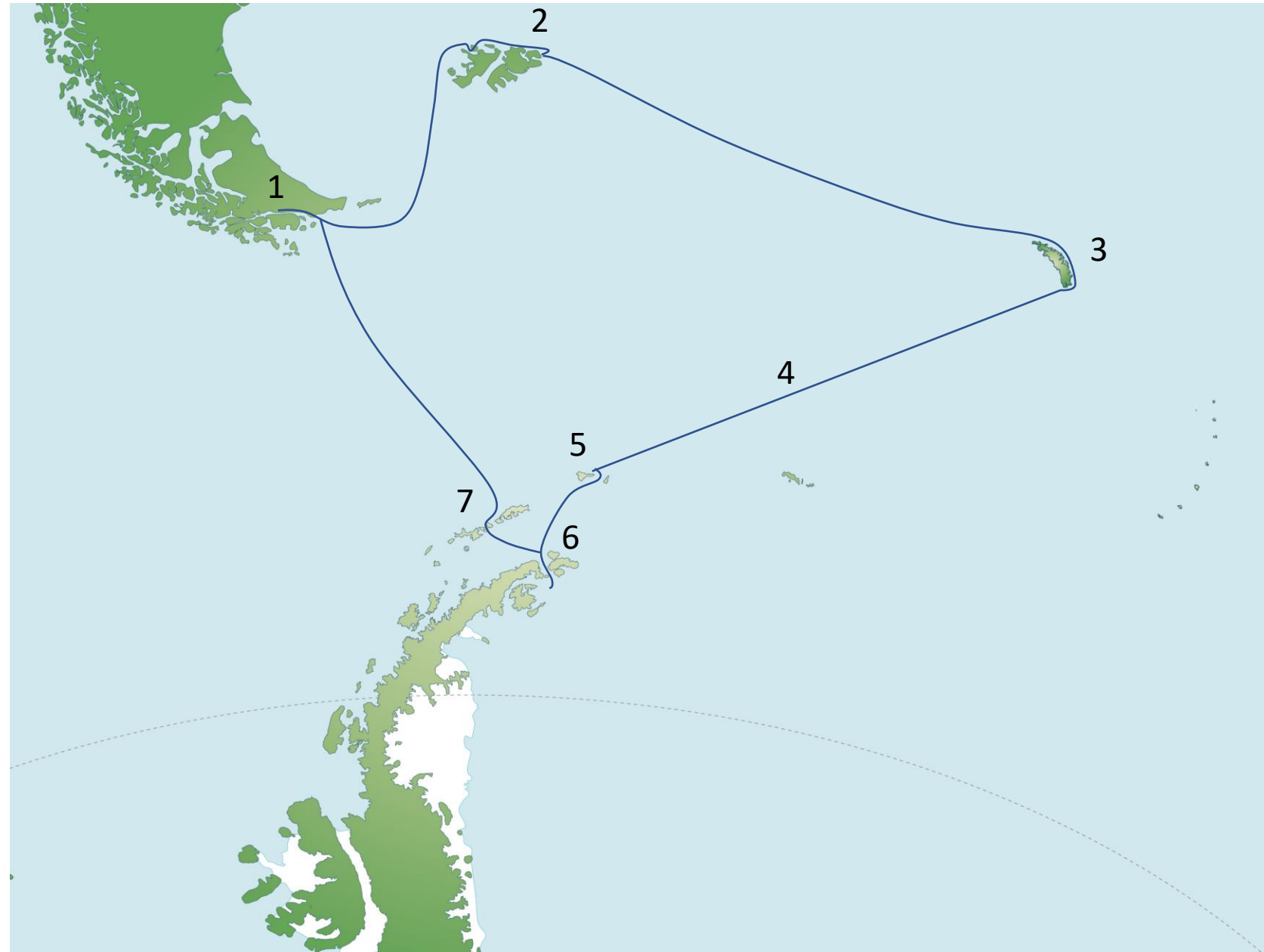
Map of the Antarctic Peninsula

- **1:** Cape Lookout, Elephant Island (26/01)
Zodiac cruise
- **2:** Paulet Island (27/01)
- **3:** Brown Bluff (27/01)
- **4:** Devil Island (28/01)
- **5:** Erebus and Terror Gulf (28/01)
Ship cruise & Zodiac cruise
- **6:** Back to Ushuaia through the Drake Passage (29/01)



