



Antarctica: Deep South Discovery Voyage

20th March – 2nd April 2023

On board *m/v Ortelius*



M/V *Ortelius* was named after the Dutch cartographer Abraham Ortelius (1527-1598) who published the first modern world atlas, the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (Theatre of the World) in 1570. M/V *Ortelius* was built in 1989 in Gdynia, Poland, as a research vessel for the Russian Academy of Science and was named *Marina Svetaeva*. In 2011 she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions. The vessel was re-flagged and renamed *Ortelius*. Now the ship is sailing as a 108-passenger vessel. *Ortelius* is 91 m long, 17,6 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5,80 m, with an Ice Strength rating of UL1/1A, top speed of 12 knots and one diesel engine generating 3200 kW.

Captain Per Andersson [Sweden]

and his international crew of 50 (16 Nationalities)

First Officer:	Mikael Svedberg	[Sweden]
Second Officer:	Sven Holzhausen	[Germany]
Third Officer:	Eline Marinka	[Netherlands]
Chief Engineer:	Aleksandr Bondarev	[Lithuania]
Hotel Manager:	Albert Don	[Netherlands]
Assistant Hotel Manager:	Andrius Juodvirsis	[Latvia]
Head Chef:	Heinz Hacker	[Austria]
Sous Chef:	Ivan Ivanovic	[Serbia]
Sous Chef:	Norman Estrada	[Philippines]
Ship's Physician:	Eugene Wong	[Canada]
Bosun:	Eli Serra	[Philippines]
Bosun:	Philip Malang	[Philippines]
Expedition Leader:	Allan White	[Falkland Islands]
Assistant Expedition Leader:	Chloé Maréchal	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Alexis Bellezze	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Gary Miller	[Australia]
Expedition Guide:	Tennessee Blackmore	[U.K.]
Expedition Guide:	Vide Brandt	[Sweden/Norway]
Expedition Guide:	Michael Donoghue	[U.K.]
Expedition Guide	Bill Smith	[Scotland]
Dive Team Leader:	Jerry Sutton	[U.K.]
Dive Guide:	Lorenzo Begaud	[France]
Dive Guide:	Arne Mogstad	[Norway]
Dive Guide:	Duncan McGregor	[U.K.]

We welcome you onboard!

Day 1 – 20th March 2023. Embarkation Day, Ushuaia, Argentina.

Writer: Tennessee Blackmore

08:00 GPS position: (Alongside the pier, Ushuaia) 54°48.6'S / 68°17.8'W

Wind: W 7 • Sea State: Rippled • Weather: Cloudy • Air Temperature: +6°C

Every great journey begins with a single step, physical or emotional. For many of us the seed of adventure bore from a dream, years or even decades earlier, to venture to a kingdom of ice and snow beyond an endless and often angry sea. To stand on the shoulders of giants, to “piece the veneer of outside things” and busk in the raw splendour of our planet. The destination we have set our ambition on is the last great pristine wilderness left on earth, Antarctica. At least we make good on our desires, today we earnestly embark on an expedition of a lifetime.



Leaving behind our own worlds, we fly from all corners of the globe to reach the starting point of our odyssey, Ushuaia – the end of the earth. Awaiting us is our home for the next 14 days, the mighty and august *Ortelius*, a ship that has spent much of her storied life charting the icy waters of coldest extremities of our planet. As we savour the final moments of terra firma, we make our way up the gangway where we are welcomed onboard by our Expedition Leader Allen White, the expedition team and crew, new faces who will together show you great wonders on our journey deepest South.

Greeted by our venerable Hotel Manager Albert and assistant Andi, we are shown to our rooms. We unpacked and ventured out to explore our ship. With five passenger decks, the *Ortelius* has extensive outside deck space, split dining room and the Metallica-famous “krill’em All” Bar. Allan calls over the PA system for us to gather in the lecturer theatre for the mandatory SOLAS safety briefing by Chief Officer, Mikael. In one of those “I hope I never need to do this for real” presentations, we listen intently to the safety procedures and feature of *Ortelius*. This was followed by the compulsory abandon ship drill, we wandered to the bar or restaurant, lifejacket in hand. We were soon after introduced to the two spaces we hoped to never need frequent, the lifeboats.



SOLAS Completed, we reassembled in the lecturer theatre in which were introduced to Andi, assistant Hotel Manager who gave us whistlestop tour of *Ortelius* and her facilities. Allan was up next with an overview of the following 24-48 hours. Lurking outside the Beagle Channel was a great purple monster – a fierce weather front passing through the infamous Drake Passage. The wind whipped around *Ortelius* that afternoon, pushing her close against the pier. We all felt a distinct list - a lean of the ship as the wind pushes against *Ortelius* high sides. We would have to wait until the early hour before the Port would allow us to leave and so we prepared ourselves for a quiet and stable first night moored to dry land.

Before dinner, we joined our master and commander, Captain Per in the bar for the traditional Captain’s toast followed by introduction to our expedition team. Glasses raised we descended upon the restaurant for our first sampling of Chef Heinz and his team’s fine work. After dinner we returned to the lecturer theatre for our mandatory briefing; how to safely board a zodiac

and how to best protect Antarctica pristine environment when we finally step ashore. With the purple monster blowing outside, we went to bed that night wondering what lay outside the shelter harbour of Ushuaia and more importantly, what awaited us on the wild and distant shores of Terra Incognita...

Day 2 – 21st March 2023. At Sea (Drake Passage)

Writer: Gary Miller

08:00 GPS position: 55°28'S / 66°30'W

Wind: 5 N/W • Sea State: Moderate • Weather: Cloudy • Air Temperature: +9°C

FINALLY-We are on our way. Some of us must have heard the engine start up very early. By 06:30, we were already abeam of Puerto Williams—Chile's claim to the most southerly town in the world. We got away from Ushuaia around 04:30 and were a couple hours along the Beagle Channel as the sun finally came up. What a pleasant morning. It was hard to imagine that the previous night was so windy that the ship was pinned to the wharf.

Breakfast was well attended due to the smooth conditions in the narrow Beagle Channel. Many of us were already hanging around the outside decks to enjoy the mild conditions, and the sights. We quickly ticked up **black-browed albatrosses** gliding effortlessly over the sea, lots of **imperial cormorants** in small flocks flapping every which way around the area. Those with long lenses or binoculars were treated to a large haul-out of **South American sea lions** on a small island and a colony of **Magellanic Penguins** along the Argentina side of the channel. A few lucky observers even spotted a little group of **Gentoo penguins** that popped up beside the ship. An excellent morning.



By 09:15 Gary started our lecture series with a talk on the common seabirds we will encounter on our voyage. The albatrosses, in particular and some of the other species we will only spot in the open water of our Drake Passage crossing, but many will be around with us for the

entire voyage—even when we get right down among the ice. He didn't manage to get all the way through the talk when Tennessee me over the intercom to announce WHALES!! It didn't take long to empty the room. Everyone out on the deck to see probably **14 Sei whales** scattered over a fairly large area. We were able to see many of the dorsal fins very clearly as they surfaced to blow. They were just travelling and we were motoring in the opposite direction so the whole encounter was only for a few exciting minutes. Quite a few came back to the bar and Gary did finish up the final 5 minutes.



