



Antarctica – Elephant Island, Weddell Sea & Polar Circle

Ushuaia – Antarctica – Ushuaia

14th – 27th of March 2023



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 Artur Iakovlev

and his international crew of 55 sailors

Chief Officer:	Diederik Scholten	[The Netherlands]
Second Officer:	Igor Nazarov	[Russia]
Second Officer:	Kirill Buriacheck	[Russia]
Hotel Manager:	William Barnes	[The Netherlands]
Head Chef:	Ralf Barthel	[Germany]
Sous Chef:	Sachin Naik	[India]
Sous Chef:	Gaurav Bawa	[India]
Ships doctor:	Georgios Tsianos	[Greece]
Expedition Leader:	Hans Verdaat	[The Netherlands]
Asst. Expedition Leader:	Pierre Gallego	[Luxembourg]
Asst. Expedition Leader:	Alexander (Sasha) Romanovskiy	[Russia]
Dive Team Leader:	Henrik Enckell	[Sweden]
Dive Guide:	Clara Iachetti	[Argentina]
Dive Guide:	Gonzalo Sabattini	[Argentina]
Dive Guide:	Urban Reifler	[Switzerland]
Expedition Guide:	Andrew Crowder	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	Anthonie Luteijn	[The Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Carina Ketterer	[Switzerland]
Expedition Guide:	Charlotte Taplin	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	Elizabeth Robinson	[USA]
Expedition Guide:	Esther Josten	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Georgina White	[Falkland Islands]
Expedition Guide:	Jakub Malecki	[Poland]
Expedition Guide:	Koen Jongerling	[The Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Simon Davies	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	Ursula Tscherter	[Switzerland]

We welcome you on board!

Day 1 – Tuesday, 14th March 2023

Embarkation – Ushuaia, Argentina

12h00 GPS Position: At Port Ushuaia 54°55.3'S 067°29.4'W

Wind: var-1 • Sea: in port • Weather: rain • Air temperature: +3°C • Water temperature: +10°C • Visibility: good

Finally. Finally, we're here, finally we're getting on board, finally we're going to Antarctica! Some of us have been waiting for years, and for some of us this is a life's dream coming true. We find ourselves in the port of Ushuaia, the southernmost city of the world. On all the signs and souvenirs, Ushuaia is advertised as "the end of the world". And to some extent this is true. For we are heading across the Drake Passage into a different world. A world that is unlike anything we have seen so far.

We are stepping on board the M/V Hondius, our beautiful 107-meter vessel that will be our base for the coming two weeks. The team on board welcomes us with open smiles and many of us can't hide their excitement anymore. We get set up in our cabins and are then invited to the lounge for coffee, tea, home-made cakes and a mandatory safety briefing and drill. Chief Officer Diederik explains the most essential safety features on board and how we should behave in case of emergency. For the abandon ship drill, we all put on our funny looking orange life vests and gather at our muster stations from where we are directed to our life boats.

We leave the safe harbor of Ushuaia around 6pm. Half an hour later we are invited to the lounge for Captain's Cocktail to celebrate the beginning of our voyage into the wilderness. The speech of our Captain Artur is accompanied by prosecco and tasty canapés. Afterwards we get to know our Hotel Manager Will and the Expedition Team. Outside the windows we gaze at the stunning landscape along the Beagle Channel that is accompanied by blowing **humpback whales** and jumping **dark dolphins**. We end the day with a delicious dinner buffet, a stunning sunset and a relaxing glass by the bar.

Antarctica, here we come...

Day 2 – Wednesday, 15th March 2023

At Sea on the Drake Passage

12h00 GPS Position: 56° 50.05'S 063° 13.8'W

Wind: NW 5 • Sea: Light • Weather: sunny • Air temperature: +7°C • Water temperature: +9°C • Visibility: good

Fair winds and following seas all day today, making it a wonderful beginning to our Antarctic adventure on board M/V Hondius! The day was also very mild, with temperatures hovering around 7 degrees Celsius for most the day, accompanied by bright sunshine. We are very lucky to have such great weather! The day's wildlife-watching began with a couple of majestic Wandering albatrosses gliding over the waves, effortlessly following the ship just before breakfast. On the schedule today was a mandatory attendance at the IAATO and Zodiac safety briefing in the Lounge with our Expedition Leader, Hans, to learn the important do's and don'ts of a visit to this great Southern continent. Afterwards there was time to enjoy the views from the outside decks; Slender-billed prions, Soft-plumaged petrels, Grey-headed and Black-browed albatrosses travelled along with us, providing good opportunities for practising the art of birds-in-flight photography! For our lecture programme today, Simon, one of our very knowledgeable birdwatchers in the Expedition team, gave us an introduction to some of these species and others that we hope to encounter during our sail through this region of the world and later, Ursula, our whale expert on board, taught us how to identify these impressive marine mammals.

The good weather continued throughout the day and we were treated to a beautiful sunset to finish this beautiful first day at sea!



Day 3 – Thursday, 16th March 2023

At sea on the Drake Passage, heading south-east towards Elephant Island

12h00 GPS Position: 60° 05 S, 56° 44 W

Wind: NNW- 4 • Sea: Calm • Weather: overcast, long periods of light rain • Air temperature: +7°C • Water temperature: +5°C • Visibility: good

After a beautiful, sunny, calm Drake Passage on day one we awoke to a similar, nice and calm sea for our second sea day. Today it was overcast with the first few spots of rain which would become more prominent throughout the day. In these excellent wildlife-watching conditions we were soon hearing the first shouts on the radio of the first-of-many sightings from around the ship; even before breakfast had finished there had been some Fin Whales, closely followed by a great mixed group of Long-finned Pilot Whales and Hourglass Dolphins.

Birdlife also kept us entertained right from first light with the stalwart group of hardcore birders glued to their perch on deck six making sure nothing was missed; amongst the fine selection of birds that would stay with us through the day were Grey-headed Albatross, Soft-plumaged Petrel, Slender-billed Prion and Black-bellied Storm Petrel.



Black-bellied Storm Petrel

Wildlife watching wasn't the only activity through this long but enjoyable sea day as a couple of excellent lectures kept us busy; first, Andrew introduced us to the three Brushtail Penguin species that we will hopefully encounter on this trip (Adelie, Chinstrap and Gentoo) and in the afternoon Koen entertained an enthralled audience with the amazing story of the Shackleton expeditions – all the more relevant given our next stop of Elephant Island. We also undertook the vital jobs of collecting our Muck-boots (essential kit down here!) and the super-important biosecurity checks to ensure that the magnificent, unspoilt wilderness of Antarctica remains that way far into the future.

The wildlife highlight for many came mid-morning when the first of several Kerguelen Petrels appeared around the ship; these all-dark seabirds may not have been the most spectacular of birds but they were a new species for many of the birders and many of the staff on board and we were treated to brilliant views of these ace birds whizzing around the ship at high speeds for pretty much the rest of the day.



Kerguelen Petrel

The afternoon got a bit cloudier and wetter as we steamed south but it didn't dampen our spirits as we closed in on Elephant Island with the horizon sometimes filled with distant Whale-blows (although in these conditions the visible horizon wasn't that far away!) and the first few little groups of Chinstrap Penguins in the water ramping up the anticipation of our first landfall in Antarctica complete with amazing wildlife and tales of exploration and survival.

Day 4 – Friday, 17th March 2023

Elephant Island

08h00 GPS Position: 61°04.4'S 054°45.5'W

Wind: SW 5 • Sea: moderate • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: 2°C • Water temperature: +4°C • Visibility: good

This morning starts at a historical site. Despite the restricted visibility we can see the steep and rocky shore of Elephant Island where Sir Ernest Shackleton had left his men some 100 years ago. Looking at this hostile, yet from a tourist's point of view beautiful place, we can sense the challenges and dangers the men left behind and had to endure until The Boss returned to bring them to safety.

Although the heavy swell and waves do not allow a zodiac cruise the weather conditions with great visibility, dramatic clouds, blue sky and sunlight we got all out on the bow while the ship cruises along the coast of Elephant Island. Passing the German research vessel RV Maria S. Merian we discover more and more blows of large whales pushed into the sky.



Instead of staying close to the island we now head east towards the whales. Shortly after we are caught in a breath-taking spectacle. Everybody is now out on deck to take in this beauty while countless Ahs and Ohs can be heard throughout the morning. We are gifted by dozens of fin whales close and far. Powerfully surfacing in the high waves they expose not only their dark slender bodies and huge dorsal fin. Quite often their snouts break through the wave's high crest exposing their pointy

streamlined head with the creamy coloured right cheek.



The phenomena of an aggregation of an estimated 200 + fin whales lasts for hours. Giving us enough time to get through the stage of being overwhelmed to focus on other animals such as countless Black-browed Albatross, Slender-billed Prions, brown



coloured Giant petrels and Wilson's Storm Petrels. On top of this, dozens of Chinstrap and Gentoo penguins aggregate in large groups or porpoise through the water surface. And to top it up a fully white giant petrel flies around the bow. Binoculars and cameras are lifted to look at this very rare morph. Much to our regret it is time to leave to start our journey south towards the Antarctic sound. Yet the spectacle continues as for several hours, fin whales could still be regularly seen along our course.