Overview map

- **1:** Departing from Ushuaia (14/01)
- **2:** Falkland Islands (16-17/01)
- **3:** South Georgia (20-23/01)
- **4:** Iceberg A76a (25/01)
- **5:** Elephant Island (26/01)
- **6:** Weddell Sea (27-28/01)
- **7:** South Shetland Islands (29/01)



Ali Liddle - Expedition Leader



Originally from the UK, Ali spent 15 years living in the Falkland Islands where she worked as a Primary school teacher both teaching out in 'camp' and at the school in Stanley. Latterly, she was employed as Education Officer for Falklands Conservation and shared her time between classroom teaching and conservation. In 1997, she spent 9 months living on South Georgia where she ran the Post Office and took every opportunity to hike, ski and explore the surrounding peaks and coastline. She has published three books to date: *Plants of the Falkland Islands* and two art and craft books for children using penguins and albatross as the inspiration. Ali is a keen runner, having completed three marathons in the Falkland Islands and two in the UK, and she also enjoys cycling, hiking and camping. Ali has been working on Antarctic and Arctic expedition cruises with Oceanwide for more years than she cares to remember and works on all of the Oceanwide vessels at some point during the year. She has recently relocated from Northumberland to the Isle of Skye where she is renovating a cottage and enjoying the hiking opportunities of the island. Her particular interest is

natural history and the wildlife, and she enjoys sharing her knowledge of and passion for the polar regions.

Deutsch

Ali kommt ursprünglich aus Großbritannien und hat 15 Jahre lang auf den Falklandinseln gelebt. Dort arbeitete sie als Grundschullehrerin im sogenannten "Camp" wie auch in der Schule von Stanley. Später war sie zuständig für den Bereich Bildung des Umweltamtes und teilte ihre Zeit zwischen Klassenzimmer und Naturschutz. 1997 verbrachte sie neun Monate in Südgeorgien, wo sie das Postamt betrieb. Gleichzeitig nutzte sie jede Gelegenheit, um zu wandern, Ski zu laufen und die umliegenden Gipfel und Küstenlinien zu erkunden. Sie hat drei Bücher veröffentlicht: *Pflanzen der Falklandinseln* und zwei Kunst- und Handwerksbücher für Kinder, die von Pinguinen und Albatrossen inspiriert sind. Sie ist eine leidenschaftliche Läuferin und hat bereits drei Marathons auf den Falklandinseln und zwei in Großbritannien absolviert. Außerdem fährt sie gerne Rad und liebt das Wandern und Zelten.

Ali arbeitet bereits seit vielen Jahren auf allen Schiffen der Oceanwide-Flotte, sowohl in der Antarktis wie auch der Arktis. Sie ist vor kurzem von Northumberland in England auf die Isle of Skye in Schottland gezogen, wo sie zur Zeit eine alte Kate renoviert. In ihrer Freizeit genießt sie die unglaublichen Wandermöglichkeiten der Insel.

Ihr besonderes Interesse gilt der Natur und der Tierwelt: dieses Wissen und ihre Leidenschaft für die Polarregionen teilt sie gerne mit Euch.

Eduardo Rubio - Expedition Leader



I describe myself as an astronomer by profession with a passion for sharing nature with others.

After studying physics, I got my PhD in Astronomy from the University of Amsterdam in 2010. After a postdoctoral position I became a lecturer of physics and Astronomy as well as a guide in expedition cruise ships. In 2018 I decided to become a full-time guide for Oceanwide Expeditions in the Antarctic and in the Arctic.

My interests vary from history of exploration to the intricacies of astronomy. During the trips I have undertaken, I offer lectures about polar explorers, the science carried out in Antarctica (astronomy in particular), about our Universe, and the mysteries of our ocean's depths, to mention some. At sea, besides being an engaged guide and lecturer, I love to show constellations to people, pointing out their names and their lore. In every trip I made, I always aim to raise the enthusiasm of guests towards science, and their awareness towards the unique and fragile planet where we live. Born in Guatemala (1978), I speak English,

Spanish and German.