After a small break for everyone to have a bit more time outside, Chloe continued our program of talks with an introduction to Cetaceans. We heard about how they are divided into toothed cetaceans and Baleen cetaceans; a little about their 50 million years of evolution, about their ability to echolocate, about their diving capabilities and adaptations, and then something about the various species we are most likely to see on our voyage. It was a fine introduction to to an important subject. Great to get some information so soon on the heels of an excellent sighting of whales. Hopefully we will have many more opportunities to see more whales. That brought us to lunch. We're all starting to get into the swing of eating and eating and eating. It's early days though so we are still finding our favourite ways to get our meals, which coffee or tea suits us best etc. By the next day everyone will have their own routines.

After lunch the divers had a gathering to discuss their trip and for a mandatory briefing about their procedures and safety concerns. Hopefully they are ready to go as soon as we get to the peninsula.

A bit later in the day, everyone went through the ritual of trying on gumboots. Everyone was called to the lecture room on deck 3 to get Muck Boots for the rest of the trip. Just about the time that was finished, the call came over the intercom to come out and view Cape Horn in the distance. Cape Horn is on a relatively small island, but it has a unique profile. Famous as a stormy point, “Rounding the Horn” has been the end of many ships.



Today, there is a large albatross statue to serve as a monument to all the sailors who have lost their lives rounding the horn. Tennessee recited the poem that's engraved on the monument as we were view it from the ship. That was also the point when we turned slightly to the east onto a new course of 173°. That would take us away from Cape Horn, but it also was designed to help our crossing by getting the worst of the weather a little bit more behind us rather than on our side.

About that time, Tennessee gave a presentation about some of the heroes of the age of sail. In particular, the great success of James Cook and his second expedition to south of the Antarctic Circle. It was interesting to hear of the origins of the 'idea'—and the name, Antarctica—coming from the Greeks. That idea lived on as "Terra Australis Incognita" for many centuries. Those ideas included fantasies of a country of people in a nearly tropical setting. Cook's voyage pretty much dispelled those fantasies, but he still missed seeing any land in



Antarctica. As a consolation prize, he visited South Georgia in hopes that it was a peninsula of the unknown southern continent, but he was disappointed in that as well. Instead, he claimed the island of South Georgia for Britain.

Passing to the south of Cape Horn had the result of exposing us to the full force of the open ocean. Our swell increased in size some once we left the protection of Tierra del Fuego. Still not as rough as we were expecting, but enough to cause us to stagger around the corridors a bit and presented a few challenges for dinner. But most seem to be weathering being at sea pretty well. Those who are not feeling well certainly are hoping for a quick crossing, but as night fell and everyone was heading for the cabins, there were a hardy few that visited the bar for a while, but even the bar was empty by about 10:00pm. Tomorrow we have another full day at sea

Day 3 – 22nd March 2023. At Sea (Drake Passage)

Writer: Bill Smith

08:00 GPS position: 59°07.0'S / 63°41.0'W

Wind: 12 W • Sea State: Very Rough • Weather: Cloudy • Air Temperature: +8°C

The day began quite dramatically and much earlier than most had anticipated as the Drake unleashed its full ferocity at 3am. Ortelius lurched violently from side to side and pitched bow to stern as it ploughed through extremely rough seas. Winds exceeded 70 knots which is well over hurricane strength. Passengers had difficulty sleeping due to the alarming rocking movement and repeated load bangs.

Oceanwide Expeditions promised exciting Polar adventure and for most passengers, this was how they had imagined the Drake...certainly memorable and something to talk about when home. As the movement continued at the 8am time of breakfast the captain, ever mindful of



passenger comfort and safety during the buffet breakfast, ordered a major alteration to our course to set the ship on a more bearable heading through the waves and swell. Eventually to everyone's relief, later in the morning the elements moderated and life on board became more comfortable. Passengers were called deck by deck to the lecture theatre for the first activity – a mandatory bio-security session in the lecture room. Eagle-eyed guides examined every item of clothing and equipment about to be taken ashore, focusing on seams, Velcro attachments, pockets, bags, boots. Every minute speck that might have been a seed of some kind, was either vacuumed up or picked out meticulously with a paper clip by the zealous guides. This session whilst a serious environmental protection

activity was quite an interesting entertainment. First lecture of the day was senior guide Gary Miller, 25 years of expedition voyages around the globe and one of the most experienced naturalist guides in the business who delivered a thoroughly academic, totally comprehensive account of penguins. When asked if there were any questions at the end. It summed up his talk when there were no questions as he had covered every aspect in such detail.

Second lecture was delivered by Vide, our Svalbard based multi activity 'giant' guide. The Antarctic Treaty...a ridiculously tale of countries politically maneuvering to claim huge areas of the continent to be in position to eventually exploit the enormous mineral resources of Antarctica. This was an introduction to complicated subject which delivered by someone else, might have been boring but Vide communicated the complexity magnificently. He finished by reminding everyone to act as Antarctic ambassadors when they went home and to apply political pressure to ensure that when the treaty comes up for renewal in 2041 there should be no exploitation of resources in the continent of Antarctica.

Recap session was at 6.30. Despite the still rough conditions this was well attended with over 60 passengers turning up to hear Expedition Leader Allan outlined plans for the next day. Ortelius was to pass through the South Shetlands by around 8.30 in the morning and voyage south throughout the day.

Bill followed with his Looking, Seeing, Thinking, Doing.... Listening, Hearing, Understanding, Doing, illustrated lecture which described exactly the unique Oceanwide Expeditions experience... highly educational voyages of adventure which at the same time were FUN!

Our resident historian Tennessee then stepped forward to entertain and enlighten with a powerfully rendered account of the swashbuckling voyages of Francis Drake. Famed for plundering Spanish ships and communities along the Pacific coast of gold and silver and his inadvertent voyage of exploration in his Elizabethan privateer vessel the Golden Hind which was accidentally driven south in a storm from the end of South America into the massive sea area between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans which now bears his name. In all another exciting Oceanwide Expeditions day.

Day 4 – 23rd March 2023. South Shetlands/Bransfield Strait

Writer: Michael Donaghue

08:00 GPS position: 62°54.0'S / 60°10.0'W

Wind: W 12 • Sea State: Rough • Weather: Partially Cloudy • Air Temperature: +1.2°C

“So tomorrow we disappear into the unknown. I have no doubt that we are really on the eve of some most remarkable experiences’ – Quote of the day, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

After another bumpy and wild night on the Drake passage we are all awoken 07.45 sharp with a “Good Morning everyone” as we head closer to the Shetland islands. With questions, “are we there yet “as people appear at the bar for a morning coffee. Not quite but nearly I hear answered. Then suddenly over the loudspeaker we hear “Land A Hoy” Rushing to the bridge we catch our first glimpse of the Shetland islands a silhouette on the distant horizon. With a sense of excitement in the air we settle down for a hearty breakfast.



With land growing ever closer the captain gives the order to open the outside decks. It seems a while away since standing on the outside decks heading down the beagle channel. Many nautical miles covered across the renowned and feared Drake passage. With a quick change, wrapping up warm we venture outside, greeted with fresh air and cold winds. Catching our first glimpse of this rugged and beautiful landscape we approach our transit through the English straits. Heading through the Barnoios islands with Robert Island of our port side and Greenwich island off to our starboard.