After a well-deserved lunch Pierre explains the history and structure of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) and gives us interesting insights into his often-frustrating work as a Scientific delegate. At four o'clock another highlight, awaited by many, takes place: Ice cream with chocolate and almond chippings is served! Which is simply the best way to start a lecture on ice, presented by our knowledgeable glaciologist Jakub.

After Hans has explained the plans for tomorrow Pierre shares more insights into the lives of fin whales, the second largest animal on the planet while Clara takes us into the world of the tiny creatures, the phytoplankton. Through photosynthesis they create the huge biomass forming the base of the marine food chain in Antarctica.

After diner the day ends again historically as a black and white documentary about Shackelton's expedition is shown in the lecture room where all seats are taken. Today was a perfect teaser for the days to come when we will explore the east and west side of the Antarctic Peninsula.

Day 5 – Saturday, 18th March 2023

Devil Island / Dreadnought Point

08h00 GPS Position: 63°30.8'S 056°52.01'W

Wind: NNW 3 • Sea: slight • Weather: cloudy • Air temperature: -1°C • Water temperature: +4°C • Visibility: good

We are getting our wake up call from Hans as every morning and it was already in our mind that today it will be our first day of activities going in a Zodiac and exploring this fascinating environment Antarctica. After a delightful breakfast we got dressed up and were ready at the shelldoors to get off the ship. The red group went first ashore and the blue group went to do a Zodiac cruise.



What a good start walking around or either sitting in a Zodiac and cruising around the icebergs and seeing some seals (Antarctic fur seals) swimming in the water. The sun is shining and the conditions are perfect for our first day off the ship in Antarctica. Out of nowhere in not even 5 minutes the wind picked up rapidly. The wind gusts are from almost 0 up to 40 till 50 knots and is reaching a maximum of partial 65 knots. The wind is blowing us around, some of us are sitting in Zodiac and waiting to get the call from the bridge that they are ready for the next Zodiac. We are close to the shoreline we can feel the wind gusts and the swell but as soon as we are on our way to the ship out of the little bit sheltered part from the icebergs the swell is way bigger



and we are feeling the rough sea. Almost every wave is splashing over the bow and hit us hard on our bodies. Back at the ship we are soaking in water and

happy to get changed. It was a rough end of an almost perfect start to our first landing.

In the afternoon we started our transit towards Dreadnought point. It is a real expedition landing for all of us this a new landing site. Very exciting. We arrived at the beach and then went for a walk along the beach to see our first weddell seal lying at the beach. The zodiacs cruise went by some impressive big icebergs that were drifting around in many different shapes and colors.

The evening ended with a beautiful sunset lighting up some lenticular clouds in the sky. As we were sailing away we enjoyed a delicious dinner.

#1 Dive day

Dive 1- March 18th: Devil Island

In the morning we arrived to Devil Island for the checkout dive. 4 zodiacs were deployed with 21 divers aboard. Divers were briefed about loading and diving procedures. The weather conditions were favorable as the divers entered the water with winds at 10 knots. Several small icebergs were floating or



grounded in the bay. The divers entered the water with minor weight adjustments. They saw sculpins, gadots, brittle stars, chitons, purple sea stars and there was one weddell seal on the surface, swimming amongst the icebergs. One diver returned to the surface due to a regulator free flow. Minutes after the wind gusts suddenly increased, reaching 40 – 50 knots. Surface team began recall procedures and coordinated to remove all divers from the water safely. Once everyone was onboard, the zodiacs then proceeded to shelter behind the icebergs as they floated waiting for the okay to return to the ship. After 2 hours we were able to return to the ship.

Visibility – 15ft

Depth – 40ft



Dive 2 – March 18th: Dreadnaught Fort (New Dive Site)

Half of the dive group opted for a shore excursion and the other half went for to dive at Dreadnaught fort, a short way offshore from the landing site. The divers entered the water in about 12ft depth with a gravelly bottom. They traveled offshore until they reached a gradual slope covered in invertebrates, descending until 50ft. They saw some small fish resembling sculpins, starfish, clams, spider crabs, some form of brittle star that stands upright, sea urchins covered in rocks and kelp and some small neon orange krill/shrimp. The divers stayed in the water about 25 minutes before surfacing due to cold.

The snorkelers snorkeled near an iceberg offshore. They saw some jellyfish.

Visibility – 15-20ft

Depth – 50ft

Day 6 – Sunday 19th March 2023

Brown Bluff and Orcas

08h00 GPS Position: 63°30.8'S 056°52.01'W

Wind: NNW 3 • Sea: slight • Weather: cloudy • Air temperature: -1°C • Water temperature: +4°C • Visibility: good

Today we wake up to the most beautiful sunrise reflecting on the mountains, the snow turns bright orange and the sea a deep blue, it is already a good start to the day. We fill ourselves with bacon, eggs and tea and from 0800 we are notified it is time to enter the zodiacs to visit Brown Bluff, an inactive volcano with a penguin colony. Half of us go on land and the other half explore the area with our wonderful expedition guides. There is many Gentoo Penguins onshore amongst a few grumpy Fur Seals and a few sleepy Weddell Seals are also dotted around. Large pieces of ice litter the shore and the ice glitters as the sunshine reflects upon them. On the zodiacs we manage to get to the glacier which towers above us, the icebergs surrounding the area makes us feel very small, but really makes us appreciate this fragile environment.

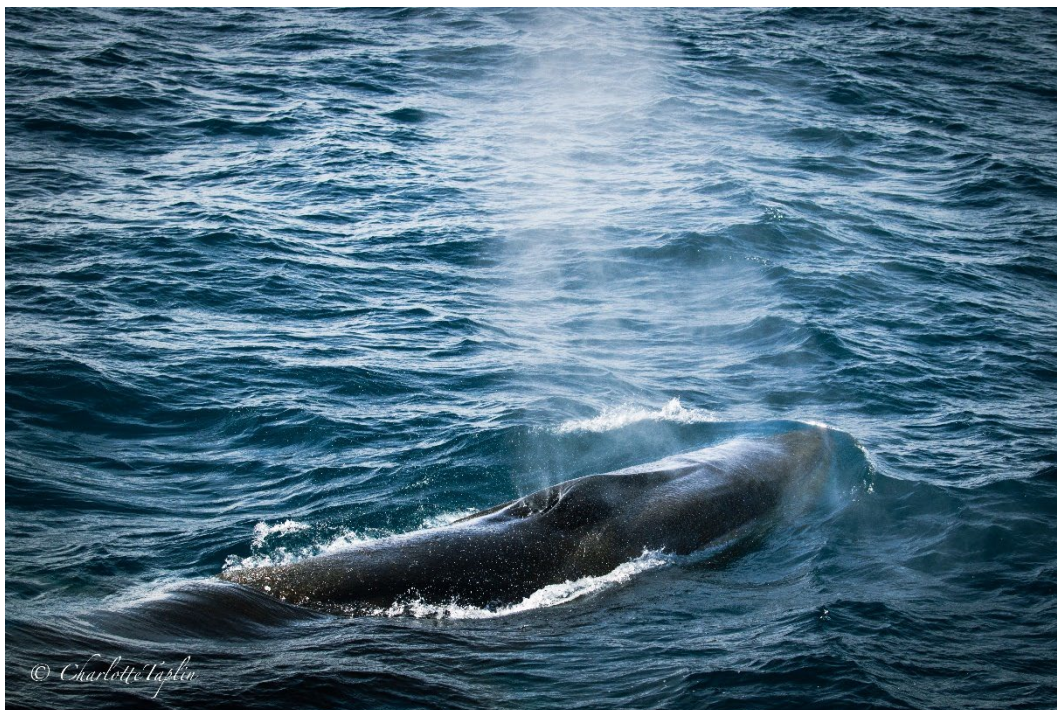




At 1200 we are back 'home' for a much needed coffee followed by a delicious lunch. It is however interrupted by a pod of Type B Orcas! Not only Orcas, but Orcas feeding on a Gentoo Penguin, it is a first for many of the guides and a spectacle we couldn't believe. We all feel incredibly lucky to witness this as the Orcas continue

to circle the ship chasing Penguins with a Fin Whale amongst them. We eventually depart them and encounter several Fin Whales in groups of 2's or 3's, wow can this day get any better? Unfortunately it is too windy to do our after zodiac cruise at Madders Cliffs, so we start our 150 nautical mile to our next destination.

Andrew, Elizabeth and Charlotte put on a fascinating lecture about Orca, but this only made us want to know and learn more about this intelligent species. The sun sets as we enjoy a fabulous plated dinner, which is made even more special and amusing with a few of the guides serving us!



#2 Dive day



Dive 3 – March 19th: Brown Bluff

The surface conditions arriving to the dive site were wavy with considerable swell. The divers entered the water near a cluster of icebergs offshore. The visibility upon entering the water was poor and divers had a hard time seeing their own hands. After a few minutes in the water all the divers surfaced and opted not to dive. Divers saw some tritons and invertebrates as well as a leopard seal form the surface.

