



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## Antarctic Peninsula- South Georgia-Falkland Islands

Ushuaia - Ushuaia

2 February 2023 – 20 February 2023

Onboard *M/V Hondius*



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

## **Captain Toni Salo [Finland]**

and his international crew of 49 sailors

Staff Captain:	<b>Elizbar Kadaria</b>	[Georgia]
Chief Officer:	<b>Diederik Scholten</b>	[Netherlands]
Second Officer:	<b>Igor Nazarov</b>	[Russia]
Third Officer:	<b>Kirill Buriacheck</b>	[Russia]
Hotel Manager:	<b>William Barnes</b>	[Netherlands]
Head Chef:	<b>Gaurav Bawa</b>	[UK]
Sous Chef:	<b>Milos Simeunovic</b>	[Serbia]
Sous Chef	<b>Mihai Melinte</b>	[Romania]
Sous Chef	<b>Sachin Naik</b>	[India]
Ships doctor:	<b>Rieneke Feenstra</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	<b>Pippa Low</b>	[UK]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	<b>Adam Burke</b>	[UK]
Ass. Expedition Leader	<b>Marcel Paul</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Sasha Romanovski</b>	[Russia]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Marcos Goldin</b>	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Simon Davies</b>	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Jakub Malecki</b>	[Poland]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Pelin Asfuroglu</b>	[Turkey]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Elizabeth Robinson</b>	[USA/UK]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Ursula Tscherter</b>	[Switzerland]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Julia Angermeijer</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Fiona Strasser</b>	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Felicity Johnson</b>	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Gertruide van der Meij (Saskia)</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Tiphonie May</b>	[Falkland Islands]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Georgina Strange</b>	[Falkland Islands]

**We welcome you on board!**

# Day 1 –Thursday 2 February 2023, Ushuaia, Embarkation Day

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

**Wind: SE-2 • Sea State: At Port • Weather: Partly Cloudy • Air temp: 17°C • Sea temp: 12°C**

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Today is the day to embark M/V Hondius, the beautiful 107 metre vessel that will take us to explore Antarctica. After visiting Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world, we embark the ship at 4pm and are met by the staff and crew who warmly welcome us onboard. After checking in we are directed to our cabins, followed by the

lounge for tea, coffee and biscuits. The Chief Officer, Diederik, gives us a mandatory safety brief, we all get involved in the safety drill where we are shown to our lifeboats.

At 6.30pm it is time for Captain's cocktails to celebrate the beginning of the voyage with a glass of prosecco and delicious canapes. Captain Toni makes a welcome speech and we all toast to a good trip ahead. The Expedition Staff introduce themselves; it is interesting to meet all of them and learn where they are from. As the ship sails through the Beagle Channel, it is time for our first meal on board by way of a fantastic buffet. The excited chat at dinner is all about the journey ahead and the adventures that lay before us.



# Day 2 – Friday 3 February 2023, at sea Drake Passage

12:00 GPS Position: 57° 05.4 S, 62° 00.9 W

Wind: NW-3 • Sea State: Moderate • Weather: Variable, Occasional Sun • Air temp: 7° C • Sea temp: 2°C

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With plan C firmly in operation (basically doing the trip in reverse, to avoid bad weather to the east) we steamed merrily south into the Drake Passage towards Antarctica on our first sea-day.

The day was jam-packed with activities, starting with mandatory zodiac and IAATO briefings, then the distribution of the vital-to-operations Muck Boots and followed by

excellent lectures on Birds of the Drake Passage by Simon and Whales of the Southern Ocean from Felicity with a rigorous round of bio-security in the middle so with everyone vacuumed and scrubbed to within an inch of their lives the main job of finding your sea-legs could be pursued.



Wildlife watching from the bridge and outer decks was also undertaken throughout the day with a range of bird species gaining the most interest; sightings included the first Wandering Albatrosses of the trip (already a highlight for many!) Southern Royal Albatross, Grey-headed Albatross, Black-browed Albatross, Soft-plumaged Petrel,

Black-bellied Storm Petrel and Slender-billed Prion all masterfully predicted by the Birds of the Drake Passage lecture!

What wasn't predicted though was a lost-looking Chilean Swallow seen flying around the bridge in the morning – a land-bird, presumably from Ushuaia seriously regretting its life choices in following the ship out into the middle of the Drake Passage!

# Day 3 – Saturday 4 February 2023, at Sea Drake Passage

08:00 GPS Position: 61°16.5'S / 062°58.5'W

Wind: NW5 • Sea State: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temp: 2° C • Sea temp: 5°C

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On our second day at sea, we wake up to the call from our Expedition Leader Pippa. It is again a calm day, and we are surprised to see that weather is so kind to us. After our breakfast we meet all in the Lounge where Expedition Guide Pelin is giving a lecture, Introduction to Antarctica. We get a lot of interesting and new Information about the white continent, and we get even more excited to finally set foot on this promising piece of land.

After the lecture some of us join the team on the bridge or go outside with their cameras and binoculars to get some fresh air and take a look out for wildlife. Simon, the bird specialist in the Expedition team is always outside and available to answer our questions or to help spotting seabirds.

After another delicious lunch, it is time for more education. Expedition guide Marcos is talking about the geology, Origins of the Antarctic Peninsula. A very interesting story of fire and ice. Shortly after the talk about rocks the program continues with Jakub's (some call him the ice man) talk about different ice types in antarctica and their meaning.

All in all, afternoon full of new and interesting Information. After even more information about the Drake passage, sea birds and hypothermia in the daily Recap, Pippa tells us about the plans for the next day. It will be the first day with activities on the Antarctic Peninsula!

Soon after dinner we go to our cabins, prepare our gear for the next day and fall asleep very excited about the following day.

# Day 4 – Sunday 5 February 2023, Antarctic Peninsula, Portal Point and Danco Island

08:00 GPS Position: 64°30.1'S / 061°44.3'W

Wind: N-2 • Sea State: Calm • Weather: Partly Cloudy • Air temp: 0° C • Sea temp: 2°C



The day has come!

We made it to Antarctica!

After our breakfast we all go to our cabins and get ready for our very first landing and zodiac cruise at a place called Portal Point.

We put on our warm and waterproof clothes, get our cameras and binoculars ready and meet after we got called by our group at the Shell doors on deck 3. The Expedition team already prepared the zodiacs and the landing site so that we can just jump into the zodiacs right away and start our adventure.

Portal point is a continental landing, which means for some of us, that we reach our 7th continent. As we arrive at the rocky landing site, we are welcomed by our Expedition Leader Pippa who gives us a short briefing about the landing site at Portal Point, the wildlife we will find and the route we can follow. As it is our first time on land everything is new. We feel perfectly prepared and the whole Expedition Team is ready to answer questions, give advice or kindly remind us about some important rules and guidelines to protect the area and its wildlife.

The Expedition team brought an Antarctica flag ashore, so we have a lot of fun taking photos of our companions and ourselves in this beautiful landscape holding the flag of the continent. While one part of us is on land, enjoying the scenery, the landscape and the wildlife which means the first sighting of a Weddell seal, a group of Crabeater Seals and even a solitary Gentoo Penguin resting on the snow. Rest of us is out at the sea cruising the shoreline and the surrounding which is full of absolutely breath-taking icebergs.

At one point we do a swap on the landing site, which means the group that was on shore is now going on a zodiac cruise and the other way around. In this way everybody sees and experiences everything.

At around 11am we are back on the ship to start our transfer from Charlotte Bay to the Errera Channel where the landing site for the afternoon is located.



After lunch, which is absolutely delicious again, we meet in the lounge for the daily Recap which is earlier today because we want to spend as much time at Danco Island this afternoon as possible. After the briefing for the following day, we go to our cabins and get ready again for our second landing on this day.

The bravest amongst us even plan are joining the Polar plunge today. And it couldn't be a better day! As the weather in the morning was a little cloudy and greyer it is a relief that the sky here at Danco is clear and blue and the sun is warming our faces and hands. The perfect day to do the polar plunge!

But first we start exploring this stunning piece of land. On the Island we find our first Gentoo Penguin Rockery and we can't take our eyes off these amazing, funny birds. As clumsy they appear on land, waddling up and down their highways, as fast and elegant they are in the water swimming and porpoising. Standing on the beach observing them coming in and out of the sea or taking care of their chicks just fill our hearts with joy!

On the zodiacs we are cruising around huge and beautiful icebergs. Penguins swimming around us while Weddell seals are resting on rocks next to the Imperial Shags. It is a calm and sunny day. It feels so peaceful. As we continue our cruise, we encounter our next wild animal. Sleeping on an ice floe there is a Leopard Seal, very close to us. As our zodiac driving Expedition guides read the behaviour of this amazing animal we can approach a little bit closer. Always in mind that this apex predator deserves its break and that we try our very best not to disturb it.

Another surprising treat already awaits us in form of a zodiac which provides us with some hot coco! William, our Hotel Manager and his Staff are handing out these warm drinks and we receive them with big smiles on our faces! Such a great surprise!

After we all enjoy this absolutely stunning afternoon now it is time for the group of people who signed in for the polar plunge to face the reality and get ready to dive into the cold Antarctic waters... or maybe just dip in!

Happy and smiling we all return to Hondius to take a warm shower and get again another delicious dinner provided by the Kitchen and Hotel department.

It was simply the perfect first day in Antarctica we all agree on that!

# Day 5 – Monday 6 February 2023, Antarctic Peninsula, Palaver Point

12h00 GPS Position: 64°08.6'S / 061°46.2'W

Wind: NE-5 • Sea State: Smooth • Weather: Overcast • Air temp: 0°C • Sea temp: 1°C

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It is exactly 07:30 AM when we close in to our chosen landing site for the morning: Palaver Point, inside Two Hummock Island (64°08'53"S 061°45'33"W). Despite being snowing outside, and under a gentle but chilly breeze the Expedition Team leaves the vessel to scout the place. After finding it suitable for landing, we commence our morning operations. While the first group enjoys the landing, the other one has the opportunity to explore the outside shores of

Two Hummock Island. This landing site is particularly interesting due to the Chinstrap penguin colony that reside there, on top of a big number of fur seals that decided to make this beach their home. The experience is complete with the magnificent view of the immensity of the Gerlache Strait, that we have the luck to also go and explore with our zodiacs.

We finish our landing close to noon, and it's time to go back to the vessel, get changed, and enjoy a delicious lunch in the Restaurant. After a cup of hot coffee (and maybe a short nap) we delight ourselves listening to Pelin's lecture about the early explorers of the Antarctic Peninsula. During the afternoon we continue to make our way towards the Antarctic Sound, where we plan to spend the following day. While ship cruising the Northern shores of the Trinity Peninsula, and at around 5:30 PM we are pleasantly surprised by a very exciting sighting: Killer and Humpback Whales !!! We have the joy of enjoying this wild and unique encounter, watching whales and seabirds alike having a feast in Antarctic waters, our hearts pump with excitement, and our eyes can't believe what they see. With all of this images fresh in our memories and cameras, we listen to the Team's Daily Recap & Briefing, and enjoy dinner in the Restaurant.