Deutsch

I beschreibe mich selbst als ausgebildeter Astronom mit einer Leidenschaft Natur mit anderen zu teilen.

Nachdem ich Physik studiert habe, habe ich 2010 meine Doktorarbeit in Astronomie an der Universität in Amsterdam abgeschlossen. Nach einer Stelle als Postdoktorant, wurde ich Dozent für Astronomie und Guide auf Expeditionskreuzfahrtschiffen. 2018 habe ich dann beschlossen Vollzeit Guide für Oceanwide Expeditions in der Antarktis und der Arktis zu werden.

Meine Interessen gehen von der Geschichte der Entdecker zu den Feinheiten der Astronomie. Auf den Reisen, die ich mache, halte ich Vorträge über Polare Entdecker, die wissenschaftliche Forschung in der Antarktis (insbesondere Astronomie), über unser Universum und die Geheimnisse der Tiefsee, nur um ein paar zu nennen. Auf See bin ich nicht nur ein engagierter Guide und Dozent, sondern liebe es auch den Gästen die Sternbilder und ihre Hintergründe zu erklären. Auf jeder Reise die ich mache, habe ich immer das Ziel die Begeisterung der Gäste für Forschung und Ihre Bewusstheit für die Einzigartigkeit und Zerbrechlichkeit unseres Heimatplaneten zu steigern. Geboren in Guatemala (1978), Ich spreche Englisch, Spanisch und Deutsch.

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.

Stefanie Liller – Expedition Guide



Steffi Liller was born in Offenbach, Germany in 1978. After completing her apprenticeship as a biology lab technician at the Paul-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-traveller 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.

Deutsch

Steffi wurde in Offenbach/Main 1978 geboren. Nach erfolgreicher Ausbildung zur Biologielaborantin am Paul-Ehrlich-Institut in Langen absolvierte sie das Studium der Biologie und Meteorologie in Darmstadt und Freiburg. Neben dem Studium und ihrer Liebe zur Natur entwickelte sie darüber hinaus eine weitere, sportliche Leidenschaft und zwar fürs Fallschirmspringen, das im Laufe der Zeit vom Hobby auch zum beruflichen Lebensmittelpunkt wurde. Stefanie Liller arbeitete auf Fallschirmsprungplätzen und Indoor-Skydiving-Anlagen in ganz Mitteleuropa und erfreute sich besonders daran, anderen Menschen ihre Faszination für diesen Sport näherbringen zu können. So verbrachte sie einen Großteil ihrer Karriere als Coach und legte stets besonderen Wert darauf ihre eigene Leidenschaft, Neugierigen und Interessierten zugänglich zu machen. Ab 2011 war sie im Management verschiedener Indoor-Skydiving-Anlagen in Deutschland und Österreich tätig. Neben dem beruflichen Werdegang war und ist Stefanie Liller stets begeisterte Weltreisende geblieben. Auf allen sieben Kontinenten erkundete sie Landschaften und Gebiete, meistens zu Fuß oder mit den öffentlichen Verkehrsmitteln, und erfreut sich daran, ihre Erfahrungen und einzigartigen Momente mit Interessierten zu teilen. Seit 2017 arbeitet sie selbstständig als Coach auf Sprungplätzen und Indoor Skydiving Anlagen, sowie Lektor und Guide auf verschiedenen Schiffen in abgeschiedenen Regionen. Als Wahlheimat und Basis zwischen den Trips ist sie in Wien ansässig. 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".

Pierre Gallego – Assistant Expedition Leader



Pierre is a veterinarian specialised in marine mammal medicine. He has been working in the field of marine biology for 18 years, and has been organising marine mammal research internships around the world since 2004. He represents the Government of Luxembourg at the International Whaling Commission and CCAMLR, and works with numerous international NGOs to promote marine mammal conservation and to fight cetacean captivity.

He is currently carrying out his PhD with the Oceanology Lab of the University of Liege, Belgium. His PhD thesis deals with pollutants and stable isotopes in humpback whales off Ecuador and Mozambique.