Iceberg over unders

Depth - /

Visibility – 3ft

Day 7 – Monday, 20th March 2023

Diamond island and Mikkelsen Harbour

12h00 GPS Position: 63°57.3'S 060°51.8'W

Wind: NNW/2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Sunny • Air temperature: 9°C • Water temperature: +3°C • Visibility: good

This morning we started with a standby for a zodiac cruise to Intercurrence Island. The weather conditions were looking good, almost no wind and the sun showed itself every now and then. Thus, the decision was made to drop two zodiacs and to open the shell doors. The swell was big enough to fill the shell doors with water after a couple minutes after opening them. The ship was then repositioned to seek some shelter from the waves, but that proved to be impossible and the cruise in the zodiacs had to be cancelled.

Instead of a morning off the ship, Jakub gave a lecture about icebergs, as we have seen plenty already on our trip, he explained all the different iceberg formations and how these big masses of ice travel across the Southern Ocean. Sasha then gave a lecture of the geography of Antarctica, the southernmost continent with all its ice masses has a very interesting geological aspect to it as well.





After lunch, we arrived in Mikkelsen Harbour, which is a small bay on the south side of Trinity Island. The sun was still present, even more than this morning and the wind was negligible, perfect conditions to get on shore and a zodiac cruise! We landed on a small island in the bay, which had plenty of things to see. On

the island a water boat and whale bones were some remainders from the whaling era. On the ice along the shore there were 7 Weddell seals resting, of which one of them was making some incredible sounds. And across the entire island there were Gentoo penguins, both adults and this year's chicks which were very curious and came close to check us out!

It was not only on land where we had plenty of wildlife action, on the zodiac cruise we also had a lot of things to see. On an ice floe we had a leopard seal resting, while closer to the landing site we encountered a leopard seal hunting Gentoo penguins in the water. The seal managed to catch three penguins in the time we were there, which was really impressive (and quite fierce) to see!

Back on the ship we were treated with an amazing sunset and the recap presenting tomorrow's plans. During this recap Elizabeth talked about Weddell seals and she explained the behavior we have been seeing today during the landing. Ursula talked about her project '1 to 1' with animals, she makes life sized animals using fabric and uses them to teach both children and adults and to create awareness.



During dinner we all had plenty of stories and experiences to share with each other. What an amazing day we had today! And what a trip so far!

#3 Dive Day

Dive 4 – March 20th: Mikkelsen Harbour

The group was split into three. Two separate groups of divers and one group of snorkelers. The weather was flat calm and sunny. The conditions were idealic.

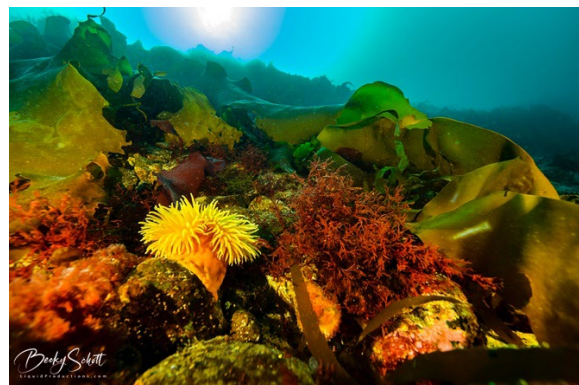
The first group of divers, composed of the majority of divers headed out to dive Mikkelsen Harbour. They descended upon rocky bottom covered in a beautiful kelp forest with long blades of kelp with many invertebrates including seastars, anemones, limpets, marine snails, krill, long strings of salps,

Dive time: 25min

Max depth: 50ft

Visibility: 20ft

The second group of divers went along the snorkel boat and hopped into the water in a depth of 10ft. They swam along a sloping bottom covered in kelp. They were joined by two curious leopard seals that played in their bubbles.



Dive time: 30min

Max depth: 55ft

Visibility: 25ft

The snorkelers hopped in the water close to shore and were immediately joined by a leopard seal. The leopard seal swam with the divers for 20 minutes before heading off to hunt some penguins. The snorkelers saw penguins in the water swimming close to shore. The bottom was covered in beautiful kelp. Soon there were 3 leopard seals in the water that were hunting penguins. One chased a penguin near the snorkel zodiac and the penguin attempted to jump into the boat. The first few attempts at hunting a penguin was unsuccessful. Soon one of the leopard seals caught a penguin, and two divers jumped in to snorkel with it and film. Another leopard seal caught a penguin and began a lengthy surface display of eating the penguin. Five divers jumped into the water to photograph and film the leopard seal consuming its prey. The divers then headed back to the boat having just experienced a rare encounter of leopard seal active predation.



Day 8 – Tuesday, 21st March 2023

Lemaire Channel, Port Charcot & Pleneau Island

12h00 GPS Position: 65°09.5'S 064°23.3'W

Wind: NE 8 • Sea: in port • Weather: snowing • Air temperature: -1°C • Water temperature: +3°C • Visibility: 1.5 nm

Many of us get up extra early today because we are passing through one of the most scenic landscapes of the Antarctic Peninsula: the Lemaire Channel. The sun slowly rises as we approach the narrow channel with its' towering, glaciated cliffs. Stunning cloud formations create a mysterious ambiance. If not outside on deck, we are enjoying the spectacular views with a coffee and a good breakfast.

Once we are through the Lemaire, Hondius turns to the starboard side and enters a relatively sheltered bay: Port Charcot. We get ready for a landing on Pleneau Island and a zodiac cruise around the "Iceberg graveyard". We have already been warned that the weather might change quickly today so we're aware that we might have to evacuate fast if the wind picks up. Until that



happens, we enjoy stretching our legs a bit on land, take a little stroll up the hill and spend some time with the Gentoo Penguins. On the zodiacs we gaze at the bizarre

formations of the countless icebergs that stranded in this shallow bay. Some of us are lucky and encounter a playful Leopard Seal that shows interest in the zodiac. The divers, who are not able to dive today since it is too windy already, get to cruise around the icebergs as well and at least get to jump into the icy cold water.



Then the wind picks up and reaches an average speed of 35 knots. The bridge calls us back to the vessel. So we wrap up and one zodiac after the other makes their way back to Hondius. Once we're leaving the shelter of the icebergs, we are exposed to strong katabatic winds that create some decent waves. After we've been spoiled by a flat calm sea and yesterday's sunshine, we're back to expedition mode today. After some small challenges by the shell door, we get back on board, completely soaked and happy.

The storm keeps on increasing throughout the afternoon as we start our voyage towards the Antarctic Circle. After lunch Ursula gives a beautiful lecture about her many years of working with Minke Whales specially highlighting the challenges that whales are facing today. One of the biggest problems is entanglement caused by fishing gear or other human garbage that made its way into the oceans.



Koen rounds off the afternoon with his great story about Antarctic Exploration, where he talks about the many brave men on numerous expeditions to the frozen continent until the late 19th century that led to what we call today the "Heroic Age of Polar Exploration".

After the daily recap that gives us an idea of the plans for the coming days, we head down for dinner and some of us for some drinks to the bar while the ship gently rolls southwards.

#4 Dive day

March 21st: Pleneau Bay *CANCELLED*

Divers headed out on the boat to go dive amongst icebergs. The weather conditions rapidly worsened during the transit to the dive site. Too much motion at the surface of the water for safe diving amongst ice. The dive was cancelled. Divers found a safe low lying iceberg to climb onto to take a group photo and to dive off of the iceberg.



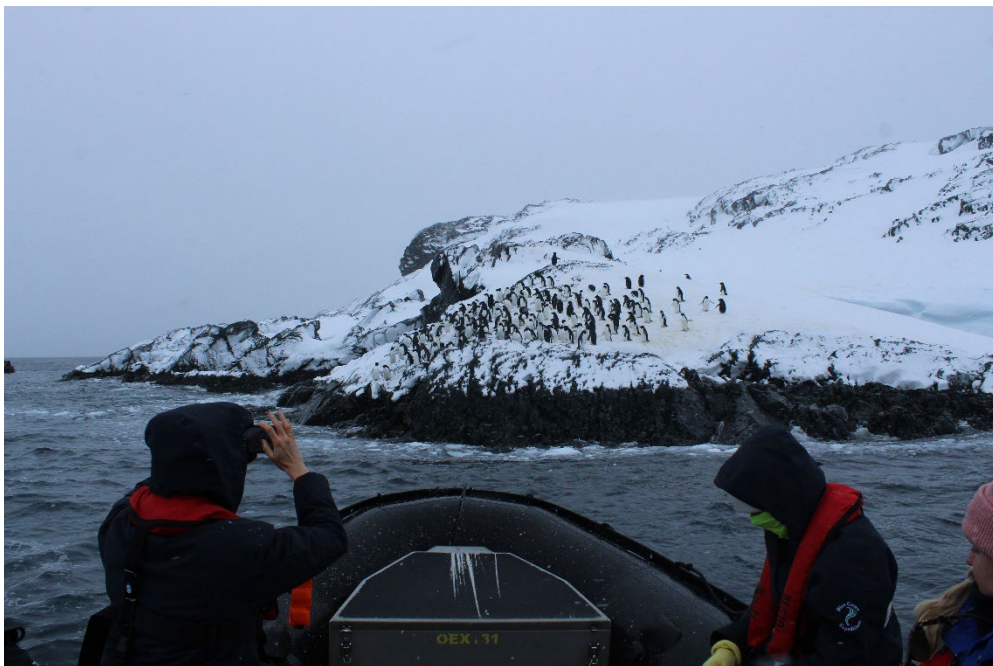
Day 9 – Wednesday, 22th March 2023

Crossing the Antarctic Circle

12h00 GPS Position: 66°52.5'S 066°48.1'W

Wind: W5 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: -2°C • Water temperature: +3°C • Visibility: Good