After exiting the English Strait, the ship sets a course for the southwest through the Bransfield Strait. In the distance off our starboard side, we can make out Deception Island and the Davis coast of the peninsula to our port side. We are now heading towards the famed Gerlache Strait. After all the excitement of our first sighting of land we then settle down for hot drinks and a lecture in the bar. It was time for captivating lecture from Tennessee about James Clark Ross, one of the great polar pioneers from the age of sail. Ross began his life in ice aged 18, joined his uncle in the frigid, unexplored channels of the Northwest Passage. On 1st June 1831, he would place the Union Flag on the Magnetic North Pole with assistance of local Inuit guides. Have participated in 6 expeditions in the Arctic, Ross was the obvious choice to lead ambitious expedition to Southern Ocean to determine if Antarctica was indeed a continent. Battling unworldly tempests, colliding with giant tabular bergs, happening upon the huge active volcano and discovering land further south than any before, drama of Ross life hit fever pitch. The last great sail-powered expedition to Antarctic, the success of Ross were drowned out by the mysterious loss of his two ships, Erebus and Terror under the commanded by Sir John Franklin in Northwest Passage.

Sailing down the Bransfield strait, position 62 54 S, 060 10 W, with a wind force 12 (65 knots) With hurricane force winds, good old Ortelius is still making 9.4 knots. The sea state has calmed down due to the protection of the land. Air temp outside is 1.2 degrees with a water temp of – 4 pretty chilly. But with the wind on the bow blowing from the west, it still proves to be bumpy ride. Settling down for our second lecture for the day, with Carrot cake and dry cake. Bill gives us an insight into the history of the ship. What it takes to operate and run the mighty Ortelius. From the beating heart of the ship of the engine room through to the galley where the amazing culinary delights are conjured up. Through to the amazing work from ever-smiling

wonderful crew that make these adventures possible. What a fantastic team!!! Onwards we sail, destination Cuverville Island...

Day 5 – 24th March 2023. Cuverville Island/Neko Harbour

Writer: Gary Miller

08:00 GPS position: 64°47'S / 62°42'W

Wind: E 3 • Sea State: Slight • Weather: Cloudy • Air Temperature: +4°C

After our long ride over a rough-ish drake Passage, the slightly early wake-up call seemed a minor inconvenience. **WE ARE HERE!** As we got up to the new day it was first clear that we were in calm water, then it became clear that we were coming to anchor just off the north end of Cuverville Island. Just as the program laid out, we got on our weatherproof gear and went out in the Zodiacs. Team Shackleton headed directly for the shore then Team Amundsen wasn't far behind to go off on a Zodiac cruise around the island and the icebergs surrounding it. On shore we were completely surrounded by **Gentoo Penguins**.



The landing site on a cobbly beach was easy enough to negotiate. It was littered with whale bones of the old whaling era, and crowded with **Gentoo**s. Up and down the beach was a busy rush-hour of adults rushing this way and that, with a few groups huddled up against snowy slopes here and there deep in moult. Chicks were running around all over the place when they weren't walking up to us curiously checking out the odd-coloured—and really tall—penguins that had appeared on their territory. Where the actual colonies were, there were still a few younger chicks waiting patiently for a parent to come home and feed them. Quite a few were still pretty young. They will probably have a hard time surviving the winter because they will fledge at a lighter weight than the larger 'main' group of chicks.

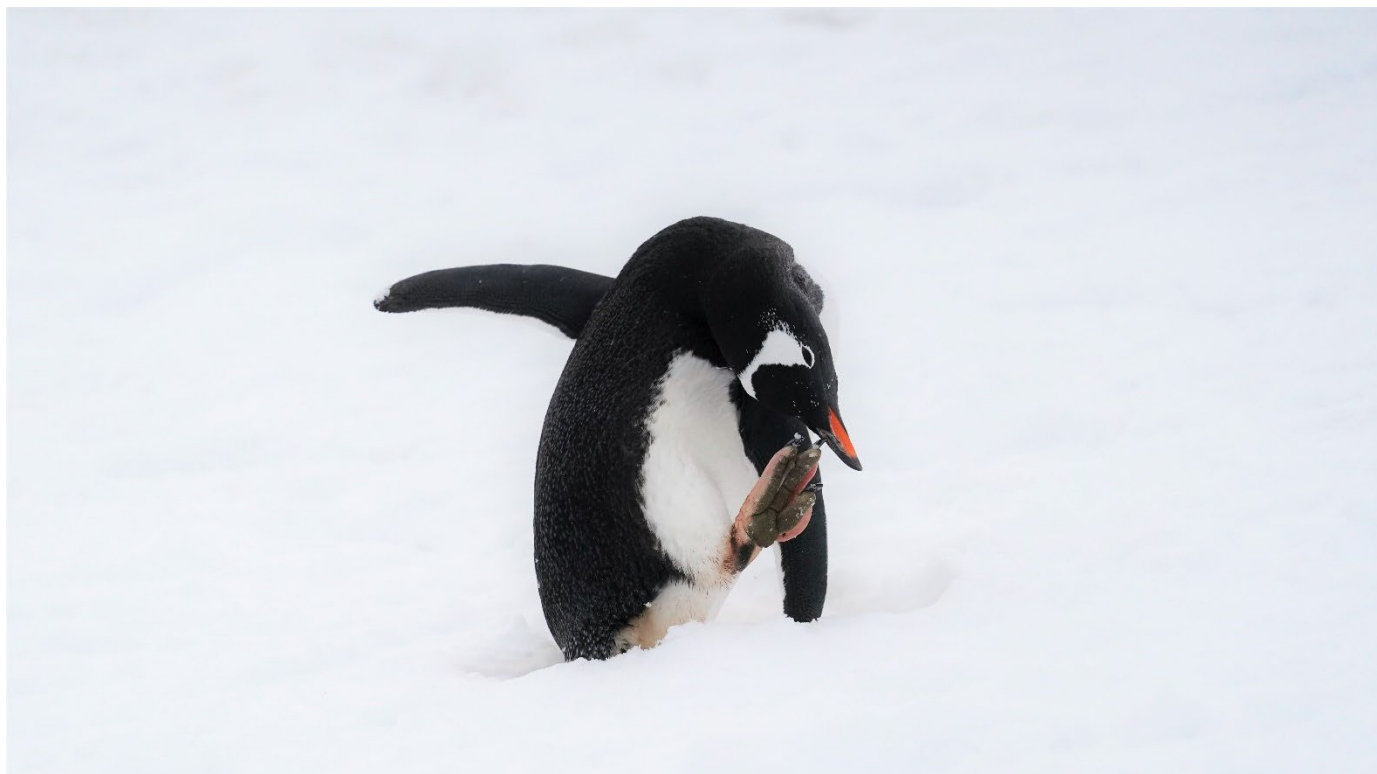
The penguins were not alone either. We found a few groups of resting **Antarctic fur seals** around the landing site as well. Mostly they were sleeping and lounging, but now and then one would chase a group of penguins around a bit before dropping back down for a snooze.