He is a keen birdwatcher and enjoys photography. The ocean is his passion, and water is his element!

Deutsch

Pierre ist Tierarzt und hat sich auf Meeressäuger spezialisiert. Er arbeitet im Gebiet der Meeresbiologie seit 18 Jahre und organisiert Ausbildungen über Meeressäuger rundum die Welt seit 2004. Er vertritt die Regierung Luxemburgs an der Walfangkommission und CCAMLR, und arbeitet mit mehreren internationalen Umweltschutzorganisationen um die Erhaltung von Meeressäuger zu promovieren und deren Gefangenschaft zu bekämpfen.

Er macht gerade eine Doktorarbeit am Ozeanologie Lab der Universität Lüttich in Belgien. Seine Doktorarbeit beschäftigt sich mit stabile Isotopen und Schadstoffen in Buckelwalen aus Mosambik und Ecuador.

Er ist ein eifriger Vogelbeobachter und hat viel Spass an Fotografie. Das Meer ist seine Leidenschaft, und Wasser ist sein Element.

Joshua Peck – Expedition Guide



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

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

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

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

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

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

Annelou Hulsker – Expedition Guide



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

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

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

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

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

Elodie Bouvier - Expedition guide



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

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

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

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



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Ushuaia

Embarkation

Saturday 14th Jan 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.
- >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 Cherendnychenko.
This will be followed by **Captain's Cocktails**, a chance to meet your Captain for this voyage and then you will meet with your Expedition Leader Ali Liddle. She 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.



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea to the Falkland Islands

Sunday 15th January 2023

- 0745 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **The Falkland Islands.** Your Expedition Leader, Ali lived in the Falklands for 15 years so please join her in the Lounge for a presentation about the islands.
- 1100 **Seabirds.** We will be seeing many seabirds on our voyage so please join Steffi in the Lounge to learn more about these iconic birds
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1500 **The Falkland Islands.** Josh is a Falkland Islander so please join him in the Lounge for a presentation about the history of the Falkland Islands and life on this remote archipelago.
- 1630 **Boots.** We will invite you by deck to collect your boots from the Boot Room which is on Deck 3 forward
- 1815 **Zodiac Briefing and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for the Mandatory Zodiac safety briefing and our learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **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.



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Carcass Island and West Point

Monday 16th January 2023

- 0645 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0715 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0815 **Carcass Island.** For our first landing we hope to take you ashore on Carcass Island where we will see Gentoo and Magellanic penguins. It is a beautiful island with a white sand beach and lovely scenery. We then hope to offer a guided walk to the settlement, which is approximately 5km (2.5 miles). If you don't want to do the walk there will be zodiacs available to take you to the settlement where traditional 'smoko' will be available.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- TBA **West Point Island.** We hope to take you ashore on West Point Island, which is an important breeding site for Rockhopper penguins and Black browed albatross. The colony is situated about 1 mile from the landing site and it is an uphill climb to get there but there will be land rover transport available if you require it. Please remain on the outside of the albatross and penguin colonies.
- 1845 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for our daily recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3.

Tuesday 17th January 2023

0700 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.

At this time we will be making our final approach towards Stanley Harbour. Keep a look out for dolphins and enjoy the navigation through The Narrows.

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

0830 **Stanley.** We hope to be able to take you ashore in Stanley, the capital of the Falkland Islands. We will land at the jetty which is close to the centre of town. Maps and other information leaflets are available in the Jetty Centre.

Enjoy a visit to the museum and a walk along the sea front where you will find the shops and Post Office.

Local currency is Pounds Sterling but you can use Euros and Dollars in most shops. Debit and Credit cards are also accepted.

WiFi internet cards can be bought at the Jetty Centre and used at WiFi hotspots in town.

1300 **Lunch** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.

1500 **The Falklands War.** Josh will give a presentation about the war that took place in the Falkland Islands in 1982. This will be in the Lounge.

1630 **Island Isolation! Escaping Covid.** Ali spent much of the covid pandemic on Sea Lion Island, one of the remote islands in the Falklands. Please join her in the Lounge to hear some stories of island life.