What a way to start the day: today we crossed the Antarctic Circle, passing 66° 33.4944' S! (Before breakfast, nonetheless!) The weather conditions were not beautiful blue skies and sunshine, but rather a perfectly fitting, snowy and freezing morning, with the decks of *Hondius* decorated with the previous night's snowfall and the icebergs looming out



of the low cloud and squalls as we gently sailed further South. After a little celebration of the crossing, we enjoyed a leisurely breakfast as we approached Detaille Island. This would be our most Southerly landing site and a very special one at that – very few expedition ships make it to this small and rugged island, formerly the site of the British “Base W”, hastily abandoned in 1959 when sea ice conditions made resupply to the team here impossible. Weather conditions continued to deteriorate (in true-Antarctic, late-season fashion!) and as the morning progressed and swell conditions



worsened, the Captain made the call for us to return to *Hondius*. Those of us who were lucky enough to reach the rocky shores of Detaille Island had a very challenging climb up the slope – the expedition team set up a series of ropes and helping hands for the way up the frozen and slippery landing site. The reward for our hard scramble was the chance

to look inside the hut where the team of Base W had their home. As the men were forced to leave so suddenly, the hut is like a time-capsule with many of their belongings and supplies preserved in situ, allowing us a glimpse of this Antarctic life from over half a century ago. The island itself is very small but was covered in fresh snow and many beautifully carved icebergs had grounded on the shallow reefs surrounding the coastline; Weddell, Crabeater and Fur seals could be seen from the landing site, resting on the ice floes. A chilly and snowy zodiac cruise around the rocky shores completed our mini-adventure south of the polar circle. *Hondius* set sail again, with our destination Fournier Bay, 254 nautical miles to the North.

Base W & Steve the sled dog:

Inside the hut, there was a truly heart-warming story about Steve the sled dog: the RSS *Biscoe* had arrived to deliver supplies to the team at the base, but when sea ice made delivery operations impossible, a last-minute decision was made by the Captain of the ship to abandon the base and the men were to gather the necessary



belongings and cross the 30 miles of fast ice to join the *Biscoe*, never to return to Detaille Island. Steve the sled dog was not with the men when the time came to board the ship and the Captain regrettably could not grant extra time to retrieve him, leaving him alone at the island. The men relocated to another base, 60 miles away to the South. After three months there, the men could simply not believe their eyes when Steve the dog one day appeared at their feet, having found his way back to them, all by himself! Having made the journey alongside the men in a previous winter, the dog simply retraced his steps and found his way back to his beloved team.

#5 Dive day

Dive 5 – March 22nd: Detaille Island (partly recalled, 8 people dived)

Weather forecast for Detaille Island was challenging for this dive. Divers approached the dive site and began to kit up to get in. Two dive groups got in and were rapidly recalled within 5 minutes of their dive due to poor weather conditions. The other two groups of divers had not yet made it into the water. Some dive groups then chose to snorkel alongside the cliff edge and were in the water with Adellie penguins.



Dive Time: /

Visibility: 45ft

Day 10 – Thursday, 23th March 2023

Sailing north – Fournier Bay

12h00 GPS Position: 64°31.6'S 062°43.0'W

Wind: SW 5 • Sea: Calm • Weather: partly cloudy • Air temperature: +7°C • Water temperature: +3°C • Visibility: good

Another activity day onboard MS Hondius started with strong winds and rough sea in the Gerlache Strait – a strip of water between the Antarctic Peninsula and larger islands of Anvers and Brabant. We were still steaming north from our previous day south of the Antarctic Polar Circle and would arrive at our destination in the early afternoon. Expedition Guide Andrews' comedic side was exposed during his hilarious morning lecture about the strange world of birders. He poked fun at himself and our wonderful birders onboard while explaining the inner world of bird watching.

Until noon the weather was unfavourable for operations due to wind, but the evening before Hans, our Expedition Leader, was hoping to find a sheltered place for zodiac cruising in the afternoon. Luckily for us, years of his experience paid off. During lunch we entered the picturesque Fournier Bay of Anvers Island and as we cruised deeper into the bay the wind eventually ceased and the skies cleared, giving us another chance to get out on the water in Antarctica.

The thing that happened next was just unbelievable – a pod of four orcas suddenly popped up just metres from the Hondius bow! All passengers and guides immediately rushed to outer decks to observe their majestic dance, with dorsal fins and tail flukes alternatively emerging and submerging all around the ship. A quick decision was made to anchor Hondius exactly at the spot and launch the zodiacs. Our



first group of guests embarked on the zodiacs and were lucky to see the orcas from the water. The orcas had just successfully hunted a Weddell seal and the remains could still be seen. Over the next 20 minutes we observed the killer whales displaying surface active behaviours, including tail slapping. The orcas then regrouped and slowly travelled north out of Fournier Bay.



During the remaining part of the cruise we zig zagged through the iceberg maze, searching for more whales and seals. We puttered along shoreline admiring the icy cliffs of glaciers and ice caps of the Fournier Bay. We were fortunate to find leopard seals basking in the sun on ice floes and got a very close look. We also encountered two humpback whales, a mother and a calf, playfully hanging around our zodiacs!

To make this cruise even more enjoyable, the hotel manager William and bartender Angelina jumped into their own zodiac to open a one of a kind, floating bar, serving hot chocolate (and rum) to all of us! This cruise was a beautiful last zodiac cruise of our expedition and truly a memorable experience.

Another successful day onboard MV Hondius and continuous excitement for what was in store for the following day, South Shetland Islands.

#5 Dive day

Dive 6 – March 23rd:

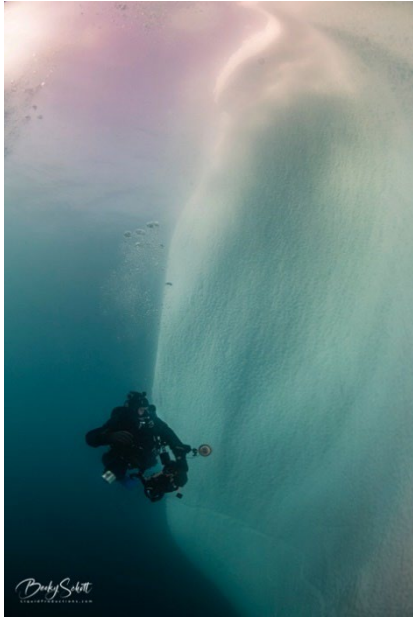
Divers were split in two groups. The first group was composed of the majority of divers aboard four zodiacs. The weather was flat calm with very minimal swell. They dove an iceberg selected for its stability and size. The divers entered the water in four groups and dove with the iceberg on their left side to avoid crisscrossing across one another. The divers had challenges with buoyancy, due to the freshwater coming off the iceberg as well as a almost imperceptible swell that was creating a down current around the iceberg. There were a few challenges with leaking dry suits and free flows. The divers that surfaced early spent some time on the surface taking half/half shots of the iceberg. No animals were seen during this dive.



Dive time: ~ 25min

Max depth: 60ft

Visibility: 15ft



Dive 7 – March 23rd:

The second group of divers diving on March 23rd was composed of two divers that had not had the opportunity to dive yet and were doing their first check out dive of the trip. They arrived to the dive site onboard a zodiac shared with the snorkelers. They dove along a sloping wall close to shore. The divers descended and did their buoyancy check. Gonzalo led this dive to ensure that the divers were comfortable in the water. The divers saw a bottom covered almost entirely in kelp with some invertebrates dispersed within (limpets, sea stars, nudibranchs). Divers climbed on a small iceberg after the dive and dove off.

Snorkelers were able to go in at this site.

Dive time: 25min

Max depth: 45ft

Visibility: 30ft

Day 11 – Friday, 24th March 2023

Sailing north – Fournier Bay

12h00 GPS Position: 62°59.0'S 060°33.7'W

Wind: N 7 • Sea: moderate • Weather: overcast • Air temperature: +0°C • Water temperature: +4°C • Visibility: good

Our journey north continued as we arrived at the southwestern end of the South Shetland Islands in the early morning. Logistics allowed for an additional landing in our itinerary at Deception Island, a well-known stop for many guests onboard due to the history and picturesque diving location. Its shape is nearly a full circle, hence the name Deception Island as explorers thought it was a typically shaped island however, they were deceived and found an entrance into the caldera through a place called Neptune's Bellows. Our bridge team excellently navigated MV Hondius through the entrance with impressive geology towering over us on both sides of the ship. Whalers Bay has quite a barren appearance with a rocky black beach and a blanket of fog perfectly hovering to mask the tops of the mountains.