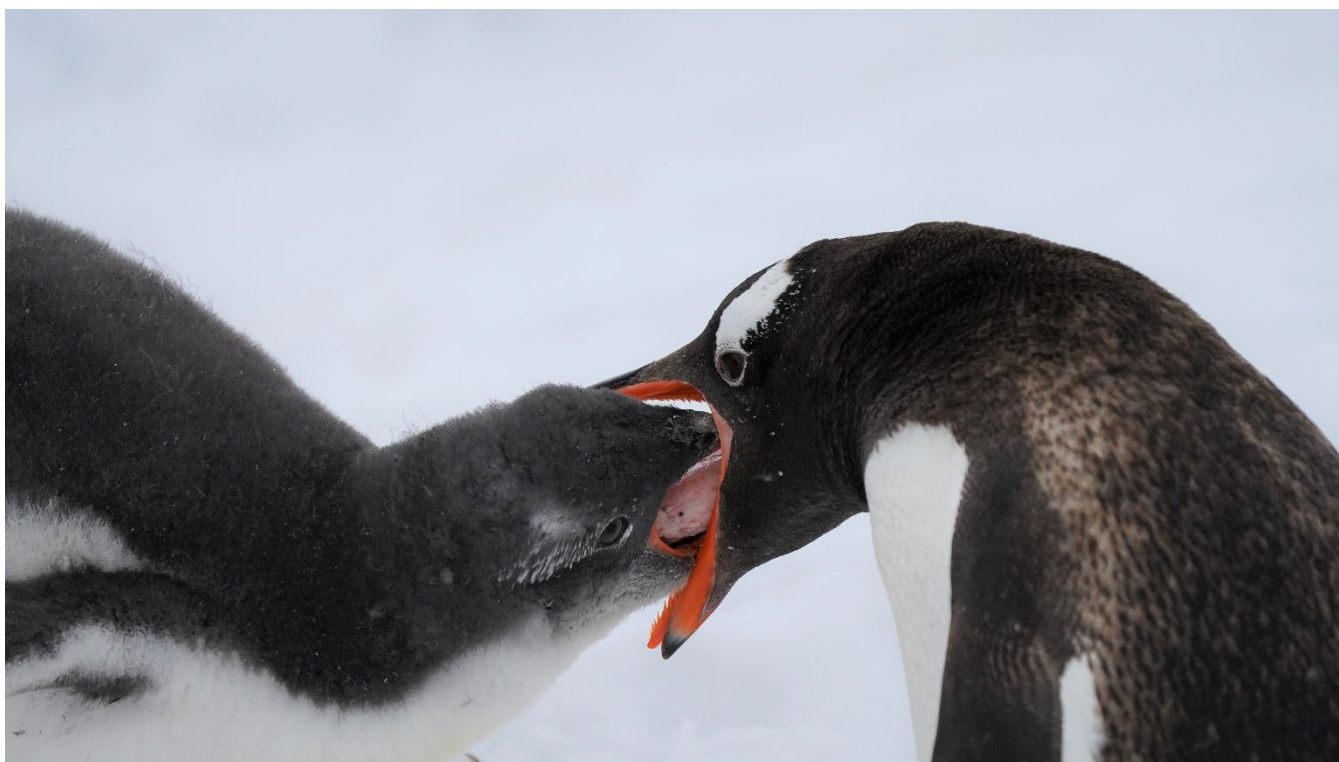
One took exception to us walking on the (his?) beach and charged a few people as they walked along. Gary came along and drove him down closer to the water where he seemed content to keep that part of the beach for himself. There were a few other dramas with skuas and giant petrels as well. Some of us watched a few **giant petrels** eating the carcass of a penguin chick and another group witness a giant petrel chase a small group of chicks and actually grab one of the smaller ones. They scuffled for a little while and while the chick struggled, a couple of adults came over to charge at the petrel. In the melee, the chick escaped the grasp of the **Giant Petrel's** giant bill, and stood bloodied and panting nearby. We suspected the **Giant Petrel** might have another try later.

Out on the water, the Team Amundsen cruisers were enjoying calm water conditions as they toured some magnificent icebergs around the bay. A couple boats were treated to a sizable calving off the ice cliffs of neighbouring Ronge Island, and word has it that they saw a few Leopard Seals. The divers, on the other hand, SWAM with **three leopard seals**. They managed their check out dive and then some there at Cuverville Island. Once we did the switch at the beach, Team Shackleton was faced with a bit of wind and rougher conditions on their cruise. Nevertheless, they had a great spin around the icebergs and essentially circumnavigated Cuverville Island before returning to Ortelius, who had changed position to the lee of the island to make boarding at the gangway easier.

Once we all got back on board, it was a well-deserved lunch while *Ortelius* motored down Ererra Channel into Andvord Bay. The strong wind that came up during our activities at Cuverville Island had us change plans to visit Neko Harbour instead of Orne Harbour. Neko would be better protected from the wind. After a bit less than 2 hours of motoring we came into



Neko Harbour and sure-enough, there was very little wind. We jumped right into getting Team Amundsen directly to shore. Of course, this landing is actually on the mainland of the continent so it's our only official Antarctic landing so far. Many on board finally achieved their 7th continent by stepping ashore at Neko. Some still have a continent or 2 left to visit, but they have bagged the hardest one already. Getting ashore all went well and they were starting to enjoy their time ashore when the wind came up very strong. Change plans again... We



cancelled the cruise portion of the activity and brought Team Shackleton to shore as well. Neko was an exciting little bay with an ice-free section with an associated **Gentoo Penguin** colony, but the other half of the bay is a big glacier with a steep icefall leading to the glacier front. We had several small calvings drop into the sea while we were there.

The penguins seemed to be more active than the ones earlier in the day. There were lots of cases where adults came home with a belly full of food and the chicks ran after them in order to beg for their supper. We witnessed many feedings and even got to see little lumps of food being transferred from parent to chick. We were also treated to a wonderful scenic view. We had a loop trail that worked its way right to the top of a steep hill where the penguin colony sat, then down the other side facing the glacier front. From the top we could see well out across Andvord Bay.

At one stage Vide spotted a couple **humpback whales** active in the bay. From our vantage point, we could also see the divers climb up onto an ice floe—out where they were diving around some ice for the afternoon. The wind dropped for a while, but it returned just as strong as before, so we had the best of the afternoon by all spending it on shore. Eventually around 17:30, we all got back onto *Ortelius* to continue our journey to the deep south. We spotted a few more whales (**2 Humpbacks and 1 Minke**) from the bridge as we left Andvord Bay, then as the light faded from the day, we had our recap to hear of our plans tomorrow and all headed for dinner. The bar was busy after dinner—but not too late. Most everyone was tired from a really good, and big, day in Antarctica.



Day 6 – 25th March 2023. Lemaire Channel/Port Charcot

Writer: Bill Smith

08:00 GPS position: 65°04'S / 64°0' W

Wind: N 1 • Sea State: Calm • Weather: Cloudy • Air Temperature: 0°C

Encouraged to get up early once again by the promise of our Expedition Leader Allan that we were to pass through one of the most spectacular much photographed locations in the whole of Antarctica... 'The Lemaire Channel'...it sounded exotic, but would the reality live up to the hype? Well amazingly it did!!



How can you describe the Lemaire? Dramatic, massive, monumental, magnificent, mighty, memorable...words really cannot do it justice. Before breakfast, as the landscape gradually became more visible, passengers were in awe as *Ortelius* entered the narrow channel and motored steadily past enormous walls of multi-faceted rock and ice rising into the sky.