# Day 6 – Tuesday 7 February 2023, Antarctic Peninsula, Paulet Island and Brown Bluff

12h00 GPS Position: 63°34.6'S / 055°51.8'W

Wind: NW-1 • Sea State: Good • Weather: Snow • Air temp: 1°C Sea temp: 1°C

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The captain and the Bridge Team skillfully navigate us through the Antarctic Sound, and into the much less explored and visited Eastern side of the Antarctic Peninsula. Our day look packed with activities, first aiming to land in a small but very special Island (Paulet), and an afternoon spent in another famous site called Brown Bluff.

After an arrival to Paulet Island at around 8 AM the Expedition Team goes out for a scout once again. The wind is blowing more than the day prior, about 20 knots constant, so the decision is made, we will only make landings during the morning, skipping the zodiac Cruise. But no time is spare time in Hondius, so Saskia offers an insightful lecture onboard, focused on Nordenskjold explorations in the Antarctic continent

while the first group goes ashore, and the same happens a second time during the morning with the ones that return from their adventure outside.

The landing turns out to be a one-of-a-kind experience! Thousands of Adelie penguins contained in a small little volcanic island and fur seals all around whilst big and chubby penguin chicks entertain us with their antics. On top of everything wildlife related, we get to Nordenskjold men's hut, built in that very island to endure the Antarctic winter, from February to November waiting for their rescue.



Around 11:30 AM we are all back onboard Hondius, recharging batteries, eating and warming up for the afternoon activity. After a few hours sailing the ship makes its way to Brown Bluff, a spectacular landing site on the foothills of an old englacial Volcano (with part of its eruptive activity underneath the ice!), and of which we can only infer its previous shape and form. Beautiful boulder called ventifacts cover the beach, occupied by colonies of Gentoo and Adelie Penguins, and Fur seals that

at times surprise us by their camouflaged presence amongst the brown boulders. Our zodiac cruise is equally rewarding, navigating between brash ice, icebergs packed with Penguins jumping from and into the ocean, and even close sightings of a few Leopard

Seals. We maximize our time outside, spending as much time exploring as we possibly can. The sun shines, and Antarctica says goodbye giving us again the present of the finest weather one could ask for. Finally, we return to Hondius at around 7:15 PM, and after a warm shower we enjoy a delicious dinner. We sail north, thinking back and being grateful for the last three incredible days spent in the Southernmost continent. A new adventure awaits, and South Georgia our next destination!

## Day 7 – Wednesday 8 February 2023, at Sea and Elephant Island

**08h00 GPS Position: 61°24.5'S / 054°53.7'W**

**Wind: SW-5 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Overcast • Air temp: 6°C • Sea temp: 1°C**



Today we left the pristine, snow-capped Antarctic mountains behind and started heading northeast towards South Georgia. However, today is no ordinary sea day. Our expedition leader Pippa has something special planned for us all – we were to sail towards Elephant Island, with the hope of a short zodiac cruise at Point Wild. This particular location is of historic significance to many of us on board.

Point Wild is the exact location where Ernest Shackleton and his crew set up camp for four months, whilst Shackleton and 5 men set off in one of their lifeboats, the James Caird, for South Georgia in order to find a rescue ship for the remainder of his men.

As we are transiting towards Elephant Island, sailing north through the Prince Charles Channel, there are many eyes on the water in search of marine mammals. And to our absolute joy, some of the staff spots a few whale blows up ahead. As we draw closer, we begin to see blow after blow, scattered across the horizon. To everyone's amazement, we stumble across approximately 100 Fin Whales in a huge feeding frenzy! There are hundreds of seabirds, Cape Petrels and Black-browed Albatross included, hovering about the feeding hotspots. This spectacle is like something out of a documentary; whales lunge feeding and surfacing as far as the eye can see. The ship slows all the way down and we creep our way around the aggregations of marine life, before turning the corner to Point Wild. Before we reach Point Wild, we also have the delight of listening to expedition guide Pelin, deliver her lecture all about

Shackleton's Trans-Antarctic Expedition, an incredible story of success, failure and outstanding leadership.



Upon reaching Point Wild, we gain the first glimpses of the statue of Captain Luis Pardo, the Chilean Captain of the Yelcho, the ship that rescued Shackleton and his men. Our own Captain, Captain Tony does a fantastic job of maneuvering Hondius into the more sheltered bay adjacent to Point Wild. Everyone then proceeds to head out on to the bow,

grab a glass of glühwein and soak in the surrounding landscape and history. Unfortunately, due to the swell conditions, we are unable to drop the zodiacs and take everyone for a short cruise along the shore. However, due to the beautiful weather and position of the ship, our view can't get much better anyway!

After lunch, it is time to depart and we start sailing north, towards South Georgia. Shortly after departing, Marcel gives a short lecture about Elephant Island, going into more detail about the hardship Shackleton's crew endured on the hostile island.

After a short break in the afternoon, and a siesta for some, the 18:00 recap comes around and we were treated to a wide range of recaps from the team, including an overview of Fin Whales, cloud formations and how sailors use to survive without lots of fruit and vegetables! After dinner, there is a screening of a short documentary about the Trans-Antarctic Expedition. This was followed by an open discussion led by Pelin, about anything Shackleton or polar exploration related, a chance for anyone to share their knowledge, stories and trivia!

# Day 8 – Thursday 9 February 2023, at Sea towards South Georgia and Iceberg A76a

08h00 GPS Position: 59°00.56'S / 048°27.1'W

Wind: NNE- 7/8 • Sea State: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temp: 2° C • Sea temp: 7°C

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Today, it is all about ice!

During the night the ship starts to roll and pitch sailing through an increasingly rough sea. Yet as we have made it through the Drake most of us feel a bit more at ease. During the morning rain and wind keeps us. While some are reading, knitting, or chatting in the lounge or resting in the cabins a few brave guests withstand the weather watching

cape and giant petrels, black-browed and even a wandering albatross soaring around our ship.

In the morning, Jakub introduces us to the beauty of icebergs. We learn that factors like the origin, age, floating time, and internal structures influence their sizes and colors. Environmental parameters such as wave action, sunlight, and different melting processes above and below the surface also affect shapes and textures turning each iceberg into unique sculptures.

Jakub explains that Antarctica is divided into four sectors A, B, C and D. In May 2021 a huge iceberg broke off the Ronne Ice Shield. An area lying within sector A. Being the 76th born iceberg since counting it was therefore named A76. At that time, it was the largest iceberg of the world covering an incredible 4300 km<sup>2</sup> in size!

Past one o'clock somebody on the bridge discovers our highlight of today in the far distance: The giant tabular iceberg A76a which, at some point during its journey, has broken off from A76. It is now about 2000 km north from its birthplace at the position 58°32.123' S and 47°18.990 W! Measuring 25 by 135 km and weighing an estimated 500 million tons it is today's largest floating mass of ice!



Everybody is now out on deck admiring this unusual sight. Lots of photos are taken as the breaking high waves nicely contrast with the motionless iceberg in the background. And many of us are wondering how such a giant can float and drift.

After almost an hour we reach its end. The officer on the bridge increases our speed taking up the original

course towards South Georgia. Meanwhile Adam presents us some fascinating insights into his life when he had worked at Rothera Station in Antarctica and in King Edward Point on South Georgia. Besides the diverse and at times challenging work we learn that non-work-related activities like hiking, skiing and entertainment are very important when living at such remote places. Just like early explorers.

Around 4 o'clock we pass the small counter in the lounge as much to our delight and following today's topic ice cream is served while Jakub offers insights into today's knowledge about the future of the planet's ice. Not surprisingly, many places it doesn't look too good.

At recap Pelin responds a question from the box. Were there any women in Antarctica in the early days? She tells us about Edith (Jackie) Ronne who in 1947 accompanied her husband on a journey south. Instead of returning home to USA she stayed and unexpectedly ended up doing 15 months' work as a historian in Antarctica. To honor her achievements a glacier was named after her but later renamed after her husband.

Yes, the very Ronne Ice Shield where A76 was born some 50 years later.

An interesting and impressive day at sea comes to an end while Hondius is sailing steadily on its north-easterly course.

# Day 9 – Friday 10 February 2023, at Sea towards South Georgia

08h00 GPS Position: 56°38.8'S / 041°46.0'W

Wind: NW-6 • Sea State: Moderate • Weather: Fog • Air temp: 4° C • Sea temp: 5°C

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Our ninth day onboard MV Hondius is filled with excitement as we prepared to arrive in South Georgia the following day. The expedition team is looking forward to making landfall and showing the guests everything, South Georgia has to offer; a place some have waited years to explore. The morning starts off different than others with no wakeup call and an opportunity to catch up on sleep. After a filling breakfast of yoghurt and toast, Expedition Leader Pippa holds a mandatory South Georgia briefing. The briefing explains how we can help do our part and contribute to keeping this island one of the most beautiful and remote place in the world. We learn about the work the Heritage Trust has completed, the invasive species removal, and methods for biosecurity.



A sea day is a great opportunity to spend time out on deck and on the bridge looking out for wildlife such as humpback whales and wandering albatross.

Marcos holds a midmorning lecture about the origins of South Georgia, providing information about the main geological features of the spectacular island. He passionately describes places like Drygalski Fjord, an intricate

meeting place of ancient basement rocks and ophiolite with fragments dating back to Gondwana. Or Cooper Bay, our landing site the next day, which provides visitors the opportunity to see a concoction of graywacke, phyllite, and slate mélange.

Everybody onboard just simply can not wait to land in South Georgia, so much that we even moved our clocks forward an hour in an attempt to speed up time. ☺

After another delicious meal in the dining room, we were stuffed full of vegetables and fresh bread, preparing for the big event of the day, biosecurity! All guests are welcomed to deck 3 for a biosecurity check by the expedition team with smiles on their faces, vacuums at the ready, and paperclips in hand. Although this task can feel tedious, it is an important part of being stewards for the conservation of South Georgia.



Ursula holds a mid-afternoon lecture about commonly sighted species: seals! Preparation for South Georgia would not be complete without a lecture about the fur seals and elephant seals who are scattered on the shoreline. The Southern Elephant Seal is the world's largest pinniped species, with the males topping out at 3700 kg in weight. These seals are more than twice as heavy as a Walrus and seven times heavier than a Polar Bear! These seals are also the deepest diving seals with some recorded depths of over 2,300m. Next up in the lecture, Ursula presents information about the Antarctic Fur Seal, the Southern Ocean's only eared seal species. The Fur Seal has a true comeback story in South Georgia having historically been targeted for seal hunting. Over 1.2 million fur seals were killed in between 1800-1801 and now more than 90% of this species is found on South Georgia, totalling around 2,700,000. What a great story!