1900 **Dinner** is available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea to South Georgia
Wednesday 18th January 2023

- 0745 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **Penguins.** We have already seen some great penguins on our voyage so if you would like to learn more about these iconic little birds then please join Ali in the Lounge. This will be translated into German by Steffi.
- 1100 **Humpback whales.** Pierre has spent many years researching Humpback whales around the world. Please join him in the Lounge for a presentation about this species of whale.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1500 **Scott and Amundsen, The Race to the Pole.** In the Golden Age of Exploration the race to reach the South Pole was between Scott and Amundsen. Please join Josh in the Lounge to hear the story of their expeditions.
- 1630 **Exploration at the Bottom of the Sea.** We are travelling at the surface but what lies beneath and how did we ever begin to explore the depths of the oceans? Please join Eduardo in the Lounge to find out.
- 1830 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3. Enjoy your meal.



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea to South Georgia

Thursday 19th Jan 2023

- 0745 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **Introduction to South Georgia.** Ali has been coming to South Georgia since 1997 when she overwintered on the island. Please join her for an introduction to this sub-Antarctic island.
- 1100 **Bio-security.** Please join Ali for a Mandatory briefing about Bio-security regulations in South Georgia. This will be followed by our cleaning sessions in the Lounge. We will call you by deck to clean your outer gear, back packs and camera bags.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1330 **Bio-security Continues.....**
- 1600 **Life on South Georgia.** Josh spent 4 months working as the Government Officer at King Edward Point in 2020. Please join him in the Lounge to hear about his time on the island.
- 1730 **South Georgia Briefing Video.** This is a Mandatory briefing from South Georgia Government prior to visiting South Georgia so please join us in the Lounge.
- 1830 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for a recap of the day and our learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Salisbury Plain and Prince Olav Harbour
Friday 20th January 2023

In the early morning we will be approaching South Georgia so it might be worth getting up early to see the island as we approach.

- 0700 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali. She will update you of the morning plan after checking the weather in the early morning.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 **Salisbury Plain.** For our first landing on South Georgia we hope to be able to take you ashore at Salisbury Plain where there is large King penguin colony. There will be lots of Fur seals and Elephant seals on the beach so please move carefully, follow any red marker poles and listen to the advice of the guides.
- 1300 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1500 **Prince Olav Harbour.** We hope to be able to take you out on a zodiac cruise in Prince Olav Harbour. There is a small lagoon which is a great place to see Fur seals from the safety of the zodiac and we will take you along the shore towards the ruins of the whaling station and the ship wreck, the Brutus. Please dress warmly as we will be out in the boats for a couple of hours.
- 1830 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for a recap of the day and to learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant.

Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Hercules Bay and Grytviken
Saturday 21st January 2023

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 We hope to be able to visit **Hercules Bay**, which is a beautiful bay where there is a small colony of Macaroni penguins. The best way to see the penguins is from the zodiac so we will offer a zodiac cruise. We will do this in 2 groups.
- Group 1 Passengers in Cabins on Deck 6, 5, 3 and 2** **52 guests**
Please be at the gangway at 0830
- Group 2 Passengers in Cabins on Deck 4** **56 guests**
Please be at the gangway at 1000
- During the morning, please spend some time checking your backpacks, clothing and rubber boots!
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1430 **Grytviken.**
Please ensure all your gear is clean and ready for inspection!
This is the only whaling station we can visit and there is a museum, shop and Post Office. The shop will take Pounds Sterling. Dollars and Euros in cash and also card payments. The Post Office will take Pounds Sterling and card payments.
There will be a whaling station tour during the afternoon. Timings will be confirmed.
Please stay on the tracks and do not enter any other buildings.
- 1845 **Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join Ali and the Expedition team in the Lounge.
- 1900 **South Georgia BBQ** is served on the back deck and in the Restaurant.