Passengers were apprehensive of the towering ridges of rock and snow looming overhead...making us feel small against the scale of nature. We did not require much imagination to consider the danger presented by the many overhanging glaciers and crumbling cornices. The steep snow slopes were covered in avalanche debris and etched by hundreds of deep crevasses.

Eventually, thousands of photographs later we emerged into more open water and turned hard to starboard towards our landing site...Port Charcot.



Ortelius anchored off and deployed the Zodiacs towards the shore. Guides landed first and marked out safe routes to the penguin colony, cairn at the top of the hill and 'magnetic hut'.



© Vide Brandt

Two separate activity sessions were arranged for the morning. The first group of passengers landed and were free to roam, exercise their legs, and savour the magnificent views from the location. They saw **Gentoo, Chinstrap, Adelie penguins** and assorted seals. The second group were uplifted from *Ortelius* and cruised through the stunning berg sculpture park that was the iceberg graveyard. Groups swapped half-way through the morning.



In the evening at midnight *Ortelius* crossed the Southern Polar Circle at 66 degrees 33 minutes 65 seconds. The minutes leading up to this were intensely dramatic as the ship motored forwards with its searchlight beams illuminating in brilliant light, the swirling snowflakes of a heavy snowstorm. This was a truly aesthetic experience...the ship felt as if it was flying through a strange void as we could not see the sea. This was for many, the highlight of the day and everyone who had remained awake to experience the event was treated to a celebratory drink and presented with a 'Guide Bill' produced illustrated Southern Polar Circle Certificate

Day 7 – 26th March 2023. Pourquoi Pas Island/Horseshoe Island

Writer: Michael Donaghue

08:00 GPS position: 67°47.8'S / 67°20.4' W

Wind: WNW 7 Sea State: Calm • Weather: Cloudy • Air Temperature: -1°C

23.56 we crossed the Antarctic polar circle and celebrated with the Bridge team and guests with a glass of champagne thanks to our fantastic Captain Per. The visibility was poor due to the snow coming down we weaved through the ice transiting through Crystal sound. Off to bed we went awaiting an early morning wakeup call 06.45.

Due to the great progress from our bridge team, we were able to make an bonus expedition landing at Bongrain point. Upon approaching the shoreline there was heavy swell combined with a fair amount of glacial ice at the landing point. With the help of our four of the divers in their dry suits guiding in the Zodiacs and the wealth of experience from the skilled zodiac drivers is was all made possible. A safe and thrilling landing.



When on land we were greeted with a great deal of male **Antarctic fur seals**. Following a track marked out, we headed through **fur seal alley** up towards a small ridge just below the glacier. What a fantastic view outward towards the ocean and down towards the beach out into the bay. Back of the ridge we headed along the shoreline picking our way through the endless fur seal, **Crabeater seals**, **Adelie**, **Gentoo penguins** with **Antarctic Shags** flying overhead.

With a short ride back, there is time for a spot of lunch as Ortelius makes her way further south. Next stop Horseshoe Island...

After the landing we eagerly head towards the hut British base Y. A hut ran by the British in the late 1950's for scientific research. A piece of British history well preserved frozen in time. Even a record player and a copy of an album of SGT pepper's lonely-hearts club for those long winter nights dancing in the hut, After leaving the hut we head up to higher ground picking our way up to a cairn on the hillside. We were met with a fantastic view across to the mountains, true panoramic splendor.



Descending the hillside, picking up another marked track heading towards the lake and out towards the shoreline; a solitary **Weddell seal** lies on the beach sleeping, unaware of the visitors watching and snapping pictures. A few **Antarctic fur seals** and **Adelie penguins** decided to join the party. Retracing our steps, we head back to the landing site. What do we have in lined up for the afternoon's entertainment but a polar plunge deep into the Antarctic



polar circle. Surely not a regular occurrence this far south. With an amazing turn out, about 30 people and a fair few onlookers the order was given into the water you go.

Braving the icy waters of 1-2 degrees the crowd is met with shrills and cries as we enter the waters. With the cheers of support from the landlubbers, its quite a quick affair only counted as a plunge if fully submersed. Hurrying back to the shoreline it's a quick change and whisked away back the ship for a hot shower and a warm beverage. What an amazing effort by everyone an experience not to forget in a hurry or repeat....

What an incredible day with exhilarating landings, fantastic wildlife, historic huts, picture perfect views. Adrenalin fueled polar plunges. Great food to tuck into back on the ship.

All in all another cracking day on the deep south expedition....

Day 8 – 27th March 2023. Red Rock Ridge/Stonington Island

Writer: Gary Miller

08:00 GPS position: 68°17'S / 67°11'W

Wind: SE 3-4 • Sea State: Calm • Weather: Cloudy • Air Temperature: -2°C

Allan's 06:45 wake up called seems earlier every day. That's partly due to the lateness of the season. Now when we get woken up it's still very dark outside. This morning we had an unusual experience. Looking out from the ship there were lights on shore! We had spent the night within sight of San Martin, the Argentine station south of the Antarctic Circle. As soon as we were woken up, the ship picked up the anchor and started to make it's way to our morning landing at Red Rock Ridge.



Red Rock Ridge (RRR) was our **farthest south position** for this voyage, **68°17.517' South at 67°11.209' West**. and a new expedition stop for all the guides. Consequently, we had a little extra time for the guides to go ashore to scout the landing site and set up places to walk. RRR turned out to be a wonderful site. Surrounded by massive icebergs and extensive shallow water, the ship was a good distance from our eventual landing site. Tucked away behind some big icebergs and a few low, offshore Islands, we landed at a few large rock slabs at a small cove in the corner of a larger bay. Towering above us was the namesake, Red Rock Ridge. It didn't seem all that red, but it was lighter than most of the rocks we have seen south of the circle. Apparently, the sun's light at sunset shines it's red glow directly onto the high cliffs showing off the red light like a movie screen.

We had a wonderful walk around the place. The **fur seals** were mostly sleeping all around the place. The biggest ones held possession of all the largest stone to sleep on. It was a bit of a gauntlet to try to walk our little circuit and weave in and around so many seals. Most of us got a quick (but half-hearted) charge from at least one **fur seal** along the way. While we were dodging fur seals, we also had some lovely opportunities to watch a group of freshly-moulted adult **Adelie Penguins** at the beach and a few **Weddell Seals** scattered around the shoreline



areas. For some, the highlight was just a short walk up a hill to get the scenic overlook version of a view.

After lunch, we were already in position for our afternoon. This time we went just a few short miles north of RRR to Stonington Island. The main feature there was the large historic station from the British. I was originally established in 1946 and operated as the main British Antarctic Station from 1946-1950 and again from 1960 until it was closed permanently in 1975. The British launched many epic journeys from Stonington. With over 140 dogs based there, they travelled thousands of kilometers of many seasons mapping and surveying the lands around the southern Antarctic Peninsula. Everyone managed to take a look through the main base to see many of the old stores, the rooms and layout of the hut. It was built to house 4 to 17 men through the year. It seemed like a good size. Even with 17 men, there were plenty of rooms

and workplaces that the men could live and work without being in each other's faces all the time.