To end the day, Expedition Leader Pippa give us the plans for the next day, our first South Georgia landing. We have a zodiac cruise around Cooper Bay scheduled for the morning, followed by a landing in St. Andrews. It is an early night as everyone wanted to be fully rested and ready to wake up to the breath-taking views of South Georgia.

# Day 10 – Saturday 11 February 2023, Cooper Bay and St. Andrews

12h00 GPS Position: 54°28.3'S / 035°55.1'W

Wind: SW-2 • Sea State: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temp: 12°C Sea temp: 6°C

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After three long days at sea (with a stop at Elephant Island and the A76a Iceberg) we are finally arriving in South Georgia. The morning looks amazing, and we are off for a morning cruise in Cooper Bay. The excitement is over the top as we are first spotting land! The first real difference to Antarctica that catches our eye are the lush green hills. The tussock grass fields are virtually covering everything the light touches and the amount of wildlife on the beaches is overwhelming.



As soon as we board our zodiacs, we are off to explore the coast. The water here has this beautiful dark shiny blue almost greenish color and along with the kelp reaching the surface from the deep the whole scenery creates an eerie atmosphere. We cruise straight towards large rocks close to the coast where we have our first sighting of the Macaroni Penguin. Their yellow feathery crown catches the eye immediately and gives this

species of penguin a funny but charismatic look. Along with the South Shetland Islands and the South Orkney Islands, South Georgia happens to be one of the main locations where we can find the Macaroni Penguin. According to the IUCN the population status of this species is classed as vulnerable and over the past decades we can observe a decrease in numbers, which makes this sighting extra special.





Not long into the cruise some expedition guides spots a large Leopard Seal playing with a dead penguin in between the kelp, which is a great reminder of the predatory position this species holds in the food chain down here in the Southern Ocean. Shortly after this impressive sighting we cruise along the beach and are greeted with large numbers of Fur Seals (especially pups), Elephant Seals, and King Penguins

mixed with some individuals of Gentoo Penguins. Seeing so many species gathered in one place gives us a small glimpse of the rich wildlife found in South Georgia. What a morning!

After such an impressive morning and a short rest onboard, we are now ready for our first landing in South Georgia, and no place could be more suitable and charismatic than St. Andrews. Famously pictured in BBC Our Planet documentaries, we are super excited to finally go on land and experience South Georgia's wildlife firsthand. Right at the landing site where the zodiacs arrive, we are greeted by Elephant Seals resting on the beach and curious King Penguins.

Making our way along the walking route towards the ... glacier we encounter dozens of brave Fur Seal pups and adults. It seems some of them are not very happy about us passing by and so some of us get charged and threatened by the bravest seals of the lot, of which most are tiny pups. It is impressive to see how courageous these youngsters are defending their space!

The whole scenery of this place is magical: Lush green grass patches divided by a river formed through the melting glacier and high snowy mountains in the background. Following the route all the way to the glacier moraine is a long walk, but absolutely worth it!

The further we move inland the lesser we see wildlife. Some King Penguins, mostly moulting individuals, can be found along the shore of the glacial meltwater lake. With the reducing numbers of animals, more and more we can experience real silence and even have the chance to spot less abundant, more rare wildlife such as the South Georgia Pipit and South Georgia Pintail. These two species are endemic to South Georgia and cannot be spotted anywhere else in the world. What a special first landing!

# Day 11 – Sunday 12 February 2023, Fortuna Bay and Salisbury Plain

09h00 GPS Position: 54°03.3'S / 036°50.6'W

Wind: W-5 • Sea State: Smooth • Weather: Cloudy • Air temp: 7° C • Sea temp: 7° C

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After an eventful day yesterday, which was filled with amazing first experiences in South Georgia, today we are off to dive even deeper and see more of this amazing island by going on an early morning landing at Fortuna Bay. This time we have the wakeup call at 4:15 AM! Even though we are a little bit tired in the beginning as soon as we spot our

cruise/landing of the morning we are all very excited.

Located on the north shores of South Georgia, Fortuna Bay is surrounded by a rugged, mountainous landscape and covered by rich, green tussac fields. Home to healthy populations of King Penguins, Antarctic Fur Seals, Elephant Seals, Brown Skuas, Giant Petrel and Antarctic Tern, this scenic bay was named after a co-owned Norwegian and Argentinian whaling ship.

On our way to the lookout point at the end of the set-out route we cross a small river which is filled by juvenile fur seals playing in the water. What an incredible chance to watch these little troublemakers close by.



Once we reach the final lookout point, it is mesmerizing to watch the huge colony of King Penguins of hundreds of thousands of individuals gathering in one place.

After a delicious lunch on board, in the afternoon we land in Salisbury Plain! On land we have the incredible opportunity to enjoy the amazing density of wildlife

that greets us. Encountering hundreds of Antarctic Fur Seal pups, along with Elephant

Seals resting in the high tussock grass and the second largest colony of King Penguins is overwhelming. We have the incredible chance to watch a range of milestones in the long breeding cycle of these penguins, from eggs being passed between adults, to chicks being fed by their parents and adults that have finished moulting getting ready to go back to sea. Once again, we are blessed with amazing weather, a blue sky and sunshine. Another incredible day in South Georgia!

## Day 12 – Monday 13 February 2023, Stromness and Grytviken

**8h00 GPS Position: 54°09.6'S / 36°42.0'W**

**Wind: Variable-2 • Sea State: Calm • Weather: Overcast/Rain • Air temp: 7°C •  
Sea temp: 7°C**

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Yet another big day lay ahead of us today as we pulled into Stromness Harbour in the early hours of the morning. There is not a breath of wind this morning and the cloud is low, hugging the mountains surrounding the derelict whaling station. It is here that Shackleton finished his epic expedition; when he heard the whistle sound from the station, he then proceeds to walk down the valley and into the hustle

and bustle of the whalers.

This morning, we have the opportunity to walk up the valley to Shackleton Falls, a steady 5km round trip retracing Shackleton's final steps. If you didn't fancy the walk though, there was plenty to see. As always, the beach is littered with Antarctic Fur Seal pups, Gentoo Penguins and a handful of moulting King Penguins. However, compared to our previous days in South Georgia, this time the wildlife is also distributed through the abandoned station buildings and equipment, a poignant image, demonstrating nature has regained control once again!

Whilst at Stromness, we are also able to zodiac cruise around the corner and visit Leith Harbour, the largest whaling station on South Georgia. Whilst cruising the shoreline of both Stromness and Leith Harbour, we can see the huge oil and fuel tanks, the flensing plant, warehouses and other rust-coloured factory buildings. In amongst the rusty tractors and barrels are resting elephant seals and fur seals, now the principal habitants of the area. A memorable morning for many.

However, the day is far from over! During lunchtime, many of us bio-secured our outer layers, boots and back packs (again) as we transit to Grytviken for our afternoon landing. We arrive shortly before 14:00 and welcome several of the South Georgia Heritage Trust Museum staff and Government Officials on board, where they deliver their Welcome presentation and conduct final checks on our gear and the ship. Once given the all clear, we are all able to land on shore, half of us to the cemetery and the other half to the museum side. Over the next couple of hours, in between rain showers, many of us enjoy a 'Toast to the Boss' with a wee dram of Shackleton whisky. We are also able to wander at our leisure around Grytviken, a whaling station that has been cleaned up and made safe for visits. The wealth of information and history surrounding us is outstanding; a museum, whaler's church, a library and an old store house are just a few of the areas to visit. Eventually it is time to post the postcards, pop the whisky down and head back to Hondius.



Luckily, the rain has ceased and we are all treated to a special dinner which entails a BBQ out on the decks! With the music playing and the drinks flowing, it is a superb end to a jam-packed day.

# Day 13– Tuesday 14 February 2023, at Sea towards Falkland Islands

12:00 GPS Position - 53° 17.4 S, 39° 27.9 W

Wind: NW-3 • Sea State: Moderate • Weather: Cloudy/Sunny • Air temp: 10°C • Sea temp: 7°C

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After the BBQ and dancing, Grytviken style, the night before we find ourselves approaching the potential landing site of Right Whale Bay, at the north end of South Georgia first thing in the morning. On approach conditions are very windy and rainy but once in the shelter of the bay it turns into a lovely morning, unfortunately though after much deliberations the swell conditions at both the shell door and on the beach forces the planned morning's operations to be shelved.

So, with more than a few lingering glances we say goodbye to the fabulous South Georgia and headed north towards the next wondrous set of islands on the itinerary – The Falklands! A few sighs are heard as we resign ourselves to the first of several sea days but soon enough the sun comes out and we are treated to some magnificent wildlife spectacles throughout the day which has everyone glued to the outer decks.



First to mention is the simply epic show given to us by at least 25 Wandering Albatrosses which surrounded the ship as soon as we made the open sea; seemingly coming to within touching distance of the stern of the ship at times they stay with us all day, drowning out any sighs with audible gasps of wonder as

these ocean-going beauties sail effortlessly across the waves. Other birds include super views of the three smaller Albatrosses – Black-browed, Grey-headed and Light-mantled Sooty, South Georgia Diving Petrels, White-chinned Petrel and a Snow Petrel which appear around the bridge in the afternoon, quite unusual this far north – more at home gliding angel-like around the Antarctic icebergs.

Almost (but not quite) falling into second place are the pod of acrobatic Hourglass Dolphins, several Fin Whales and a Southern Right Whale.... what a day at sea!



As if all that is not enough we are treated by Saskia talking about the unsung hero of Antarctic expeditions, Tom Crean, the dulcet tones of Sir David Attenborough waxing lyrical about Antarctic wildlife (unfortunately in documentary style not here on the ship in person!) and Pippa giving us the emotional history of whaling in the Southern Ocean

and especially South Georgia, make all the more poignant by our visits to Stromness, Leith and Grytviken yesterday.

## Day 14 – Wednesday 15 February 2023, At sea towards the Falkland Islands

12h00 GPS Position: 52° 41,8 S, 46° 27.0 W

Wind: NW-6 • Sea State: Moderate • Weather: Foggy, slightly clearing mid-morning • Air temp: 6°C • Sea temp: 8°C

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After a spectacular day at sea yesterday we continue to cross the Southern Ocean towards the Falkland Islands. Our enthusiast expedition guides are there to share their knowledge and passion with you today. Adam starts the day off with his interesting stories and adventures about the science support he did during his stay for two years at Rothera Station in

Antarctica and nearly a year at King Edward Point on South Georgia.

Elizabeth has been doing research regards to whales and specifically the endangered North Pacific Right Whale. In her lecture at 11.00 hrs., she gives us an insight into the IUCN Red List, the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species. Founded in 1964, it is the world's most comprehensive inventory of the global conservation status of biological species.