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

St Andrew's Bay and Godthul
Sunday 22nd January 2023

- 0415 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
Pastries and Fruit will be available in the Lounge
- 0500 **St Andrew's Bay.** We hope to take you ashore at St Andrew's Bay where we will find the largest King penguin colony on South Georgia with around 350,000 breeding pairs of penguins. There will be Elephant seals on the beach as well. It is about 1 mile to walk to the viewpoint over the colony but there will be plenty to see near the beach as well.
- We will be running shuttles between ship and shore on the hour and half hour starting at 0730**
- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 1200 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- TBA **Godthul.** We hope to be able to take you ashore at Godthul, which translates as Good Harbour. From the beach it is a steep walk up through the tussac to where the Gentoo penguins nest but above the tussac is a gentle walk to a lake. If weather conditions allow we may offer a guided hike to the summit of Edda Hill which is 302m above sea level.
If you don't feel that steep tussac is for you then we will offer a zodiac cruise in the bay at Godthul.
- 1845 **Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join Ali and the Expedition team in the Lounge.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant.



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Cooper Bay Drygalski Fjord
Monday 23rd January 2023

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 **Cooper Bay.** We hope to take you all on a zodiac cruise at Cooper Bay where there is a colony of Macaroni penguins and also a beach with Chinstrap penguins. We will cruise the inner bay and penguin colonies.
- Drygalski Fjord.** This will be a ship cruise up the fjord to the glacier at the end. The scenery is beautiful so enjoy the navigation.
- 1300 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1600 **Seals.** We have seen plenty of seals on our voyage so far. If you would like to learn more about the different species please join Ali in the Lounge.
- 1830 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join Ali and the Expedition team in the Lounge.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served on the back deck and in the Restaurant.



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea to Elephant Island

Tuesday 24th January 2023

- 0745 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **Alien Oceans.** Is there any water on other planets? Join Edu in the Lounge to find out more about extra-terrestrial water!
- 1100 **Seals.** We have seen plenty of seals on our voyage so far. If you would like to learn more about the different species please join Ali in the Lounge.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1430 **Whaling on South Georgia.** We saw some of the whaling stations of South Georgia but what was it like on these stations? To find out more about the whaling industry please join Josh in the Lounge.
- 1600 **Continental Ice.** We are now making our way to the continent of Antarctica where 70% of the world's fresh water is held in the Antarctic ice. Please join Elodie in the Lounge to find out more.
- 1730 **South Georgia Heritage Trust Auction.** We have heard about the incredible work of the South Georgia Heritage Trust, the project to eradicate the rats on South Georgia is just one of their achievements. We will hold an auction of unique items to raise funds for this charity so please join us in the Lounge.
- 1845 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for a recap of the day and our learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

At Sea to Elephant Island

Wednesday 25th January 2023

0745 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.

0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.

Iceberg A76. After breakfast we should be approaching the large iceberg known as A76. We are expecting strong winds in the morning so please take care as you view the iceberg from the ship

Bio Security. You all did an incredible job with Bio-security in South Georgia and, according to IAATO regulations we need to continue with this in Antarctica. During the morning we ask that you check your outer clothing and bags and we will call you by deck to have them checked by staff. We will then ask you to sign the IAATO form.

Cleaning kit and vacuum cleaners will be available in the library.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

1500 **Sea ice.** Elodie has already spoken about the continental ice of Antarctica and so she will now explain about the formation of Sea Ice which is a vital part of the ecosystem of Antarctica

1630 **Sir Ernest Shackleton.** Tomorrow we will be arriving at Elephant Island, the place where Shackleton arrived with his men on the Endurance Expedition. If you would like to hear more about this extraordinary story then please join Josh in the Lounge.

1830 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for a recap of the day and our learn of our plans for tomorrow.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica Elephant Island

Thursday 26th January 2023

- 0700 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 **Point Wild, Elephant Island.** Point Wild is where Shackleton left 22 men of the Endurance Expedition and then sailed to South Georgia to get help. We will approach and assess the conditions, especially the swell. We hope to be able to take you out on a zodiac cruise so please listen for announcements.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1500 **Krill.** Antarctic Krill is the basis of all marine life in Antarctica. If you would like to find out more about the little pink critters that feed the biggest marine mammals in the ocean, then please join Steffi in the Lounge.
- 1630 **Ice Core Drilling.** Scientists in Antarctica often drill deep into the ice as a way of researching changes in climate and the atmosphere over hundreds of years. Please join Annelou to find out more about the process.
- 1830 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for a recap of the day and our learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant



Falklands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Paulet Island and Brown Bluff

Friday 27th January 2023

We will be entering Antarctic Sound in the early morning, so it is worth getting up early to enjoy our navigation to Paulet Island. Sunrise is at 03:52.