Whalers Bay is a United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust Historic Site and Monument. Within the bay there are buildings, structures, and artefacts that remain from both the historic whaling days and more recent British scientific base. Deception Island was utilised by both the British and American sealers in the 1820s targeting fur seals; an eerie thought as during our visit the beaches were covered with Antarctic fur seals. The hunters were so successful they



decimated the population of fur seals and moved to a new location. This allowed for a Norwegian whaling company, Hektor, to move to Deception Island and build a whaling station. The whaling station was in operation from 1906-1931 and similar to the seal hunters, the whalers left Deception once the whale stocks were too depleted to be successful any longer. In 1944 Whalers Bay became home to the British Base B as part of Operation Tabarin. Base B was a research station focusing on meteorology and geology. With the addition of an aircraft hangar, Deception Island became the centre of British Antarctic Flight Operations. Possibly the most notable historic fact about Deception Island is the volcanic eruption. In December 1967, a volcano on the island erupted and smothered the island with ash. A rescue operation was put in place to evacuate 27 Chileans from their base in Pendulum cove, and 8 British from their base at Whalers Bay. The following summer there was another volcanic eruption causing the base to be abandoned and not reoccupied since. This is very apparent during our visit looking at the dilapidated buildings and whale processing machinery scattered all over the beach.

The landing site at Deception Island in Whalers Bay treated us to sightings of many juvenile Antarctic fur seals playfully fighting with one another, a few gentoo penguins scattered among the beach and old buildings collectively creating a beautiful ambiance. This site also offers guests an opportunity to stretch our legs with a nice long walk along the beach. Our landing at Deception Island concluded with the long-awaited Polar Plunge! Over 50 guests plunged into the cold Antarctica water and quickly retreated to the beach, into the zodiac and straight back to the ship. Deception Island is a special location to have the chance to polar plunge as it is active volcano and the water is slightly warmer than other places on the Antarctica Peninsula. What a fantastic last landing of the trip and last Antarctica landing for MV Hondius! In the afternoon we started our journey north into the Drake and sadly towards Ushuaia.



#6 Dive day

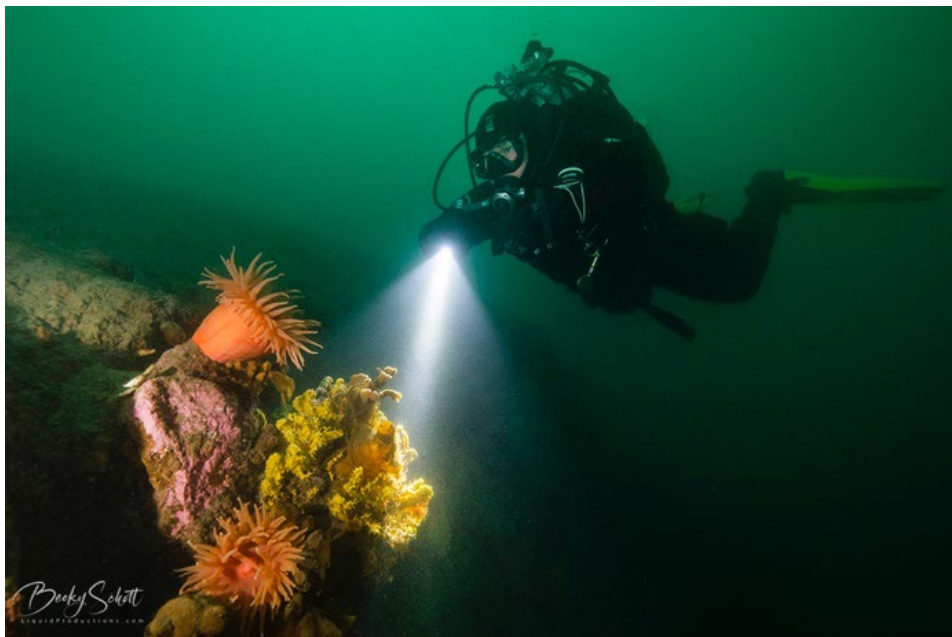
Dive 8 – March 24th: Deception Island



Divers arrived to the dive site aboard four zodiacs. They entered the water in about 8ft depth. The visibility was fairly poor and the bottom was very silty. Divers had to be careful not to silt up the bottom too much. As they descended along the slope, the visibility began to improve. At the divers' maximum depth the visibility increased to 15ft. The divers saw many whale bones, both clearly visible at the bottom as well as buried in the silt. There were giant isopods, anemones, seastars, brittle stars, limpets, nudibranchs and more. The dive was beautiful and a little eerie. Everyone was exhilarated by the dive.

There was no snorkeling at this dive site.

After the dive, the divers headed to shore to see the abandoned whaling station and some of them completed their polar plunge! The tide was low and the beach was hot from the volcanic activity from the active volcano.



Day 12 – Saturday, 25th March 2023

At Sea on the Drake Passage

09h00 GPS Position: 59°17.5'S 062°21.2'W

Wind: WNW 8 • Sea: rough • Weather: clear sky • Air temperature: +3°C • Water temperature: +5°C • Visibility: good

On our first morning back in the Drake Passage, heading northwards towards Ushuaia, we woke (those of us that had managed any sleep!) to a bright, sunny day. Winds were gusting to 50 knots with a swell of around 4 meters, which all made for dramatic views from inside the ship. From the bridge we could anticipate the waves crashing over the bow by feeling the steep rise of Hondius on a big wave before crashing down into the face of the next oncoming. We had the luxury of no wake-up call



so when breakfast was served it was, unsurprisingly, not so well attended. The daily lecture program started with Pierre presenting on Humpback Whales, followed by Jacob on the current state of Antarctic ice shelves and the global impact of their failure. In between those two fine presentations we said goodbye to our muck boots, returning them to the expedition team in the equipment stores. Outside, the seabirds were not so troubled by the brisk conditions with **Blue Petrels** passing the ship in large numbers. This is a species that had not been recorded so far on our voyage and suddenly there were hundreds (with one count of 251 per hour) and all heading south. **Grey-headed Albatross** occasionally put in an appearance along with a couple of **Sooty Shearwaters** and some **Common Diving Petrels**.



After lunch Ursula presented on the feeding strategies of whales and dolphins to be followed by a fascinating insight into the experiences of the dive group during this trip. Faith Ann-Ortins took us through the processes that divers have to go through when diving in such extreme conditions and then through a stunning montage of photos and videos from the trip. They potentially discovered two new species to science (to be confirmed) but perhaps the most exciting showing was the video of the **Leopard Seal** at Mikkelson Harbour, killing and eating a **Gentoo Penguin**. Outside again, the **Blue Petrel** passage had dried up but with more **Grey-headed Albatross** now being joined a **Wandering Albatross** and **White-chinned Petrels**. A **Fin Whale** also surfaced briefly off the stern.

Following a fabulous plated dinner served up by the hotel staff in the dining room, many of us removed to the library for the quiz. Hosted by Antonie in his unique style, teams attempted to answer various questions on many of the topics featured in the lecture program throughout the cruise. The surprise was the 'Guess the Guide' round – photos of members of the expedition team in their formative years – quite tricky! Once negotiated, the winning team was able to claim glory (!) and a great prize. Everyone enjoyed it and we were (at least temporarily) able to forget the still tumultuous sea outside.

Day 13 – Sunday, 26th March 2023

At Sea on the Drake Passage

09h00 GPS Position: 55°45.2'S 065°06.5'W

Wind: W 8/9 • Sea: Very rough • Weather: p. cloudy • Air temperature: +4°C • Water temperature: +8°C • Visibility: good

Today we wake up to the feel of the rough movement of the vessel, we hear the winds were exceedingly high in the night, up to 100knots!! Despite the swell the ocean is beautiful, the blue luminates in the sunshine and the white caps exceed to the horizon. It is our last day to spot those fabulous Albatross as they soar above the waves. Today our schedule apart from a little snooze is filled with lectures from Carina on water treatment, Sasha on how to get to the Antarctic, a Mini Series on sustainability in the ocean and Argentinian traditions with Clara and Gonzalo. Our brains feel so full of knowledge and inspiration!

At 1500 we start to enter the Beagle Channel and the vessel starts to slow down in movement, soon the celebrations begin. The Expedition Team and Captain Artur have a farewell toast in the lounge with prosecco, this is where Georgina presents a beautiful slideshow of the trip, alongside Thomas the videographer with what he captured during this voyage. The final dinner is full of delicacies of lamb rank and salmon and the one and only baked Alaska dessert! We all feel so lucky and privileged to have seen what we saw, we can now leave very very happy 😊



To receive the German televisión video please look for the following link in

Google after the 20th of November 2023:

ARDMediathek – Thomas Junker

Day 14 – Monday, 27th March 2023

Disembarkation Ushuaia, Argentina

08h00 GPS Position: 54°48.6'S 068°17.9'W

Wind: SW4 • Sea: calm • Weather: overcast • Air temperature: +4°C • Water temperature: +10°C • Visibility: good

One last wake-up call from Hans. 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. On this remarkable journey we crossed the notorious Drake Passage twice, discovered the beauty of the Antarctic Peninsula, dived and sailed through multiple storms. We went beyond the southern polar circle! What an extraordinary achievement! This trip has given us a glimpse of life in these remote and sometimes inhospitable places. We have encountered amazing wildlife, made new friends, learned, and experienced so much together. We will all take home different memories of our voyage, but those memories will stay with us for the rest of our lives! **This was our expedition.**

In the name of Oceanwide Expeditions and all crew and staff aboard Hondius, we want to thank you all for travelling with us. It has been an absolute pleasure for us to share this unforgettable experience with you!