There is a lot happening again in terms of birds around the ship. Wandering Albatrosses, less than yesterday, but still beautifully gliding close to the ship. As well as the Black-browed, Grey-Headed and Light-Mantled Albatross and the bulky

Northern and Southern Giant Petrel. Then Simon leaves the deck to check the bird book in the library for a special sighting out here. And he confirms it is a Grey Petrel.

After another delicious lunch with again a 'to die for' dessert, we all gather for Sasha's captivating story about his journey to the white continent. How he got to go and spend four months on Novolazarevskaya Station. In his 'Sasha' way; honest, open, and straight from his heart he shares his personal adventure. He even adds his moment of fame (a short National Geographic film) about spending five years by himself as 'minister of foreign affairs' of keeper of the ghost town of Pyramiden' as he calls it of the Russian Settlement on Svalbard in the Arctic.

At 16.00 hrs. Marcos, Fiona and Felicity join forces for a miniseries lecture about 'The Climate – Past, Present and Future'. Marcos speaks about the geological record of changing climate over the last millions of years. Fiona throws in a general explanation about anthropogenic climate change and its impact on Antarctica and the Southern Ocean. Whilst Felicity shares a really interesting look at a natural carbon sink solution that has already been in place for many years, a solution driven by whales!



After dinner we all head into the lounge for happy hour at the bar with Rolando and John. Followed by the auction for the South Georgia Heritage Trust. Pippa and Marcel do an amazing job in hosting this joyful and successful evening, raising a total of GBP 3676 for the Trust. We get some extra sleep tonight as we are turning back the clock one hour. Perfect timing!

# Day 15 – Thursday 16 February 2023, at Sea towards the Falkland Islands

12h00 GPS Position: 52°01,9'S / 053°38,0'W

Wind: S-6 • Sea State: Rough • Weather: Partly Cloudy • Air temp: 6°C • Sea temp: 10°C

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Today is a rough sea day. The most rebellious part of the World Ocean decides to remind us of its power. What we experience is not yet a hurricane but very strong winds that create big swells. Hondius starts rolling and stabilizers do not help much. The majority of us is awake already at 4:30am feeling the motion.

The day starts with late breakfast. Well, the breakfast is being served at 8 AM as usual, but at midnight we have switched back to Argentine time zone, so 8 AM becomes one hour later than we got used to during our staying on South Georgia. Breakfast is followed by series of mini-lectures about the nature, history and economy of Falkland Islands given by Simon, Marcos and Marcel. It gives us an opportunity to know more about geology, vegetation, wildlife (especially birds) and other aspects of this archipelago.

The rules of visiting the Falkland Islands prescribe to have our clothes clean and biosecured. Being already specialists in biosecurity, we go to deck 3 and use vacuum cleaners and paper clips to complete the procedure. The lunch is right on time and as delicious as always. Though we cannot help but notice that many faces are missing due to the rough seas.



After lunch at 2 PM Ursula gives us a very interesting and thought-provoking lecture about hunting marine mammals and fishing. And at 4 PM we finally get a chance to have the answers on many our questions regarding the ship and the way it is functioning as Marcel, William the hotel manager and our chef Bawa are giving us a lecture

about how Hondius work.

The day does not come to an end with the dinner. By 9 PM we are all back in the main lounge as one more event is planned for today. Pelin and Sasha have prepared a quiz



for us. A good opportunity to have fun and at the same time to remember everything we learned and experienced during the voyage.

## Day 16 – Friday 17 February 2023, Port Stanley, Falkland Islands

12h00 GPS Position: 51°39,5'S / 057°44,2'W

Wind: S-3 • Sea State: Slight • Weather: Sunny • Air temp: 6°C • Sea temp: 12°C

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Land ahoy!!! Finally, we have finished the crossing! Early in the morning, shortly after 6 AM Hondius passes through two narrow passages and entering the harbor of Stanley, the capital of The Falkland Islands! The weather is fantastic. Stanley is slowly waking up lit by the yellow rays of the morning sun.

At 6:45 AM Pippa does a wake-up call and we are heading to the restaurant on deck 4 to have a proper breakfast before the busy day. In the meantime, the expedition team lowers the zodiacs on the water. Soon we get shuttled to the jetty. Right after having set our feet on the land of this mysterious country, we get to the bus, because the first half of the day we are supposed to spend at Gypsy cove – a small nature reserve a few kilometers away from the town.

After 15 minutes ride we get to the beginning of a walking trail. Everything is beautiful, but the wind is of a Southerly direction which means cold temperatures. Gypsy cove gives us a good chance to spot different endemic birds and also our first encounter with Magellanic penguins – strange critters who prefer digging burrows to build their nests of pebbles as their Antarctic cousins.

2-3 hours later the buses are taking us back to the center of Stanley. Some of us get shuttled back onboard for a lunch, some prefers staying in town and getting acquainted with local cuisine.

The rest of the afternoon we spend roaming around and studying Stanley: walking down the streets and reading their names on the plates, sending postcards home from the local post office, visiting the museum and the church. Right next to the jetty there is a souvenir shop and a distillery where it is possible to buy authentic Falkland gin.



Time flies very fast and at 4:45 PM we have to start thinking of getting back onboard.

During the recap Pippa announces the plans for tomorrow and also introduces us new members of the Expedition team – Tiphonie and Georgina. They were supposed to get onboard at the very beginning of our expedition, but as we had to completely change our plans

and turn the voyage the other way round, they get their chance to join us only today. The rest of the recap time we spend asking them questions about the Falklands.

## Day 17 – Saturday 18 February 2023, Carcass Island and Saunders Island

12h00 GPS Position: 51° 18,30' S, 060° 33,4' W

Wind: NW-2 • Sea State: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temp: 6°C • Sea temp: 8°C

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Sailing through the night Hondius reaches our second last destination, Carcass Island. And our last day of our breathtaking journey starts just like previous ones. Fully clouded, windy and slightly raining. Yet, as lucky as we are, we know that this is going to change.

After breakfast we board the zodiacs like professionals and land at Dyke Bay. The green hillsides invite us for an extensive exploration. After visiting the beach on the north side and enjoying the diversity of birds most hike to higher grounds and heading along the bay reaching the Carcass settlement after 3.5 km. Everybody seems to enjoy the physical exercise as well as the wonderful view.

The rest of us stay at the Leopard Beach taking in the amazing scenery with Magellanic and Gentoo Penguins walking along the waterline. On the green vegetation several Brown Skuas guard their chicks of various ages. However the most unusual sight of today is the many smaller birds hiding in the tussock and grass. We watch and enjoy the tiny Cobb's Wrens, female Meadowlarks and the colourful males as well as the very confiding Tussockbird.



Then we head back to the beach and are shuttled to the Carcass settlement. Although there are many more birds at the landing site, we head straight over to the main house. Here Rob McGill and their team welcome us warmly. On the table an amazing variety of sweet pastries

are waiting to be tasted. What a special treat to receive on this remote island.

Meanwhile and just as we know it from other days, the clouds break open to let the sunshine in. At the beach we observe Steamer Ducks, Upland geese, Oystercatchers and highly approachable young Caracaras. Back on board another rich and diverse lunch is served while Hondius sails over to our very last landing site, Saunders Island.

At the sandy beach David and Suzan Pole-Evans, the owner of the island and their dog welcome us. We head over to a long sandy beach where hundreds of Magellanic and Gentoo Penguins hang out. Most of us walk first up to the cliff where countless Black-browed Albatross chicks, almost ready to fledge, rest on their beautifully built and elevated nests. In between we find southern rockhopper penguins and a small colony of Imperial Shags while some Dolphin Gulls soar above in the air.

The view over the large bay and the blueish-greenish coloured water is breath-taking. Even more as we watch a dozen Commerson's Dolphins play and surf in the waves breaking at the sandy beach. Just like in the morning: So much to discover, so much to observe, so much to take in.

However, and very sadly our last landing of our journey comes finally to an end. With heavy hearts but filled with memorable impressions nature has given us on these islands, we make our way back to the beach.

As the wind has picked up strongly, our zodiac drivers, despite their perfect driving skills, can't avoid that we get splashed and soaked with rather warm salty water. But

who cares! The cloths will dry, a warm shower and a tasty diner are awaiting us on board. Meanwhile, Hondius sets sail towards Ushuaia and begins the very last leg of our journey.

## Day 18 – Sunday 19 February 2023, at Sea towards Ushuaia

12h00 GPS Position: 53°55,7' S, 063°59,2.'W

Wind: S-5 • Sea State: Smooth • Weather: Overcast • Air temp: 4°C • Sea temp: 10°C



Our final day on the ocean! After an enthusiastic wakeup call from our guest, Scott, the last day at sea started with a leisurely breakfast on calm seas. Black-browed albatross glide along with us under overcast skies and drizzly conditions, but brighter skies and a little sunshine appear by the afternoon.

Tiphanie entertained us with a lecture on weird and wonderful marine life before

lunch and, later, we enjoy a thought-provoking, combination presentation about our planet given by Felicity, Fiona, Ursula and Pippa. By late in the day, we are well on our way into the Beagle Channel and emotions are running high, with so many amazing memories gathering in our thoughts and the time to travel back home closer on the horizon. In the early evening we all gather for one last hurrah as our Captain, Toni Salo, gives his farewell and thank you speech at the Captain's Cocktail. The farewell dinner is a memorable event with more absolutely delicious food from our head chef, Bawa, and we finally get to see all the faces of those crew working so hard behind the scenes to make our trip so comfortable and enjoyable. Many cheers and applause all round as we celebrate a truly sensational voyage!