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 **Paulet Island.** Paulet Island is home to a large Adelie penguin colony, so we hope to be able to take you ashore to visit the colony. Please follow the red poles as there will be a lot of penguins and chicks and we want to limit our disturbance. We will also find the remains of the hut from the Nordenskjold Expedition in 1903.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- TBA **Brown Bluff.** This afternoon we hope to be able to take you ashore at Brown Bluff which is a stunning location with high cliffs above the landing site. Here there are Adelie and Gentoo penguins. Again, follow the route marked by the red poles. We will offer a Polar Plunge at the end of the landing! We'll bring the towels if you bring the insanity!
- 1915 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for a recap of the day and our learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1930 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant



Falklands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Devil Island and an Expedition

Saturday 28th January 2023

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 **Devil Island.** Devil Island, next to Vega Island is home to an Adelie penguin colony. Please follow the red poles up from the beach and move slowly as there will be a lot of penguins and chicks on the way and, as always, we want to limit our disturbance. We hope to offer a hike to the summit of the island where we will have great views of the surrounding area.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- This afternoon will be an Expedition afternoon! We will ship cruise further into the Weddell Sea and see what we can find. There will be icebergs and sea ice and we will see if we can find an Emperor penguin.....**
- 1830 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for a recap of the day and our learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant



Falklands, South Georgia, and Antarctica Half Moon Island

Sunday 29th. January 2023

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Ali.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0830 **Half Moon Island.** For our last landing in Antarctica we hope to take you ashore at Half Moon Island where there is a colony of Chinstrap penguins. If weather conditions are good then we hope to be able to offer a longer hike to a summit nearby which will also allow you time with the penguins at the end. Please follow the red poles, move slowly and be aware of the penguin highways.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- This afternoon we will be heading out into the Drake Passage where we are expecting some swell. Please secure all your belongings in your cabin and please take care as you move around the ship. If needed, please take sea sickness medication**
- Depending on conditions we may offer a lecture programme or wildlife documentary.**
- 1830 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for a recap of the day and our learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Drake Passage

Monday 30th January 2023

There will be no wake up call this morning but you'll get the call for Breakfast at 0800!

- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **500 Years of Circumnavigation.** As we navigate across the Drake Passage it is hard to imagine the early days of exploration with sailing ships. Please join Eduardo in the Lounge to hear more.
- 1100 **Ice Maidens, Women in Antarctica.** Please join Ali in the Lounge for a presentation about the history of women in Antarctica and stories about some of the women behind the men who explored the frozen continent.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1500 **Geomorphology.** We have seen lots of different rock formations during our voyage. Annelou will be in the Lounge to explain more about some of the geological features of the polar regions.
- 1630 **Documentary video in the Lounge.**
- 1830 **Recap and Plans for Tomorrow.** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for our daily recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant Enjoy your meal.



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica Drake Passage

Tuesday 31st January 2023

- 0745 Wake up call from Ali! Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **CCAMLR and the IWC.** Pierre has been working for many years to support the work of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources and the International Whaling Committee so please join him the Lounge to find out more about these organisations.
- 1100 **Science in Antarctica.** If you would like to find out more about the history of science research in Antarctica and some of the work carried out there today then please join Eduardo in the Lounge.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1500 **Documentary video in the Lounge.**
- 1630 **Rubber Boots.** We will call you by deck to return your boots to the boot room.
- 1815 **Captains Cocktails.** Please join the Expedition team and Captain Remmert in the Lounge to toast our successful voyage to the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica.
- 1900 **Farewell Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal!

We will be alongside the pier in Ushuaia at around 2200. Once the ship is cleared you are welcome to go ashore. Please make sure you have your key card and some ID for the port authorities.



Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica

Ushuaia

Wednesday 1st February 2023

0700 Your final wake up call from Ali! Good Morning everyone, Good Morning!

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 you.

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 then walk to the port entrance for a taxi.

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 the
future!**