Your Expedition Team



The Dive Team

Dive Team Leader: Henrik Enckell

Dive Guides: Urban, Clara, Gonzalo Sabattini

Divers and Snorkelers: Faith Ortins, Nancy McGee, Bill McGee, Rachel Voeltzel, Robin Romisher, Holly Bourbon, Brett Eldridge, William Bourbon, Patrick Madden, Kitrina Godding, Derek Brint, William Scott-Anderson, Gordon Blancher, Fiona Kelch, Richard Kelch, Richard Witter, Drew Collins, Sonal Collins, Jeffrey MacMillan, Karen Wenner, Vincent Malkowski, Lauren Smith, Rebecca Kagan-Scott, Nathan Coy, Sarah Nelson, William McGee, Alishia Hilliard, Paul Williams, Heather Lewis, Danielle Lewis, Rosie Poirier

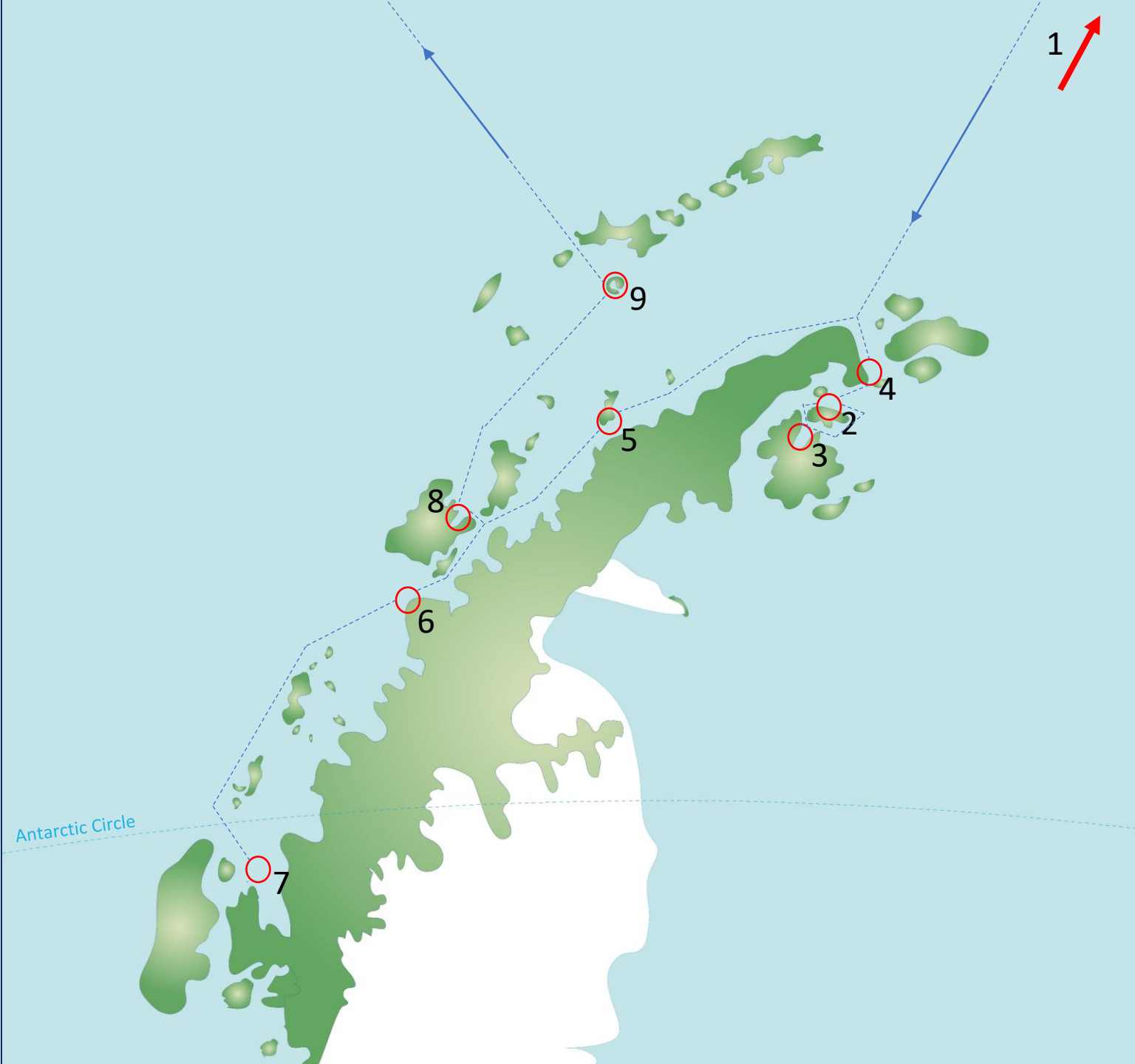
Total Dives: 8

Total Snorkels: 3



Total distance sailed on our voyage: 2547.5 Nautical Miles

Furthest south position: 66°62.2'S / 067°29.7'W



1. (March 17th) Elephant Island
2. (March 18th) Devil Island
3. (March 18th) La Naze, James Ross Island
4. (March 19th) Brown Bluff
5. (March 20th) Mikkelsen Harbour
6. (March 21st) Lemaire Channel & Port Charcot
7. (March 22nd) Detaille Island
8. (March 23rd) Fournier Bay
9. (March 24th) Whalers Bay, Deception Island

Birds and Marine Mammals of the Antarctic region		14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th
English	Latin														
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>														
King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>														
Ad�lie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>					X	X		X	X					
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>				X	X		X	X			X			
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>														
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>	X													X
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>		X			X									X
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>														X
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>		X												X
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophora</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X						X	X	X
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>		X	X	X	X				X		X	X	X	X
Light-Mantled Sooty Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>				X	X	X						X		
Northern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>		X	X											X
Southern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Cape Petrel (Plintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>			X	X							X			X
Kerguelen Petrel	<i>Aphrodroma brevirostris</i>			X	X										
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>			X						X			X		
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>			X									X	X	X
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>		X	X	X							X	X	X	X
Soft-Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>		X	X								X	X	X	
Great-winged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma macroptera</i>														
Atlantic Petrel	<i>Pterodroma incerta</i>														
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	X	X										X	X	
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>														
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>			X	X							X			
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>														
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>		X	X									X	X	
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Fuegian Storm Petrel	<i>Oceanites (oceanicus) chilensis</i>	X													X
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregatta tropica</i>		X	X	X							X	X		
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>														
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides berard</i>		X	X									X	X	
Magellanic Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>														
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	X													X
Rock Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax magellanicus</i>	X													X
Snowy (Pale-faced) Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>				X	X	X					X			
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	X	X												X
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta macormicki</i>					X	X	X							
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta lonnbergi</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	X													X
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	X													X
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Arctic tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>														
Chilean Swallow	<i>Tachycineta leucopygia</i>														
Marine mammals		14th	15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th	21st	22nd	23rd	24th	25th	26th	27th
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>														
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>														
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	X			X	X	X	X	X		X				
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>														
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>		X	X	X	X	X							X	
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>														
Southern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>														
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>			X											
Orca	<i>Orcinus orca</i>						X	X			X				
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>			X											
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>														
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>	X													
Commerson's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>														
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>						X	X			X				
Crabeater Seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophagus</i>							X		X	X				
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>					X	X	X	X	X	X				
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>														
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Southern Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>	X													

Hans Verdaat – Expedition Leader



His fascination for nature and traveling has been present all of his life. From a young age on he has been an active birder traveling across Europe. He studied Coastal Zone Management in The Netherlands and as part of that study lived half a year in Norway. In 2006 he moved to the Dutch island Texel where he has been working ever since as a field researcher for a marine research institute. In his research he specialises in seabirds and marine mammals.

Since 2004 he has participated in seabird and marine mammal surveys in the Caribbean, West-Africa, Antarctica, Spitsbergen and European waters. He has always been fascinated with the polar regions and has participated in several scientific expeditions both to the Arctic and Antarctic.

Since 1999 he started working as a (birding) guide. The last years he has combined his full-time research job with guiding. During expedition cruises he is a guide, lecturer and zodiac driver.

In his free time Hans is a keen nature photographer and as seabird- & mammal admin active on Waarneming.nl / Observation.org

Hans speaks: English, Dutch and German

Pierre Gallego – Assistant Expedition Leader



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

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

whales off Ecuador and Mozambique.

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

Alexander Romanovskiy – Assistant Expedition Leader



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!

Henrik Enckell – Dive Team Leader



Henrik is an experienced dive instructor and rebreather instructor trainer. He was one of the first persons to bring tourists diving in Antarctica

He has been diving for over 30 years and as a Rebreather Instructor Trainer he is teaching all levels of recreational and technical diving up to Advanced Trimix CCR.

Henrik is a keen wreck diver and has been involved in deep wreck expeditions all over the world. Some of the interesting wrecks he has visited are the WW2 disasters General von Steuben

and Wilhelm Gustloff in the Baltic and HMS Victoria ("the vertical wreck") at 145 meters/475 feet off the Lebanese coast.