# Day 19 –Monday 20 February 2023, Ushuaia, Disembarkation Day

08h00 GPS Position: At Port Ushuaia

Wind: N-1 • Sea State: At Port • Weather: Sunny • Air temp: 7°C • Sea temp:  
11°C

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One last wake-up all from Pippa. Our bags are packed when we head down for breakfast one last time and we are getting ready to disembark our dear Hondius that has taken us to one of the most beautiful places on earth. The last 19 days have taken us on a remarkable journey over the notorious Drake Passage, the Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia and ultimately the Falkland Island. It has given us a glimpse of life in these remote and sometimes inhospitable places. We have encountered amazing wildlife, made new friends, learnt, and experienced so much together. We will all take away different memories of our cruise, but those memories will stay with us for the rest of our lives. **This was our expedition.**

**Total distance sailed on our voyage: 3503,5 Nautical Miles**

**Furthest point south: 05/02/2023 Danco Island**

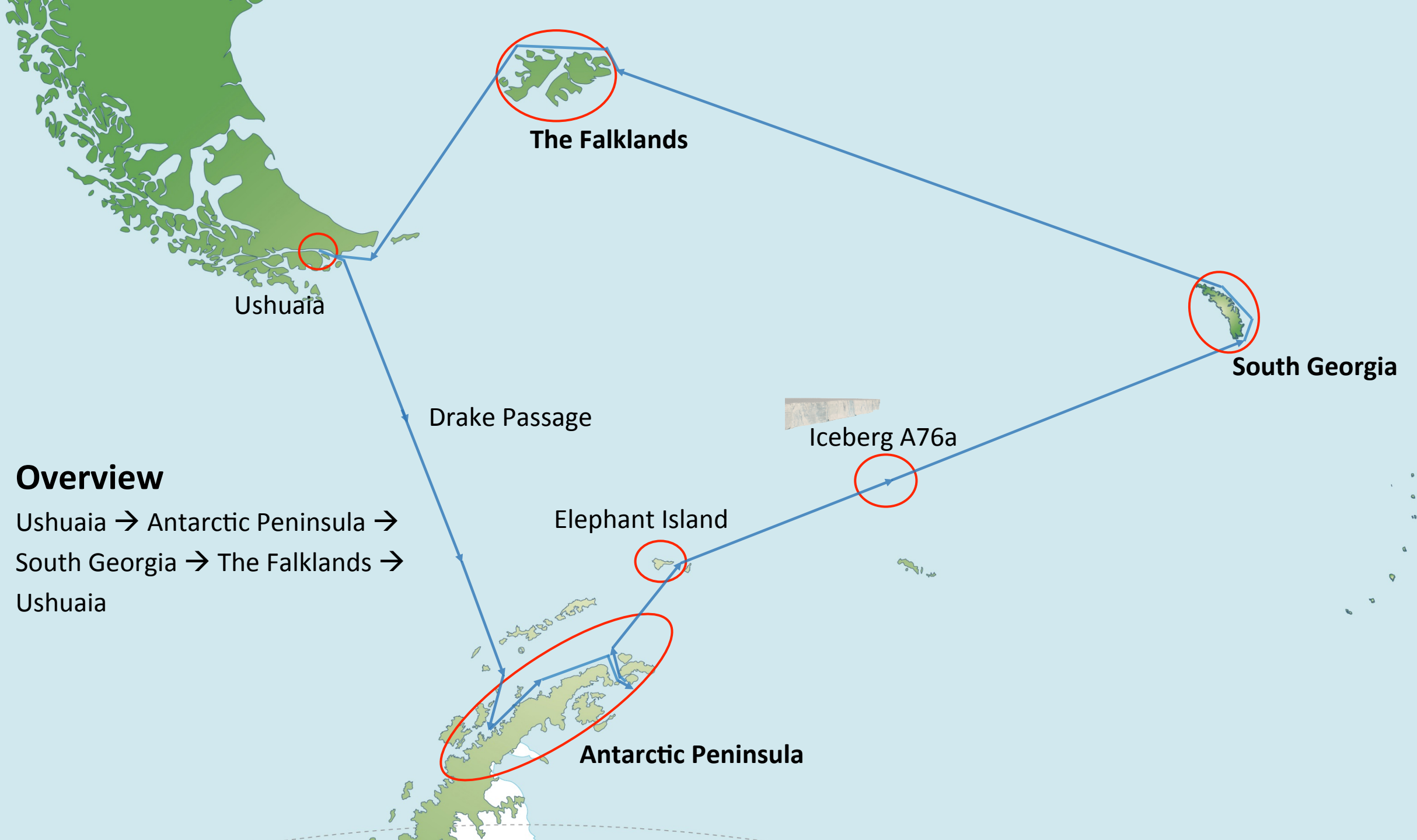
**64°43,8'S / 062°35,8'W**

# Your Expedition Team

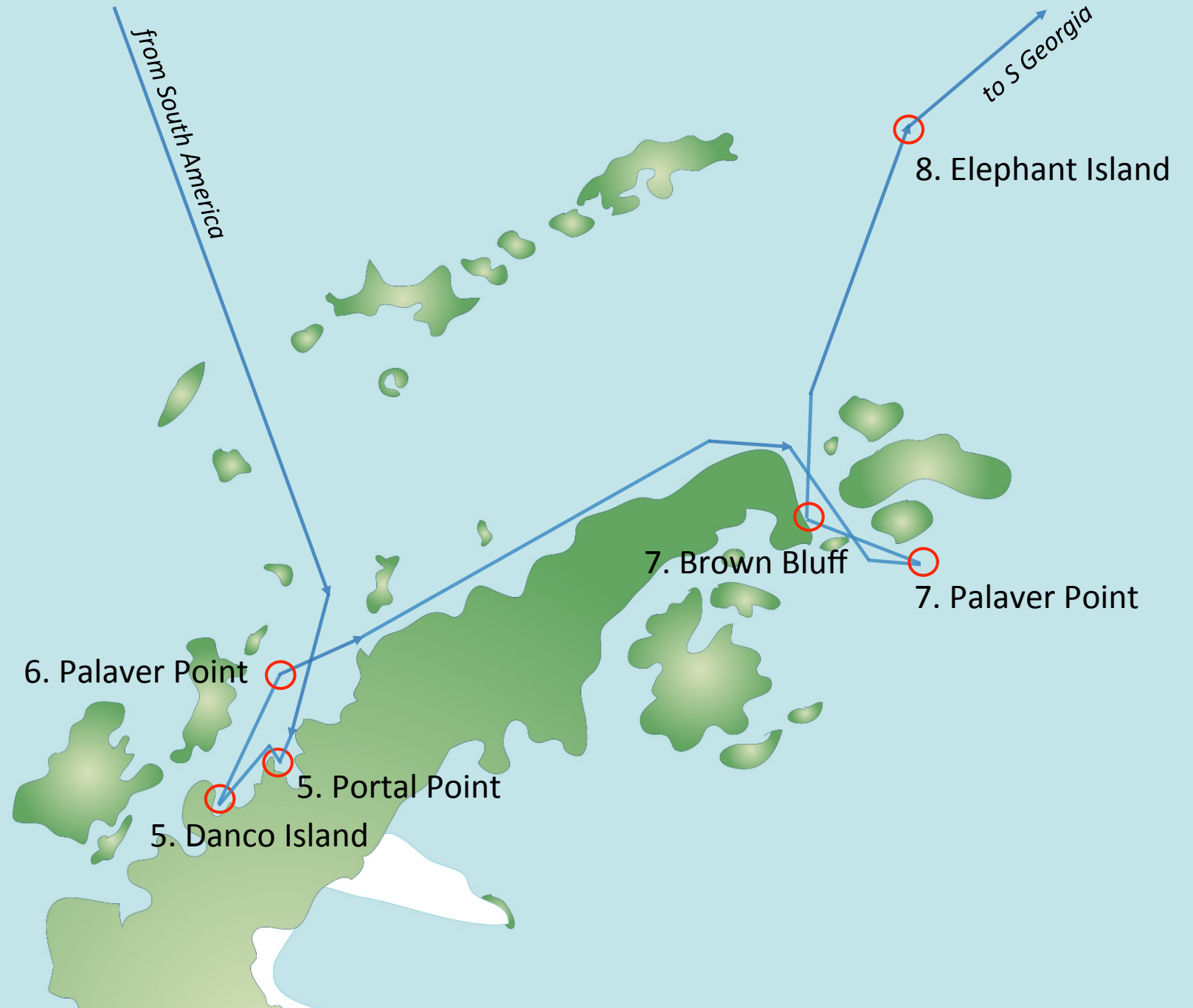


## Overview

Ushuaia → Antarctic Peninsula →  
South Georgia → The Falklands →  
Ushuaia



# Antarctic Peninsula





# South Georgia

14. Right Whale Bay  
(no landing)

12. Salisbury Plain

12. Fortuna Bay

13. Stromness

13. Grytviken

11. St Andrews Bay

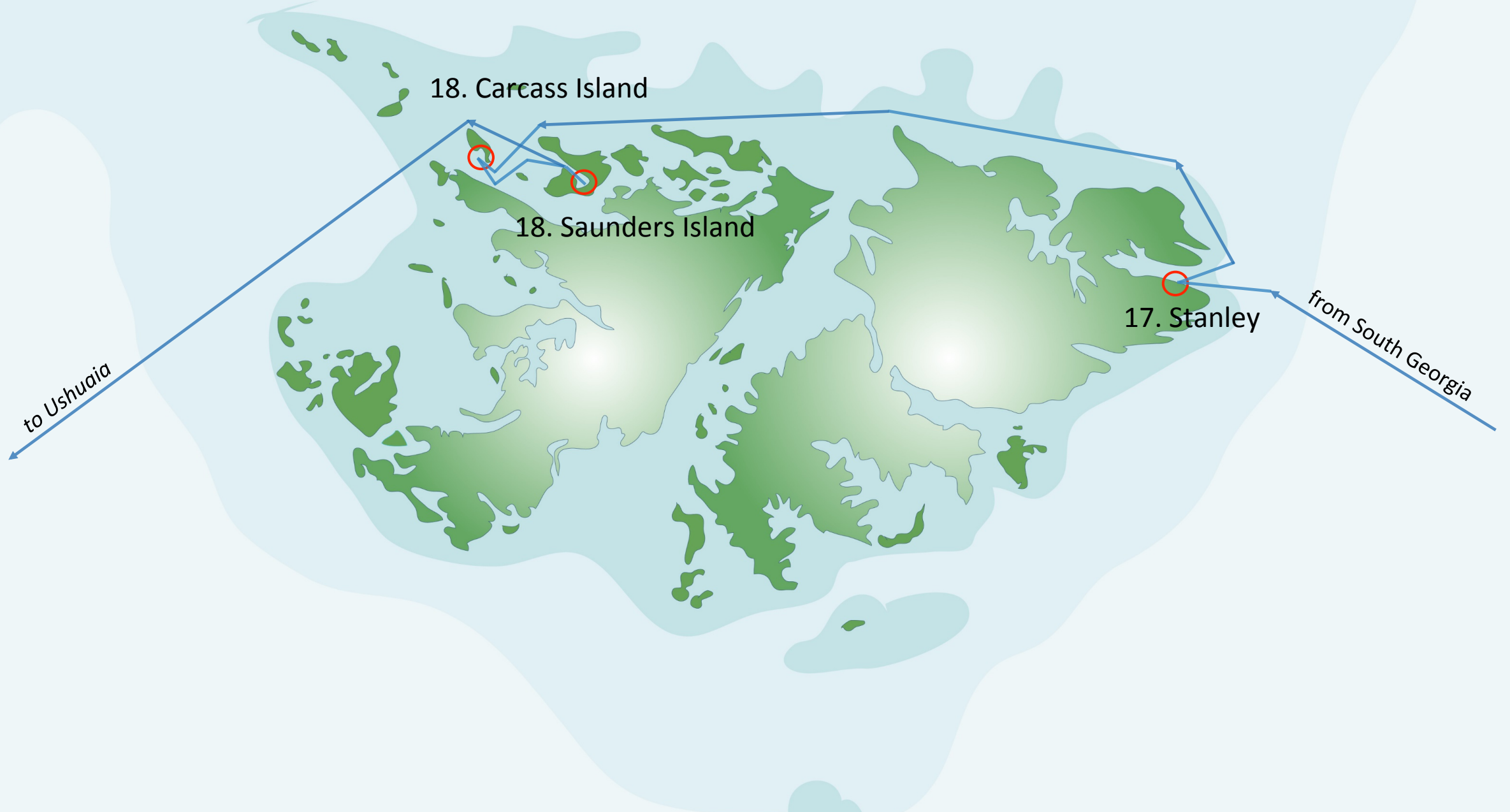
11. Cooper Bay

*to the Falkland Islands*

*from Antarctica*



# Falkland Islands / Malvinas









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# Pippa Low – Expedition Leader

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

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

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

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

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

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# Adam Burke – Assistant Expedition Leader

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Adam has always had a love of the outdoors and adventure, from an early age he dreamt of visiting exotic places and immersing himself in other cultures.