The other historic site on the island was the buildings from East Base. That station was originally established by Admiral Richard Byrd in 1940, but ice and WWII cut the mission short and they left in 1941. It was next occupied by the Ronne Private Research Expedition in 1947-1948. They conducted extensive aerial surveys and mapping during that expedition, but they also had among them the first 2 women to winter over in Antarctica, Jackie Ronne and Jenny Darlington (the wives of the Expedition leader and the pilot). The huts were not so preserved as the one we visited on Horseshoe Island, but they were very interesting features of our landing. Meanwhile, there were many other out-buildings to discover and wander around. Not to mention the magnificent ice cliffs just across the small channel to the north and east. We were even treated to thunderous cracks and at least one good calving that sent a small tsunami to our side of the channel and for minutes on end, there was the crashing and sloshing of small bits of brash ice on the shoreline. So we had a little bit of everything for a long afternoon. The best ever, though, was the fact that we could roam around freely in the fresh snow to discover the place for ourselves.

Back on board, we had a recap where Allan described tomorrow's activity where we hope to land at yet another place where no one on board has been before, Jenny Island. That was followed by interesting presentations by Bill and Gary. Bill talked again about looking and really "seeing" things as we visit our various landing sites. Gary spoke of 3 seals we have encountered several times; The Antarctic fur seal, the **Weddell seal**, and the **crabeater seal**.

After that it was dinner and darkness and the end of another day south of the circle. Tomorrow after our morning outing, we start to head north as fast as we can.

Day 9 – 28th March 2023. Jenny Island/Gunnel Channel

Writer: Bill Smith

08:00 GPS position: 67°40.4'S / 68°17.3'W

Wind: SW 6 • Sea State: Rippled • Weather: Partially Sunny • Air Temperature: -2.3°C

Another day dawned with Allan our Expedition Leader arranging a civilized start time for landings. No stressful early morning rush, rather enough time for a relaxed breakfast then dressing adequately for cold weather in preparation for our Zodiac transfer to Jenny Island... a dramatic rock and snow outcrop which loomed high above the ship on the starboard side.

Passengers were divided into two groups... one landing, one cruising then swoping.

The landing was on a narrow section of beach at the base of the towering outcrops. As slight swell surged along the stony beach, guides Bill and Alexis dressed in waders

stood in the freezing sea securing the Zodiacs during all passenger transfers. Temperature was cold at -2.3 degrees but luckily we were out of the force 6 wind on a sheltered section of coast. As we disembarked were extremely lucky to find excellent photo opportunities just metres away from the landing point. Thirty or forty **Elephant seals** lay in a 'wallow' on the beach and



fur seals were scattered all along the snow and boulder covered shore. Passengers on the Zodiac cruises encountered a pod of **Orca Type B** who obliged by swimming reasonably close and followed, keeping a respectful distance, a lone **Humpback** meandered across the ocean.



Everyone returned to the vessel at 12.30 in time for lunch.

Ortelius set a course north which passed the massive British Antarctic Survey base at Rothera. It was a surprise for many on board to have sight of the logistical complexity of such a large research station with its enormous sprawl of buildings, tall cranes, construction equipment, huge wall of offshore containers, airfield control tower and lengthy quayside etc.

As we headed across the Cole Channel with the Laubeuf Fjord system towards the narrow 'Gullet' the enormous 2,075 metre mountain mass of Adelaide Island dwarfed everything else in the landscape. The light was terrific as the sun poked provocatively through dense clouds highlighting the distant glacier snowfields and as an added bonus, **humpbacks** were everywhere! How could it get better than this? Well it just did...what happened next was superb.!

Ortelius, egged on by highly favourable weather and ice condition, elected to slide slowly into the Gunnel Channel, a narrower and less travelled passage connecting Crystal Sound with Margarite Bay. We navigated between huge, grounded icebergs; massive convoluted highly photographic shapes dwarfed by the mountains on either side of the channel. Enormous expanses of snow and heavily crevassed ice cascading down almost vertical hillsides



Cameras clicked incessantly...this was a truly aesthetic experience which had to be captured. Guides and passengers posed for a group photograph then hotel staff served a welcome cup of alcohol laced chocolate on the foredeck to warm the frozen bodies of all those refusing to miss a minute of this experience by going inside, despite the rather chilly -2 degrees temperature.

What a day...Oceanwide Expeditions excelling itself with a once in a lifetime deeply etched adventure.

Day 10 – 29th March 2023. Lemaire Channel/Damoy Point

Writer: Michael Donaghue

08:00 GPS position: 65°11.0'S / 64°07.9'W

Wind: E 4 • Sea State: Calm • Weather: Sunny • Air Temperature: -3°C

After an early morning wake up call. Our first glimpse outside we are greeted with snow-capped mountains, endless peaks silhouetting the clear sky. A crisp – 4 degrees awaits us, heading outside we take our positions around the decks to take in and absorb the sights all around us. As we edge down the coastline, the peaks of the mountains changing colours from pinks to reds. At 08.05 we catch our first glimpse of the sun as it rises in-between the tooth like ridges.



Slowly sailing up the Grandidier channel, Ortelius cuts its way through the newly formed pancake ice. Passing Darboux island & Somerville islands on a heading of 045.7 degrees and a respectable 11.4 knots, we make good time. Our objective the Lemaire channel or Kodak ally as its sometimes named. ETA 10.30. **Humpback whales** are seen as large blows are seen in distance all about the vessel. Then suddenly a call on the loudspeaker as a southern right whale has been spotted 130 degrees, a rare sight in these waters we are told



Carrying on we pass a Ukraine research vessel named the *Noosferus* the first ship sighted for a while. Formerly *James Clark Ross* or *JCR* when she was operated by the British Antarctic Survey and name after one of Britain's greatest polar explorers. The crew of *Noosferus* gave us onboard *Ortelius* long blow of horn as we sailed by...

Shortly afterwards the Ukraine Vernadsky research station comes into view. Formerly owned by the British and known as *Faraday*, the station was sold to Ukraine for a grand sum of one pound sterling. Still manned and used for scientific research today. Pushing on we approach the entrance to the Lemaire channel. Starting our transit through the channel we are met with magnificent views both port and starboard, sheer vertical rockfaces shooting upwards towards the crystal-clear blue skies, snow-capped with a scattering of fresh snow. The Sea Gods were defiantly smiling on us today.

With the best yet to come rounding the coastline we are met with the splendid and spectacular Una's peaks. Una was secretary who work for the Falkland Islands Government and was perhaps the last woman many of the young men working for what is now the British Antarctic Survey would have seen for perhaps 2.5 years. Initially an unofficial nickname, in 2009 Una Peaks was made official. Sailing through the Lemaire channel must have been welcome sight and a reminder of Stanley for the sailors heading north and south.

Upon leaving the channel we head across the Bismarck straight towards Wienke Island. Anvers Island in the distance, Mount Francis rising to a height of 2008 meters. Approaching

Wienke Island, we head for Damoy point. With wind a force 4 blowing easterly we have calm seas, a brisk air temperature of -3, sea temperature of +2. Our position 65 11 0 S – 064 07 9 W

Boarding the Zodiacs for a short ride we are meet with a rocky landing, once ashore we head up the hill with a fair amount of snow underfoot, we pass through a **Gentoo penguin** colony. The huts now becoming visible in the distance. Following the poles downwards the track forks off then climbs steeply upwards towards the ridge, once used as a landing strip for the aircraft. A good work out to reach the top!!!