He has a military background having served in peace keeping and peace enforcing missions in the Middle East and former Yugoslavia. He has also led dive expeditions in the Antarctic and Arctic regions for more than 20 years and has supervised thousands of dives in polar waters. Henrik also works as a submersible pilot and surface officer.

Henrik holds a M.Sc. degree in Electrical Engineering and has previously lived and worked in Japan and India several years before becoming an expedition guide full time. He now lives in Sweden with his wife, his three daughters and his son.

Clara Iachetti – Expedition Guide



Clara is Argentinean, who is born in Buenos Aires. Since she was a child Clara loved the ocean and the adventure. In 2011 she obtained her bachelor's Marine Biology-oriented degree in Biological Sciences, at the Universidad de Buenos Aires and a European M.Sc. in Marine Environment and Resources (MER) in 2012. Since 2012 she has been working in the Austral Centre of Scientific Investigations (CADIV- CONICET) at Ushuaia, Tierra de Fuego (Argentina). Firstly, on her PhD on plankton dynamics, then with her postdoctoral project on harmful algal blooms, and

nowadays as a researcher at CADIC. For the last 10 years she has participated of several research expeditions to the South Atlantic and Antarctica, even spending some time in the Shetland Islands, at the Argentinean Base "Carlini".

On top of her scientist career, she is a member of Beagle Secretos del Mar, a non-profit organisation that supports marine conservation in which she is responsible for the education program, lecturing and diving. Living in Ushuaia (and previously in Bariloche) has also led her passion towards mountaineering, mainly backcountry skiing and climbing.

Gonzalo Sabattini- Dive Guide



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

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

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

Activities (FAAS_CMAS)-One Star Diver at the age of 16.

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

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

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

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

Urban Reifler – Dive Guide



Urban Reifler is married and father of two children. He grew up on a farm near Lake Constance in Switzerland.

Even as a child, he spent a lot of time outdoors and was interested in nature and ecological relationships. So it was appropriate that he first learnt the profession of a farmer.

After his practical training, he studied at the University of Agronomy.

The underwater world has fascinated him since his childhood. In 1999 he took his first diving course. The enthusiasm was great and did not let him go. He was in the water at every opportunity and continued to train

in recreational diving. Since 2018 he has been a diving instructor and since 2020 he has been running his own diving school together with his son, who is also an enthusiastic diver. Urban particularly enjoys diving in local lakes and rivers. When he is not instructing, he devotes himself to underwater photography. Everything can - nothing must, with this attitude he would like to enjoy many more dives and infect others with his enthusiasm.

His main occupation today is working at Lake Constance as a vocational school teacher and is involved in the training of young farmers.

Andrew Crowder – Expedition Guide



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

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

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

Anthonie Luteijn – Expedition guide



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

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

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

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

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

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

Carina Ketterer – Expedition Guide



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

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

dominion.

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

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

Charlotte Taplin – Expedition Guide



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

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

Elizabeth Robinson – Expedition Guide



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.

Esther Josten – Expedition Guide



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

She studied International Tourism Management in the Netherlands, lived in France, Spain, and New Zealand for a while. She worked as a guide for over 7 years now and in many different countries. My recent time I spent working as an outdoor guide and

skipper for a small locally owned tour company in the beautiful fjord lands of Southern Norway.

What she loves about her job is not only getting out into nature and being in touch with the elements, but also the meaningful connections with people from all corners of the world. Travelling opens our eyes and expands our horizon. She personally takes a lot of inspiration from all the beautiful people and experiences along the way. Besides all natural beauties our planet offers, she is fascinated by its' history, cultures and languages. And at the end of the day, she believes there's nothing better than sharing stories and memories with your travel companions and eventually with your beloved ones back home.

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

Georgina Strange – Expedition Guide



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!

Jakub Małecki – Expedition Guide



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.

Koen Jongerling - Expedition Guide



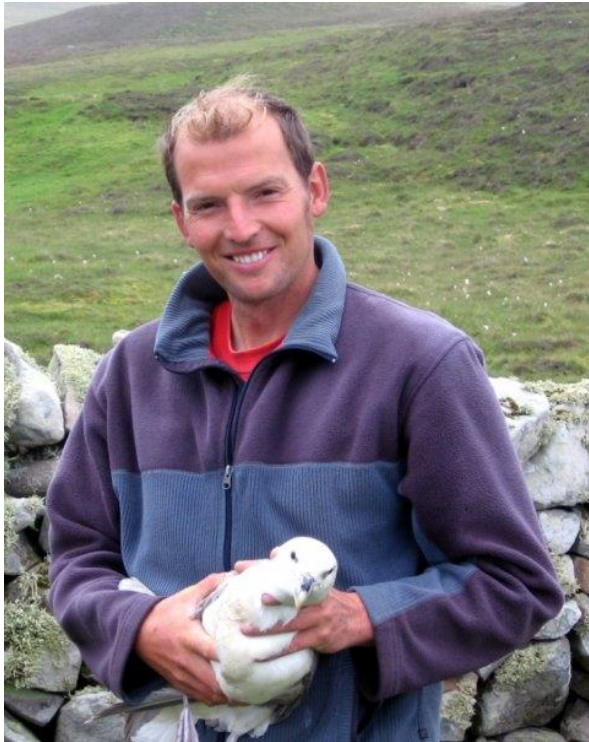
Having grown up in the Netherlands Koen always knew he wanted to live in a more rugged landscape than the rather flat lowlands that surrounded him. That is why after finishing his outdoor education in 2011, he chose to move to Patagonia, Chile to find the mountains he was longing for.

Combining his love for nature and the desire to learn more, he started guiding expeditions through the mountain ranges of Patagonia. Travelling back and forth to Europe for additional mountain courses - every time feeling

more at home in the rough conditions of Patagonia. In 2017 he started his own guide company, introducing travelers to the beauty of Southern Chile.

Living in Puerto Natales he came to love the cold and extreme weather and after years of working in one of the most southern mountain ranges in the world, he could not stop looking further south to the great white continent, Antarctica.

Simon Davies - Expedition Guide



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!

Ursula Tscherter - Expedition Guide



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.

Georgios Tsianos – Ship's doctor



Dr Georgios Tsianos is based in the Scottish Highlands and practices medicine in remote and rural areas. He has worked and trained in various medical specialties gaining experience in South Africa, USA, Scotland, England and Greece. He is certified in expedition and travel medicine. He partners with expedition groups around the world as their expedition doctor in a variety of environmental settings. He has previously joined Oceanwide Expeditions in the Arctic.

Georgios is an honorary core lecturer in extreme environment physiology for the Master's degree course in Military Fitness and Wellbeing. In his additional role as medical advisor and field studies research expedition leader he collaborates and conducts research on human physiology research in extreme environments. He gives keynote inspirational talks in a wide range of sectors including the entrepreneurial, medical, business, scientific, educational and sporting, as well as after-dinner talks for public and private functions.

Originally an internationally competitive marathon swimmer for the Greek national swim team at world championships level, nowadays Georgios is actively involved in ultra-endurance sporting events and challenges. Amongst others he has climbed Mt Everest, swam the English Channel, run the ultra Marathon des Sables in the Sahara, and swam non-stop across the Aegean Sea in Greece covering a distance of 101km.

WELCOME ABOARD!

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

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

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

Lifeboat Drill

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 0745 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 0915 **Zodiac & IAATO Briefing** - Please join us in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our **mandatory** zodiac and IAATO briefings.
- 1100 **Birds of the Drake passage** – Please Join Simon in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a lecture about the birds we may encounter on our trip across the Drake passage
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400 **Introduction to Whales** – Please join Ursula in the lounge (Deck 5) for a lecture on what to look out for whilst whale watching here in Antarctica.
- 1500 **Diving Briefing - (For those signed up for Diving)** Please join Henrik and the dive team in the **Lecture theatre** (Deck 5) for a **mandatory** Dive briefing.
- 1600 **Waves** – Please join Anthonie in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a lecture on the interesting mechanism behind the formation of waves.
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our first daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 Tonight the **dinner** is **buffet** served in the **dining room** (deck 4).

Sunrise 06:33 – Sunset 19:19

07:45 **Wake-up Call** – Good Morning!

08:00 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).

*If you were unable to attend any of the **mandatory briefings**, please speak to one of the staff members so we can organise another briefing. Zodiac briefing is mandatory for all leaving the ship. Activity briefings are mandatory for all of those wishing to partake in each activity. **These must all be attended today.***

09:15 **Brushtail Penguins** - Please join Andrew in the **lounge** (deck 5) for his lecture exploring the natural history and identification of the brushtail penguins we are likely to encounter on the trip.

10:30 **Wildlife Watch** on deck 6. Join the **expedition staff** with your binoculars and camera on deck. We will be searching for birds & marine mammals.

11:30 **Muck Boots** - We will call you deck 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.***

12:30 **Lunch** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).

14:00 **Biosecurity:** We will call you deck by deck, to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) to complete our biosecurity cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, footwear/muckboots and tripods/walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. ***Please listen for announcements.***

16:00 **Heroic Age of Antarctic Exploration - Shackleton's Journeys** Please join Koen in the lounge (deck 5).

18:30 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition Team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap and briefing.