This love of the outdoors led him to work teaching adventurous activities and for over fifteen years this pursuit has given him the opportunity to live and work all over the globe. He has taught sailing in Australia, paddle sports on Europe's rivers and led expeditions in Africa.

After spending five years teaching white water safety & rescue and boat handling techniques to the fire brigade, he moved on to providing marine science support in Antarctica. He has spent over five years living between the Antarctic continent and the island of South Georgia, including overwintering twice.

Whilst providing science support he spent his time in Antarctica managing boating operations and helming RIBs for diving operations. This covered understanding environmental changes and its effects, wildlife monitoring and counting as well as water sampling for a long-term data collection.

Adam enjoys travelling with his partner who shares the same values and love of the outdoors. This has taken them from deserts to rain forests and ultramarathons in the mountains.

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## Marcel Paul – Assistant Expedition Leader

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

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

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

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



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# Alexander Romanovskiy - Expedition Guide

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

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

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

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

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# Marcos Goldin - Expedition Guide

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Marcos was instilled with a passion for wild places from a young age. After a childhood spent having scuba diving, sailing and spearfishing adventures in Patagonia's rough seas his fascination for nature became whole when at the age of 14 he did his first mountain ascent, an experience that truly changed him.

Fueled by curiosity, Marcos achieved his Geology degree in Universidad de Buenos Aires, providing him with the basic tools to better understand the places that he so deeply loves. After years working as a Reservoir Geologist for the Oil and Gas industry, he decided to leave his 9-5 and fully pursue his career as a Wilderness Guide. Member of Argentina's and Spain's Mountain Guides Association and a certified guide by the Union of International Mountain Leaders, there is nothing he enjoys more than sharing his knowledge and passion for the outdoors in nature's own classroom.

After living in many places Marcos continued drifting south, finally reaching the alluring "Tierra del Fuego", a place that he now calls home. In the present he divides his time between guiding in Polar Regions and managing a travel agency based in Ushuaia. When not at work he can be found out in the mountains climbing, hiking, backcountry skiing or planning his next big adventure.

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# Simon Davies - Expedition Guide

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

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

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

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

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

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

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# Jakub Małecki - Expedition Guide

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Jakub was born in Poland in 1985. As a kid, he dreamed of becoming an astronaut, but later his focus shifted towards astronomy. Eventually, he obtained a masters and doctoral degree in Earth Sciences and became a glaciologist. As he puts it, researching remote, glacier-covered regions is almost like landing on another planet, so the childhood dream has partly come true.

Since 2007 Jakub has been studying glaciers across the world, either directly or remotely, i.e., using satellite or aerial images. His main interest is how glaciers respond to changing climate in different environmental settings. Most of his glaciology work Jakub carries out on Svalbard, the arctic archipelago located midway between Norway and the north pole, where he fell in love with ice. Since then, Jakub joins expeditions to remote regions on an every-year basis.

Jakub considers public education by the science community at least as important as delivering new knowledge, so he is a keen glaciology communicator, book author and a frequent guest to the Polish media outlets and science festivals where he comments on polar and mountain affairs. Apart from glaciology, Jakub is a huge enthusiast of planetary sciences and space exploration and tries to play the ukulele.

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# Pelin Asfuroglu – Expedition Guide

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Pelin was born and raised in Istanbul, Turkey.

Growing up in a very big city, she was amazed by the stories she read about the adventures of early explorers and mountain climbers who travelled to the most remote places in the world.

She discovered her real passion for great outdoors at age 17 when she first started paragliding.

Thanks to the great extracurricular student activities offered in her University, she ended up spending most of her time paragliding, mountain climbing, caving and sailing. During the long summer holidays, she worked as a trekking/mountain guide in diverse locations throughout Turkey.

Her love of outdoors has taken her so many wonderful places in the world; from the Himalayan Mountains to the Amazon rainforests. Pelin finally settled in Chilean Patagonia in 2013 where she has worked as an outdoor guide leading multi-day hiking and wildlife trips.

Her interest in Polar Regions was kindled when she first travelled to Antarctica. In other words, she caught the Polar Fever.

Pelin holds a Master's degree in History from the University of Leiden. She specially is interested in Polar Exploration history and loves to share her knowledge with the guests.

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# Elizabeth Robinson – Expedition Guide

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Elizabeth was born and raised in Minnesota, a state in the middle north of the United States. Minnesota is known for having over 10,000 lakes and nature around every corner; something she took full advantage of growing up. Before the age of eighteen, Elizabeth travelled to all fifty US states, and became a Junior Park Ranger at over thirty National Parks.

She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Mammalogy, accompanied by additional degrees in Psychology, English Writing and Environmental Studies. Her undergraduate research focused on African elephants and squirrels. Recently, she graduated from the University of Bristol (UK) with a Master of Science degree in Global Wildlife Health and Conservation. Her dissertation focused on cetacean conservation and understanding how policy is integrated within conservation efforts.

Elizabeth has lived and studied whales in many places such as Hawaii, British Columbia, Alaska, Norway, and the UK. She has previously worked as an orca kayak guide, a snorkel guide in Hawaii, a wildlife documentary co-producer, and a marine mammal researcher. She has spent the last eight years studying species such as orcas, humpback whales, right whales, porpoises, and pinnipeds. She is passionate about cetacean conservation, specifically endangered species. Elizabeth currently calls both the US and the UK home and is happiest at sea.

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# Ursula Tscherter - Expedition Guide

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I grew up far from the oceans in landlocked Switzerland when in the 70s, when exploitative whaling was still happening, the dream of my childhood evolved; to meet whales in their natural environment. It came true in 1993 and changed my life radically. I gave up my original profession as a teacher for Craft and Art and spent the next 20 summers in Eastern Canada studying whales. As the director of the Swiss-Canadian ORES Foundation I combined scientific research and education for international audiences leaving deep imprints in many peoples' lives.

I am a true minke whale enthusiast. I thousands of hours I observed these mind-blowing whales and studied their habitat use, hunting and breathing ecology using photo-identification. At 50 years I obtained my Master in Marine Mammal Science at the University of St Andrews (Scotland). I nourished my urge to learn more from the oceans and whales in various research projects in Australia, New Zealand or South Africa. In 2008 I started to work as an expedition guide and lecturer in Antarctica and later in the Arctic. When at home I produce life-sized foldable animals, which I carry to schools and ships. Visit my lectures to meet some of them.

Just as strong as my urge to learn and explore is my need to share my knowledge and fascination with others to raise environmental awareness. Please join or approach me at any time, as I love to answer questions and to be on deck on the lookout for wildlife.

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# Julia Angermeier - Expedition Guide

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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# Fiona Strasser – Expedition Guide

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With an international background in marine research, science communication, and experience in the intersection between science and policy, Fiona is a marine biologist and expedition guide originally from landlocked Munich, Germany.

Fiona is committed to the protection of our ocean and strongly believes that in order to preserve our blue world, it is crucial to engage and communicate with the non-scientific community. That's why she is passionate about spreading awareness of the problems the ocean is facing today and finds inspiration in hearing other people's ideas and opinions on how to tackle them.

Having studied (BSc and MSc) at six different universities in Europe, Australia and South Africa while volunteering with various NGOs and working in marine tourism (whale watching and dive master), Fiona is also a Youth Ambassador of the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance.

Representing Germany alongside 26 fellow Youth Ambassadors from countries bordering the Atlantic basin, she loves to share her personal experience from international engagements with governmental organizations and initiatives such as the European Commission, the All-Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance and the UN Ocean Decade where she puts all her efforts into ensuring that scientists' voices are being heard – at both local and international level.

Equipped with a never-ending curiosity for the exploration of our ocean, Fiona is also a very passionate scuba diver, kite surfer and photographer and you'll most likely find her along the coastline engaged in these activities whenever she is not at sea exploring the polar regions with Oceanwide Expeditions.

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# Felicity Johnson – Expedition Guide

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Felicity is a marine biologist, commercial skipper and guide with a strong passion for marine mammal conservation. Working on the water for almost 10 years, she has gained a range of experience in marine mammal research, including cetacean entanglement studies, biopsy collection and analysis, and photo identification projects across the planet.

Most recently she has moved to live and work in Vancouver, Canada, where she is a captain and field researcher for Simon Fraser University. The project is investigating the strategic interactions

between Bigg's killer whales and their pinniped prey in the Salish Sea. Alongside this, she is an Education Coordinator for Ocean Youth Academy, a non-profit dedicated to connecting youth with the oceans, creating lessons all about the life underneath the surface and the changing climate.

Growing up in Scotland, Felicity discovered a love for the outdoors during childhood holidays to the coast and hills of Scotland. She began by teaching sailing during the school holidays and then went on to study marine biology at university.

During her Master's degree, Felicity gained certifications as a commercial skipper, marine mammal observer, advanced diver and a wilderness first aider. During this time, marine pollution grabbed Felicity's attention and has since believed it is her professional and personal responsibility to apply her knowledge and skills to contribute to ocean conservation by organising events, talks and clean ups to help spread awareness of the changing climate.

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# Saskia van der Meij – Expedition guide

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

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

Southern Africa.

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

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

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

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# Tiphanie May - Expedition Guide

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

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

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

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

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

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# Georgina Strange - Expedition Guide

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Georgina is a professional nature photographer and general wildlife enthusiast from the Falkland Islands. Her rather unique upbringing on a very small and remote island nature reserve has instilled a deep passion for wild places, and you'll most likely find her out on a cliff edge in a storm, revelling in the gales of wind that frequent the Falklands!

Georgina studied in England for sixth-form college, followed by an adventure to Australia for her university degree in Photography.

After managing her family's conservation trust on New Island in the Falklands for many years, regularly working with the many visiting expedition ships shoreside, Georgina swapped a land-based life for an ocean-based one and started as expedition photographer to South Georgia and the Antarctic in 2017, and to the Arctic in 2019, often switching roles to work as the on-board ornithologist to share her love of the winged creatures of the world, too!