Upon reaching the ridge you are standing on what was once used as a 400m ski way marked out along the spine of the glacier on which a twin otter aircraft was able to land. Personnel and supplies arriving by ship were flown from Rothera research station on Adelaide Island. Looking down further into the bay towards port Lockroy there is a historical hut manned in the summer for visitors. Retracing our steps back down the track we head towards Damoy hut. Located, Dorian Bay, Wienke island, palmer archipelago 64 49 S – 63 31 W

The hut which was last occupied in November 1993 is a well-preserved hut containing scientific equipment and supplies. Usually manned by 2-3 men to organise the transfer of cargo to the ski way by snowmobile and to aid the pilots with weather reports.

After leaving the hut we continue around the coastline past the penguin colonies towards the landing point back to Ortelius.

Day 11 – 30th March 2023. Deception Island

Writer: Gary Miller

08:00 GPS position: 62°55.7'S / 60°30.7'W

Wind: W 7 • Sea State: Rippled • Weather: Cloudy • Air Temperature: +1°C

Waking up and lying-in bed just before the 06:45 wake-up call we could feel the ship had that familiar heel of a few degrees. It must be windy out. Moments later Allan's call for "Good Morning" came over the intercom. Time to start our last day on the peninsula. It's exciting though. Up for an early breakfast, then right after we all crowded onto the bridge and the bow as Captain Per and Chief Mate, Michael directed our entry into the caldera of Deception Island through Neptune's Bellows. A fascinating passage. It looks narrow enough, but the presence of a submerged rock in the middle of the channel adds to the excitement. Immediately inside we could see the remnants of the old Whaling Station and BAS Research station. But we were on a mission to the back end of the caldera for a landing at Telefon Bay.



The wind was pretty strong, and it seemed unlikely we would be able to operate Zodiacs with so much wind, but we proceeded to our chosen site regardless. It was close to an hour before we got to the back of the caldera and could inspect the site. The wind was still gusting up to 50 knots, but it was clear that in close to shore things were much better. The call went out for staff to go out in a scout boat. Things turned out OK because it wasn't long after that the call for passengers to load came through the intercom. The brave of us went on down for a wet, windy and wild Zodiac ride to shore. The worst was at the gangway. As we got closer to shore, the wind dropped some so the beach disembarkation was easy.

Once ashore we were met with a lunar landscape of fresh gravel and sand with scattered volcanic rocks. First we climbed through a small erosion channel to rise up to the plateau above the beach. From there the sides of the crater rose above us. Tracks led us up the rim of a crater where we felt the full force of the wind. A few items of clothing disappeared from heads and pockets. Fortunately, people walking well downwind were able to collect them all (we believe). Most braved the strong winds for a while and climbed partway up and around the crater. After admiring the view of Port Foster from a good high point, the track took us down to the crater floor. From the rim, the wind was fierce. It was good to drop back down where the wind wasn't so strong and walk along the level of the crater floor.

The track took us to look over Stancomb Cove—with beautiful shades of blue and lovely patterns with the snow patches on rocky slopes above the water. All the features we saw today were newly formed by the eruptions of 1967, 1969 and 1970; the craters, the shapes of the lagoons, the beaches. One last overlook to see the entire view of Stancomb Cove before heading back to the landing site. What a contrast to the ice-covered mountainous landscape of the past week.



Back on board for a hearty lunch, we were all called back onto the bridge or outer decks as Captain navigated us for a close pass by the local Spanish Station. It's already closed for the winter, from there we did a circuit of Whaler's Bay to get a closer look at the remains of the old whaling station and British research Station. Those with sharp eyes and/or binoculars would have spotted some **Antarctic fur seals** on the point near Whaler's Bay---and even a small group of **Chinstrap Penguins** resting there. The ruins are an eerie testament to the substantial slaughter of the whale populations in the first half of the 20th century. The shore-based station was required because Britain mandated that the whalers at Deception use all the

carcass of the whales they killed. While it was a hassle for the early whalers, the bones can hold 20-30% of the oil from a whale carcass so it was good business as well.

From our short ship-tour of the whaling station, Captain expertly maneuvered us onto the correct line of course to take us safely back out through Neptune's Bellows and on our way towards the dreaded Drake Passage. It didn't take long before we started to feel a little motion within Bransfield Strait, but it was a few hours when we passed Smith and Snow Islands before we got to the Drake proper. Meanwhile Chloe gave a tremendous talk on plankton. It was a beautifully illustrated talk about many of the wonders of plankton; the wonderful shapes, the different kinds, some about harvesting krill. She did a fine job of covering a broad topic. We all have a much greater appreciation for the diversity and beauty of plankton.

What a relief. By the time we went to our recap, we were already properly in the Drake Passage and on our correct heading to navigate to Ushuaia. The ship movement continued to be easy to moderate and we can expect that for the rest of the night. Dinner was well attended, so hopefully, most people have developed sea legs over the first 10 days of the voyage and our Drake passage will be an easy one.

Day 12 – 31st March 2023. At Sea (Drake Passage).

Writer: Bill Smith

08:00 GPS position: 59°51.0'S / 64°24.4'W

Wind: NW 5 • Sea State: Moderate • Weather: Cloudy • Air Temperature: +2.5°C

Ortelius ploughed relentlessly on across the Drake with its 'cargo' of totally satisfied Oceanwide Expeditions clients. What a trip! It exceeded all expectations. None of us could have visualised the vastness of the landscape, the outstanding beauty of the glaciated mountains and ice studded sea, the convoluted surfaces of sparkling icebergs and the opportunity to have endlessly interesting conversations with fellow passengers. Who of us could have anticipated the commitment of the ever-smiling happy crew and guides to ensure such stimulating education, fun and adventure.

During the day, everyone was hunched over laptops, fingers flicking across keys, discarding, enlarging, cropping, lightening, highlighting...the lengthy process of editing thousands of photographs. Lot's of new friends now, discussing shared adventures and swoping e-mail addresses and interesting photographs.



In the morning Vide delivered a fascinating highly detailed and amusingly presented account of the 'Race to the Poles' between Scott and Amundsen. This was followed by Bill at 11.30 with another of his passenger thought provoking Looking, Seeing, Thinking lectures... 'Paintings of the Sea'...the meaning of the sea in paintings.

In the afternoon Muck boots handed in...we were apprehensive when issued with them at first but now a bit sad as most had become quite fond of their outstanding comfort in the rigorous conditions. Final well attended lecture of the day was delivered by Allan...subject matter

'Sledge Dogs'. This was a beautifully illustrated account of the use of dogs during expeditions in Polar Regions. The statistics and stories were extremely interesting.

Of the 900 dogs used by expeditions 800 had been born in Antarctica. The dog 'Mac' covered a record 14,440 miles compared to the average of 3000 for a working dog. The husky 'Steve' slipped away during a base evacuation and everyone thought he was lost when the ship sailed without him. Astonishingly he turned up at the nearest base 80 miles away three and a half months later. The most astonishing story related to a Japanese expedition where 2 brother Sakhalin Huskies survived without human support for over 11 months. This was a relaxing day, the 'Drake' was kind, only a moderate swell and an easy motion.