19:30 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4) – *there will be a buffet dinner ready for you. Bon Appetite!*

Sunrise 06:32 – Sunset 19:04

- 06:45 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 07:00 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 08:00 The ***The Red group*** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Point Wild.
- 08:15 The ***The Blue group*** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Portal Point.
- 10:30 Ship cruise along Elephant Island looking for whales and other wildlife.
- 12:30 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 14:00 **The International Whaling Commission and CCAMLR** - Please join Pierre in the **lounge** (deck 5) for his lecture.
- 16:30 **An Introduction to the role of Ice** - Please join Jakub in the **lounge** (deck 5) to learn all about the types of ice that Antarctica holds and how the relationship with this ice affects us all.
- 18:15 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap.
- 19:00 **Buffet dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4)
- 21:00 **Shackleton's movie night** in the Lecture room (deck 5)

Sunrise 06:39 – Sunset 19:14

- 06:00 Hondius is steaming through the Weddell Sea towards Devil Island.
- 07:00 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 07:30 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 08:30 The **The Red group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Devil Island.
- 08:45 The **The Blue group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Devil Island.

*The **Red Group** will go to land first; the **Blue Group** will go zodiac cruising – we will swap halfway through the morning.*

- 12:30 **Lunch** is served in the **dining room**.
- 15:00 The **The Blue group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at The Naze - Herbert Sound.
- 15:15 The **The Red group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at The Naze - Herbert Sound.

*The **Blue Group** will go to land first; the **Red Group** will go zodiac cruising – we will swap halfway through the afternoon.*

- 18:45 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap.
- 19:30 **Buffet dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4)

Sunrise 06:40 – Sunset 19:09

06:45 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

07:00 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).

08:00 The **The Blue Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Brown Bluff.

08:30 The **The Red Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Brown Bluff.

*The **Blue Group** will go to land first; the **Red Group** will go zodiac cruising – we will swap halfway through the morning.*

12:30 **Lunch** is served in the **dining room**.

14:00 The **The Red Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Madder Cliffs.

14:15 The **The Blue group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Madder Cliffs.

*The **Red Group** will go to land first; the **Blue Group** will go zodiac cruising – we will swap halfway through the afternoon.*

18:15 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap.

19:00 **Buffet dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4)

Sunrise 07:00 – Sunset 19:23

06:45 **Wake up call.** Good morning and welcome to the West Coast of the Antarctic Peninsula!

07:00 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).

*This morning we want to offer you a Zodiac cruise at stunning **Spert Island**. We will give you a ride among the icebergs and do our best to spot Antarctic wildlife.*

08:30 The **Red group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Spert Island.

08:45 **Jakub** invites **The Blue group** to his lecture on **Icebergs** to the main lounge (deck 5).

10:00 The **Blue group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Spert Island.

10:15 **Jakub** invites the **Red group** to his lecture on **Icebergs** to the main lounge (deck 5).

12:00 **Lunch** is served in the **dining room**.

14:15 The **Blue group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Mikkelsen Harbour.

15:45 The **Red group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Mikkelsen Harbour.

*The **Blue Group** will go to land first; the **Red Group** will go zodiac cruising – we will swap halfway through the morning.*

18:00 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap.

19:00 **Buffet dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4)

06:30 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

This morning we hope to navigate through the Lemaire channel – a narrow passage of stunning beauty, one of the highlights of the Antarctic Peninsula

07:00 Entering the **Lemaire Channel** – please be on decks, the show is outside!

07:30 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*After breakfast we hope to offer you a landing at Port Charcot, one of Antarctica's most spectacular "iceberg graveyards". The **Red Group** will go to land first; the **Blue Group** will go zodiac cruising – we will swap halfway through the morning.*

08:45 **Red Group** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at **Port Charcot**.

09:00 **Blue Group** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at **Port Charcot**.

12:30 **Lunch** is served in the dining room.

*Our **Expedition afternoon** plans are to ship cruise South towards Crystal sound manoeuvring between magnificent icebergs and enjoying true Antarctic ambience. We will also try to spot some wildlife.*

14:30 Please join **Ursula** for her lecture about **Minke whales** in the main lounge (deck 5)

16:30 Please join **Koen** for his lecture "**Exploration of Antarctica up to the 1900**" in the main lounge (deck5).

18:15 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge

19:00 **Buffet dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4)

07:00 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

07:30 Crossing the **Antarctic Circle!!**

08:00 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

The ship cruises on and manoeuvring toward Detaille Island, between magnificent icebergs and enjoying true Antarctic ambience. We will also try to spot some wildlife.

10:30 The **Blue group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Detaille Island.

½ of the Blue Group will go to land first; ½ of the Blue Group will go zodiac cruising – we will swap halfway through on shore.

11:30 – 13:00 **Lunch** is served in the dining room!

12:15 The **Red group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Detaille Island.

½ of the Red group will go to land first; ½ of the Red group will go zodiac cruising – we will swap halfway through on shore.

15:45 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge

16:30 **Special dinner** will be served, please dress warmly. Bon Appetit!

20:00 **Snacks** available in the lounge

07:45 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

08:00 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

The ship cruises North and will manoeuvre towards the Gerlache Strait. Enjoy the Antarctic ambience. Along the way we will try to spot birds, whales & seals.

10:30 **Strange World of Birders** - Please join Andrew in the **lounge** (deck 5) for his lecture giving some insights into the weird world of birders.

12:00 **Lunch** is served in the dining room!

14:00 The **Red group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Fournier Bay.

15:45 The **Blue group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Fournier Bay.

18:15 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge

19:00 **Buffet dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4). Bon Appetit!

07:00 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

07:30 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning Hondius is going to navigate through **Neptune Bellows** – a narrow passage that leads to the caldera of **Deception Island**. Please listen to the announcements and go to the outer decks to witness this breath-taking moment!*

08:40 Please join **Hans** for a briefing in the main lounge (deck 5).

09:00 The **Blue group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Deception Island, Whalers Bay.

09:15 The **Red group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Deception Island, Whalers Bay.

12:30 **Lunch** is served in the dining room!

This afternoon we are starting to make our way back to Ushuaia. Please secure your personal belongings properly as we expect to meet relatively large swell. The ship will manoeuvre toward Nelson Strait. It is a sentimental moment to say goodbye to Antarctica. We will try to spot birds, whales & seals.

14:00 **Sealing and Whaling in Antarctica** – please join **Esther** in the main lounge (deck 5) for her lecture about this period of history of Antarctica.

15:30 Our chef **Ralph** is going to reveal some of the secrets of the galley. Please join him in the main lounge (deck 5) for his lecture.

17:00 **“Happy Whale”** photo collection session hosted by **Elizabeth** in the Lecture room.

18:15 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge

19:00 **Buffet dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4). Bon Appetit!

No wake-up call – Enjoy your sleep and have a wonderful morning!

- 08:00 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 09:30 **Humpback whale**. Please join Pierre in the **Lounge** for his lecture about this magnificent whale species.
- 10:30 **Muck Boot & Rental Gear Collection** – We will call you by deck to return your muck boots and any rental gear to the **shell doors on deck 3**. Please listen for announcements.
- 11:30 **The safety system of Antarctic Ice** - Please join Jakub in the lounge for a short lecture on the state of Antarctic ice shelves and weak spots of the Antarctic ice sheets.
- 12:30 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 14:00 **Incredible hunting strategies** - Please join Ursula in the lounge for a lecture about the feeding ecology of whales and dolphins.
- 16:00 **The Antarctic underwater world** – Please join the divers and **Faith-Ann Ortins** in the lounge for a talk on the surprising underwater world of Antarctica.
- 18:15 **Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap.
- 19:00 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.
- +/-21:00 **Quiz night** – Please join the expedition staff in the **lounge**. Grab your team of up to 7 people and test your Antarctic knowledge.

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

No wakeup call – Enjoy your morning!

08:00 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

09:30 **Water treatment (on a ship and in general)** please join **Carina** in the main lounge (deck 5) for her lecture

11:00 **How to get to Antarctica** – please join Sasha to hear his story of travelling to the 7th continent.

12:30 **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.***

14:00 **Mini-Series** – Please join the expedition staff in the **lounge**, for a series of mini lectures, ranging from birds to whale song.

15:30 **Argentinian tradition: mate. What is it? And how to brew it.** please join **Clara & Gonzalo** in the main lounge (deck 5) for their lecture.

16:30 **Wildlife Watch** - Please join the Staff Team on deck where hopefully we can see the broad range of birds and marine mammals that make the Drakes Passage and Cape Horn their feeding ground.

18:00 **Farewell Toast & Trip Video's** - Please join the captain and the expedition team in the **lounge** for a toast to our voyage through the Southern Ocean and a video of our expedition.

19:00 **Dinner** (plated) **will** be served in the **dining room**.

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



Antarctica Deep South
Monday 27th March 2023
Disembarkation - Ushuaia

07:00 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning!

07:30-08:30 **Breakfast** will be served in the dining room.

Please place your large/check-in luggage outside your cabin no later than 07:30. 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.

08:30-09:00 **Disembarkation – Please listen for announcements.** We will inform you once we have been cleared by local authorities. Once clearance has been completed, we will invite you to the gangway to disembark Hondius.

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

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

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