During her off-ship season, Georgina runs her own wildlife photography tours at home to fulfil her passion for making captivating images of nature. Whenever possible, she most enjoys balancing out the time spent guiding in cold and windy places for quality time in the hotter and sunnier climes of the world!

Georgina's photography has made it to Outdoor Photographer of the Year, Bird Photographer of the Year, Wild Art Photographer and the finals of the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year, as well as several well-known nature photography magazines and smaller competitions. Always happy to share knowledge and techniques, maybe you will go home with some competition-worthy images of your special trip, too!

## WELCOME ABOARD!

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

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

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

### **Lifeboat Drill**

All guests accommodated on Deck 3 (Cabins 301-337) will go to MUSTER STATION A which is the Restaurant on Deck 4

All guests accommodated on decks 4, 6, and 7 will go to MUSTER STATION B which is the Observation Lounge on Deck 5

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

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

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

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

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

- 0745      **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 0915      **Zodiac & IAATO Briefing** - Please join us in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our **mandatory** zodiac and IAATO briefings
- 1030      **Muck Boots** - We will call you by deck to collect your Muck boots from the boot room on **deck 3**. *Please bring your thick socks to make sure you have the perfect fit! **Please listen for announcements.***
- 1130      Join Simon in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a lecture on **Birds of the Drake passage**
- 1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400      **Biosecurity:** We will call you by deck to **deck 3** to complete our biosecurity cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, muck boots and tripods/walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. ***Please listen for announcements.***
- 1600      Please join Felicity in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a lecture about **the whales of Antarctica.**
- 1800      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our first daily recap and briefing.
- 1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4) – *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*

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

- 0745      **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1000      **An Introduction to Antarctica** - Please join Pelin in the **lounge** (deck 5) to learn the basics about the physical features of Antarctica.
- 1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400      **Antarctic Peninsula Origins - A story of Fire & Ice** Please join Marco in the **lounge** (deck 5) to learn the basics about the physical features of Antarctica.
- 1600      **Introduction to ice types and the role it plays to all of us...** - Please join Jakub in the **lounge** (deck 5) to learn about ice.
- 1800      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our first daily recap and briefing.
- 1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4) – *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*

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

*Enjoy the Drake passage 😊*



0645      **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!

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

*This morning we hope to offer a landing and zodiac cruise at Portal Point – a continental landing surrounded by beautiful icebergs and mountains. **The King Penguin group** will go to shore first, whilst **The Fur seal group** go zodiac cruising first. **We will swap groups onshore.***

0800      **King penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Portal Point.

0815      **Fur seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Portal Point.

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

1400      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap and briefing.

*In the afternoon we hope to land and zodiac cruise at Danco, a small island in the Errera channel surrounded by icebergs and home to several gentoo penguin rookeries. **The Fur seals group** will go to shore first while **the King penguin group** will go zodiac cruising first. We will then swap through the afternoon.*

*In addition, we hope to offer a **polar plunge** at the end of the landing, please wear your polar swimsuit/trunks under your clothing this morning – we will bring towels!*

1530      **Fur seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Danco Island.

1545      **King penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Danco Island.

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



Antarctica, South Georgia & Falklands  
Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
Palaver point & at sea  
towards Antarctic sound

0645      **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!

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

*This morning we hope to offer a landing and zodiac cruise at Palaver Point – Beautiful scenic views of the glacier and a Gentoo colony on the island. **The King Penguin group** will go to shore first, whilst **The Fur seal group** go zodiac cruising first. **We will swap groups onshore.***

0815      **King penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Palaver Point.

0830      **Fur seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Palaver Point.

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

*In the afternoon we hope are heading towards the Antarctic sound, our destination for tomorrow morning. We will be sailing through some stunning scenery, and we will be watching out for whales and other wildlife.*

1530      Please join Pelin in the lounge for a lecture on **Pioneers of the Heroic Age of Antarctica: De Gerlache and the Belgica Expedition**

1800      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our first daily recap and briefing.

1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4) – *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*

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

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

0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

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

0830 **Fur seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Brown Bluff.

0845 **King Penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Brown bluff.

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

1400 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap.

*This afternoon we hope to offer another continental landing and a zodiac cruise at Brown Bluff. Brown Bluff is a great example of a “tuya”, a volcano that has been flattened by erupting through a glacier! The site is home a large Adelie penguin colony. The **King Penguins** will go to shore while the will **Fur seals** go zodiac cruising first. We will then swap through the morning.*

1530 **King Penguins** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Paulet Island.

1545 **Fur seals** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise around Paulet Island.

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

We have left Antarctica and are heading for South Georgia. On our way there we will pass **Point Wild** on **Elephant Island**; this location played a major role in the aftermath of the Trans-Antarctic Expedition during which Shackleton's ship the Endurance was lost. So, to commemorate this epic journey, the failure and success, we have decided that **Today is Shackleton day** onboard Hondius.

0745      **Wakeup call**

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

1000      Pelin invites you all up in in the **lounge** to hear the story about **Shackleton**. An amazing story of the best-known polar explorer and his unsuccessful but famous expedition.

1200      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This afternoon we hope to visit **Elephant Island**, an ice-covered, mountainous island off the coast of Antarctica, in the outer reaches of the South Shetland Island. The island is mainly known because of the desolate refuge it provided for Shackleton and his crew after they lost their ship the Endurance in the ice.*

***We hope to offer a zodiac cruise around Point Wild if conditions allow. If not, we will be viewing form the ship. We will update you on arrival, please listen for announcements***

TBC      Marcel Invites you to the **lounge** for a short lecture about **Elephant Island**. The island where Shackleton left from on his heroic crossing to South Georgia.

1800      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** – *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*

2030      Join some of the Expedition team in the lecture room for an **interactive exchange** of Shackleton stories, trivia, and anything else that relates to "the boss", his life and the expeditions he went on.

On our second day at sea towards South Georgia we hope to be able to give you all another amazing sight; the World's largest floating iceberg. As this is something not many people will be able to see for themselves, we thought it would be appropriate to announce **Today is Ice day** onboard Hondius.

**No wakeup call this morning.** Enjoy your sleep in! We hope you all dream of Shackleton and his men and are not laying awake in anticipation of today's plans.

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

1000      **A-76A** - On our way to the famous iceberg A-76A Jakub invites you into the **lounge** for him to tell you all about the iceberg that is nearly the same size as South Georgia and he will try and answer the questions you may have about icebergs.

*At around midday we hope to be as close as safely possible to a part of what was originally the world largest Iceberg- A-76 -that calved from the Ronne Ice Shelf in Antarctica in May 2021. The part we will see is called A-76A and is the largest remaining part when the original iceberg broke into three pieces.*

1300      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

1430      **Life in Antarctica** - Adam invites you to the **lounge** for a lecture on his experiences in Antarctica and South Georgia. How does year-round life on a base in the remoteness of Antarctica and South Georgia looks like. This also relates very much to our ice day as during winter a lot of daily routines and work is determined by ice.

1630      **The Future of Ice** - Another lecture from our own "iceman" Jakub, this time about the future of ice. Please join him in the **lounge** if you are curious about this significant subject.

1815      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team for our daily recap and briefing.

1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** – *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly*

Today is our final day at sea towards South Georgia. Besides a mandatory briefing we also have to do another biosecurity cleaning before we are allowed to land on South Georgia. As you have all done the biosecurity before we got to Antarctica, you know what is required. **Therefore, please clean all your outerwear, backpacks, muck boots and tripods/walking sticks before the check in the afternoon.**

**No wakeup call this morning.** Enjoy your sleep in!

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

0915 **South Georgia Briefing** - Please join us in the **lounge** for our **mandatory** South Georgia briefing.

1100 **Origins of South Georgia** - On our final day towards South Georgia Marcos invites you to the lounge for his lecture on the origins and main geological features of this spectacular island.

**Time change: At 1200 the clocks will change forward. At 1200 it will be 1300.**

1300 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

1500 **Biosecurity:** We will call you by deck to **deck 3** to complete our biosecurity check – and if needed; cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, muck boots and tripods/walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. ***Please listen for announcements.***

1630 **Seals** - Ursula invites you to the lounge for a lecture on seals. What are the different species that we have seen and likely to see in the rest of the voyage.

1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** – *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly*

0645      **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!

0700      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to offer a full ship zodiac cruise inside the **spectacular Cooper Bay**. There is a wealth of wildlife in this site. We hope to see chinstraps, gentoo and macaroni penguins as well as light mantle sooty albatross.*

0800      **King Penguins** please come to the **zodiac boarding area first**. We will take you ashore at Cooper Bay.

0815      **Fur seals** please come to the **zodiac boarding area**. We will take you on a zodiac cruise at Cooper Bay.

1200      **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge for our daily recap.

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

*This afternoon we hope to land and cruise at **St Andrews Bay** which host South Georgia's largest penguin colony! The first group will go to shore first, the second group will zodiac cruise first; you will swap ashore.*

1400      **Fur seals** please come to the **zodiac boarding area**. We will take you for a zodiac cruise at St. Andrews Bay

1415      **King Penguins** please come to the **zodiac boarding area**. We will take you for a zodiac cruise at St. Andrews Bay

2000      **Dinner** will be served in the dining room. Bon Appetit!

0415      **Wakeup call** - Good Morning. Pastries & Juice will be available in the lounge before we take you out.

*This morning we aim to land and zodiac cruise at Fortuna Bay. Here you will see a King Penguin colony, Fur & Elephant Seals, and many more birds and wildlife. The first group will go to shore, the second will zodiac cruise; **you will swap after breakfast.***

0500      **King Penguins** please come to the **zodiac boarding area first**. We will take you ashore at *Fortuna Bay*.

0515      **Fur seals** please come to the **zodiac boarding area**. We will take you on a zodiac cruise around *Fortuna Bay*.

0700      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** till 0800

0800      **Fur seals** please come to the **zodiac boarding area first**. We will take you ashore at *Fortuna Bay*.

0815      **King Penguins** please come to the **zodiac boarding area**. We will take you on a zodiac cruise around *Fortuna Bay*.

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

*This afternoon we hope to land and cruise at Salisbury plain. One of the South Georgia's largest elephant seal breeding population haul outs & the second largest king penguin colony. The first group will go to shore, the second will zodiac cruise first. **You will swap over on shore halfway through the afternoon.***

1330      **Fur seals** please come to the **zodiac boarding area**. We will take you ashore at Salisbury Plain.

1400      **King Penguins** please come to the **zodiac boarding area**. We will take you for a zodiac cruise at Salisbury Plain.

1915      **Recap** – Please join Pippa in the lounge to hear about plans for tomorrow

1930      **Dinner** will be served in the dining room. Bon Appetit!



0615      **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!

0630      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to land and cruise at Stromness, our first whaling station of this trip. Stromness is also the place where Shackleton and his 2 companions found help after their journey from Elephant Island. We hope to offer a walk to the Waterfall. **Groups will swap ashore.***

0730      **Fur seals** please come to the **zodiac boarding area first**. We will take you ashore at Stromness. – Walkers please take the first zodiacs!

0745      **King Penguins** please come to the **zodiac boarding area**. We will take you on a zodiac cruise around Stromness. – Walkers please take the first zodiacs!

**1130-1400**      **Biosecurity** – vacuum, paper clips and staff will be available at deck 3. *We will be inspected on disembarkation- please insure your muckboots, Velcro, pockets and backpack are clean. **This is for you to do it yourself; WE WILL NOT CALL YOU!!***

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

*This afternoon we hope to land at Grytviken. Here you can expect to see the old whaling station, church, cemetery and visit the museum, shop & post office. You can pay by credit card or cash (GBP).*

***We will be inspected on disembarkation- please insure your muckboots, Velcro, pockets and backpack are clean.***

1415      **South Georgia Heritage Trust presentation**. A representative from the Heritage Trust Museum will come on board to give a short presentation about their current projects.

1445      **King Penguins** please come to the **zodiac boarding area**, we will disembark you at the cemetery area and give a **toast to Shackleton at 1515 in the cemetery**.

1515      **Fur seals** please come to the **zodiac boarding area**, you will disembark at the museum.

1630      **Whaling Station Guided tour**. Please meet outside of the museum if you want the tour.

1745      **Fur seals** will give a **toast to Shackleton in the cemetery**.

1745      **King Penguins** will be picked up from in front of the museum.

1815      **Fur seals** will be picked up from in front of the cemetery.

1830      **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge for our daily recap.

1900      **A special dinner** will be served on the **aft deck (deck 5)**, dress warmly.

0645      **Wakeup call** - Good Morning and happy Valentine's Day!

0700      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we aim to land and zodiac cruise at Right Whale Bay with king penguins, seals, and a stunning scenic waterfall. first group will go to shore, the second will zodiac cruise. **We will swap you over on shore halfway through the morning.***

0800      **Fur seals** please come to the **zodiac boarding area first for a landing**.

0815      **King Penguins** please come to the **zodiac boarding area for zodiac cruise**.

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

*Unfortunately, our time at South Georgia has come to an end. However, the trip is far from over as we are going to sail towards the Falkland Islands. We will be in open sea and the ship may move – please secure your belongings and be careful when moving around the ship. Take your seasickness medication before we head out into open sea.*

1430      **Tom Creen** – Saskia promised you that she would do here lecture on Tom Creen, the forgotten hero. So please come to the lounge to hear this fascinating story.

1630      **History of Antarctic whaling** – Pippa invites you to the lounge for a lecture on the whaling history of Antarctica. This will put the whole whaling industry of the last century in perspective after seeing the whaling stations on South Georgia.

1815      **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge for our daily recap.

1900      **Dinner** will be served in the dining room. Bon Appetit! - *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly*

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

*Unfortunately, our time at South Georgia has come to an end as we had to cancel the landing and zodiac cruise at Right Whale Bay. However, the trip is far from over as we are sailing towards the Falkland Islands. We will be in open sea and the ship may move, please secure your belongings and be careful when moving around the ship.*

*Please see below the revised program for the rest of the day.*

- 1000      **Tom Creen** – Saskia promised you that she would do her lecture on Tom Creen, the forgotten hero. So please come to the lounge to hear this fascinating story.
- 1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1430      **Antarctica Documentary** - Please join the expedition team in the lounge for a viewing of 'Antarctica' from 'Seven Worlds, one Planet', a documentary series narrated by David Attenborough.
- 1630      **History of Antarctic whaling** – Pippa invites you to the lounge for a lecture on the whaling history of Antarctica. This will put the whole whaling industry of the last century in perspective after seeing the whaling stations on South Georgia.
- 1815      **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge for our daily recap.
- 1900      **Dinner** will be served in the dining room. Bon Appetit! - *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly*

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

**No Wakeup call** – enjoy your sleep in.

- 0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0930      **Lecture** – Adam invites you to the lounge to tell you more about his science support in Antarctica and South Georgia during his time there.
- 1100      **Lecture** – Elizabeth invites you into the lounge if you want to learn what does It mean to be 'endangered'? An explanation of the IUCN Red List
- 1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1400      **How to get to Antarctica** - Please join Sasha in the lounge for a story of his journey to the white continent.
- 1600      **Lecture miniseries** – ‘The Climate - Past, Present and Future’. Please join Marcos, Fiona and Felicity in the lounge for a multi-disciplinary series all about our climate and the secret climate mitigators.
- 1800      **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge for our daily recap.
- 1900      **Dinner** will be served in the dining room. Bon Appetit! - *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly*
- 2030      **Happy hour!** Come to the lounge and grab a drink at half price. 😊
- 2100      **South Georgia Heritage Trust Auction.** Dress up in your fine gowns and bow ties, joining the expedition team in the lounge for an evening of frivolity and fundraising! There will be several unique items available to the highest bidder, with all funds being donated to the SGHT for their conservation work in South Georgia.

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

**Tonight, the time will change back one hour, so at 0200 it will become 0100 again.**

**No Wakeup call** – enjoy your sleep in, especially with the extra hour 😊

- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0930 **Lecture miniseries** – Please join Simon, Marcos and Marcel in the lounge for a multi-disciplinary series introducing the Falkland Islands to you.
- 1100-1400** Biosecurity – vacuum, paper clips and staff will be available at deck 3. We will be inspected on disembarkation- please insure your muckboots, Velcro, pockets and backpack are clean. You can do this in your own time in the morning or early afternoon.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1400 **Lecture** – Ursula invites you into the lounge for her lecture on incredible hunting strategies for marine mammals.
- 1600 **Lecture and Q&A** – Please join Hotel manager William, Head chef Bawa and Marcel in the lounge to find out how the Hondius got its name and what goes on behind the scenes. We also hold a Q&A session at the end of the presentation where we will try and answer all your questions
- 1800 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge for our daily recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** will be served in the dining room. Bon Appetit! - *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly*
- 2100 **Quiz** – The expedition team invites you into the lounge to participate in tonight's quiz. If you have enjoyed the variety of lectures, you have heard and think you remember some of the content, please join our quizmaster Pelin to try and answer as many questions as you can. The winner of this once in a lifetime unique contest will behold lifetime honour of winning this quiz and be taking home a prize presented by the team.

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

0630 +/- Around this time the captain his bridge team will navigate Hondius through a narrow passage to enter Port Stanley.

0645 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!

0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*Today we hope to land at Port Stanley – the capital of the Falkland Islands. In the morning we have arranged busses that will take you to Gypsy Cove, which is part of the Cape Pembroke peninsula, a National Nature Reserve. The small bay with its white sand beach is sheltered from prevailing winds and home to Magellanic penguins, black-crowned night herons, oystercatchers, long-tailed meadowlark, two-banded plovers, Falklands flightless steamer duck, upland- and kelp geese. Sea lions occasionally visit. – **you can wear your own shoes but please make sure they are clean of any dirt, seeds, etc- you will be asked to walk through disinfectant at the jetty.***

0800 **Fur seals** - please come to the zodiac boarding area – **Buses to take you to Gypsy cove depart around 0830 at the top of the jetty.** Your buses back to Stanley from Gypsy cove leave between **1030 and 1100.**

0815 **King Penguins** - please come to the zodiac boarding area - you can spend some time in town first, **buses to Gypsy Cove leave around 0930 at the top of the jetty.** Your buses back to Stanley from Gypsy cove leave between **1130 and 1200.**

1230 Last zodiac to Hondius for Lunch from the jetty.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**. – Please sign up at reception if you are planning to come back to Hondius for lunch.

1340 +/- **King Penguins** - please come to the zodiac boarding area to return to Stanley for the afternoon.

1350 +/- **Fur seals** - please come to the zodiac boarding area to return to Stanley for the afternoon.

*In the Afternoon you can explore Stanley- maps of the town can be found at the reception. You can walk freely through the town – but please respect the local traffic and peoples' homes. We will have Zodiacs available to take you back to the ship throughout the day from the jetty.*

**The very last zodiac will leave the jetty at 1645.**

1800 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our briefing and recap.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.

0645      **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!

0700      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to land at Carcass Island, offering a long walk (approx. 4km) from Dyke Bay to the Carcass Island settlement. Those not venturing on the long walk will enjoy the Magellanic and Gentoo penguins of Dyke Bay, and then be shuttled by zodiac to the settlement. In addition to wildlife, we will also enjoy a delicious selection of local cakes at the settlement. If you would like to give a contribution for the delicious cakes, there is a tip box at the settlement.*

0800      **Long walkers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area** – *listen for announcements.*

0815      **Beach & Settlement only** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area** – *listen for announcements.*

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

*This afternoon is the last landing of this voyage. We hope to land at Saunders Island; offering a walk up to visit Magellanic penguins, Southern Rockhoppers and Black-browed Albatross. Please follow the poles/flags and remember to **keep a safe distance from wildlife.***

1430      **King Penguins** please come to the **zodiac boarding area** – *listen for announcements.*

1445      **Fur seals** please come to the **zodiac boarding area** – *listen for announcements.*

1830      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.

- 0745      **Wakeup call** – Enjoy your morning!
- 0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0930      **Muck Boot & Rental Gear Collection** – We will call you by deck to return your muck boots and any rental gear **on deck 3**. Please listen for announcements. Please make sure all boots are clean before returning.
- 1030      **Lecture** – Tiphannie invites you in the lounge for her lecture on the wonderful and strange world of fish.
- 1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- After lunch you will receive your bill in your cabin. We will call you by deck to make payments at reception – **Please listen for announcements.***
- 1500      **Lecture** – Please join Pippa, Felicity, Ursula and Fiona in the lounge for the second part of the miniseries that will cover human impacts on our planet followed by some take home messages.
- 1800      **Farewell Toast & Trip Slideshow** - Please join the captain and the expedition team in the lounge for a toast to our voyage through the Southern Ocean and a slideshow of our expedition.
- 1900      **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.

*“Why then do we feel this strange attraction for these polar regions, a feeling so powerful and lasting, that when we return home, we forget the mental and physical hardships, and want nothing more than to return to them?” – Jean-Baptiste Charcot*





Antarctica, South Georgia & Falklands  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023  
Disembarkation - Ushuaia

0715      **Wakeup call** – Good Morning!

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

**Please place your large/check-in luggage outside your cabin no later than 0730.**

*During breakfast we will collect your luggage and deposit it on the pier where it will be your responsibility to identify and collect each item.*

0830 +/-      **Disembarkation** – We will inform you once we have been cleared by local authorities. Till then please do not wait in the hallways or at reception but in the lounge. – Listen to announcements

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

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

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