After dinner, we joined Tennessee in the bar for happy hour and Shackleton. The bar, packed 3 deep as we grab a drink, perhaps even a glass of Shackleton Whiskey, a modern whiskey inspired by recently uncovered bottles of Mackinlay's whiskey at Ernest Shackleton's Nimrod Expedition hut, Cape Royds on Ross Island.

Drink in hand, we joined in a toast to the boss, we plunged straight into tale of Endurance and her crew – "the greatest survival story ever told". We follow *Endurance* into the Weddell Sea with aspiration of making the first continental crossing and we feel the vice-like grip as Shackleton and his men becomes beset in ice. With their ship destroyed by churning currents forcing the sea ice together, Shackleton is to make a dash towards land and later the remote Elephant Island. His only hope is to reach the whaling outpost of South Georgia to raise the alarm and dispatch a relief expedition. Salvation lay 800 nautical miles away and their only means of transport was a keelless open lifeboat, the James Caird. Against all the odds Shackleton and five of his men including Endurance's Captain, Frank Worlsey would land on desolate coast of South Georgia, traverse the unmapped interior and reach the whaling of Stromness 36 hours later, rescuing the remainder of his men on Elephant Island three months later after several failed attempts.

Day 13 – 1st April 2023. At Sea (Drake Passage & Beagle Channel).

Writer: Tennessee Blackmore

08:00 GPS position: 57°00.6'S / 66°35.2'W

Wind: NW 3 • Sea State: Calm • Weather: Cloudy • Air Temperature: +6°C

We awoke on the morning 1st April to calmer, more relaxed sea. With no wake-up call from Allan, many enjoyed a well-deserved lie on our penultimate morning. As the lazy swell subsided, we enjoyed breakfast with thoughts of Shackleton and his 800-mile journey onboard the James Caird, imagined life with just one hot and highly unappetizing meal of “hoosh”- hard tact biscuits mixed with fruit and beef, harled around in the roughest seas imaginable.

Our first lecture on today program was “Exploring with Taste – French and Belgium Explorations of Antarctica”. We gathered in the bar and were transported to the gallant age of sail as we joined Dumont D’Uville on his Adelie penguin throwing adventures to Adelie Land, East Antarctica, 1840. We took our berth in the “madhouse at the end of the earth” alongside Adrien De Gerlache, young Roald Amundsen and Fredrick Cook as they endured the first Antarctic winter onboard Belgica. We finally marvelled at the civilised and salubrious over wintering of the “gentleman of the pole” Jean-Baptiste Charcot.



The sun broke through the clouds and ahead of the ship were the distinctive rocky headland of Cape Horn, the bottom of mighty continent of South America. Notorious amongst sailors and landlubbers alike, the “Horn” was first charted and named by Dutch navigators in 1616 and is a marker between the two largest oceans of the world, the Pacific and Atlantic. Opening of the Panama Canal in early 20th century would dramatically reduce the number of vessels that would round the Horn, yet it is a feat still considered the holy grail for professional and amateur yacht crews.

As we closed the distance between ourselves and the Horn, we were indulged with an outstanding lecture from our resident Argentinian, Alexis, about the fascinating history of Yahgan peoples, the original inhabitants of Terra Del Fuego. We explored how Yahgan survived and thrived in one of the most challenging environments on earth; from crafting canoes, building tents to hunting methods.

After lunch, we heeded the beckoning call to draw closer to the Horn. Soon we could observe, with the naked eye, the Chilean light house & sailors memorial as we stood a mere 3 miles off this famed headland. At our closest point I came on the PA system to read the moving poem by Sara Vial inscribed on the sailors memorial that stands on the island:

I am the albatross that awaits you,
At the end of the world.
I am the forgotten souls of dead mariners
Who passed Cape Horn,
From all the oceans of the world.
But they did not die
In the furious waves.
Today they sail on my wings
Towards eternity
In the last crack
Of the Antarctic winds.

Sara Vial, December 1992, Cape Horn

After a moment of reflection, the Captain approached me suggesting that there was an opportunity to make history. To set the record for the most amount of people in a bridge next to Cape Horn. Vide and myself jumped into action and over the PA a voice boomed – “We aim to make history today...join us on the bridge, the Captain needs your help!”. Smiling and somewhat confused faces passed into the bridge, who were immediately presented with a numbered post-it note. 107 all told! A record and surely an unbeatable one at that.



For the final time we gather in the bar for recap and to raise a glass in a special thank you toast with Captain Per. Tonight we were in for special treat, our man with a camera and resident Svalbardian Vide, had prepared a special end of trip slide show. We watch as 13 days were compressed into 30 mins and we relieved the awe and wonder of our odyssey deepest south. With emotional thanks from our stoic expedition leader Allan crew and expedition staff ended the evenings proceeding as we descended upon the restaurant as Ortelius patiently weaved her way into the Beagle Channel.

Day 14 – 2nd April 2023. Disembarkation Ushuaia, Argentina.

Writer: Tennessee Blackmore

08:00 GPS position: 54°48.6'S / 68°17.8'W

Wind: NW 2 • Sea State: Smooth • Weather: Partially Cloudy • Air Temperature: +8°C

2,229 Nautical Miles, 10 Zodiac landings (five of which below the Antarctic Circle), 5 zodiac cruises, 9 dives sites, 1 Polar plunge and over 3 million photographs taken collective (approximately!) we reach are starting point, Ushuaia. You walked with penguins, cruised with whales, and navigated the nearly unvisited Gunnel Channel. These were truly the days of days. It will take weeks, months or perhaps even a year for what you have witness and experienced to sink in. That you have traversed into the lesser-known corner of the world and busked in the sheer splendor of our wild planet. You have seen the world in possibility its purest and most spectacular form.

We venture down the gangplank together, looking upon *Ortelius* with different eyes and make one final last goodbye to our Antarctic home. With heartfelt farewells to those who were once strangers now close friends, we begin the epic journey back to the worlds we left behind.

You may look back at this trip log in years to come to help you explain to other what it is to journey deepest south. T The Truth is here are no words, photographs or films that can explain, you simple must go and live it...

Dive Log

Nine different sites were dived, four of which were below the Antarctic circle, with two of those being completely new/unexplored.

Extensive encounters were had with leopard (Cuverville Island) and fur seals (Jenny Island). Sites have varied between ice bergs, ice scoured cliffs, muddy volcanic slopes and steep shelving rocky slopes.

Dive no.	Date	Location	Divers	Snorkellers
1	24/03/23	Cuverville Island, check dive	16	
2	24/03/23	Neko Harbour, ice berg	11	
3	25/03/23	Pleneau Island, rocky slope	11	1
4	26/03/23	Horseshoe Island, grounded ice berg	9	
5	27/03/23	Red Rock Point, steep rocky slope/cliff	12	
6	27/03/23	Stonington Island, steep shelving rocky slope	6	
7	28/03/23	Jenny Island, rocky slope and shallow bay	13	1
8	29/03/23	Damoy Point, steep rocky slope/wall & ice berg	16	
9	30/03/23	Telefon Bay, Deception, volcanic mud/rock slope	10	
		TOTAL DIVES AND SNORKELS :	104	2

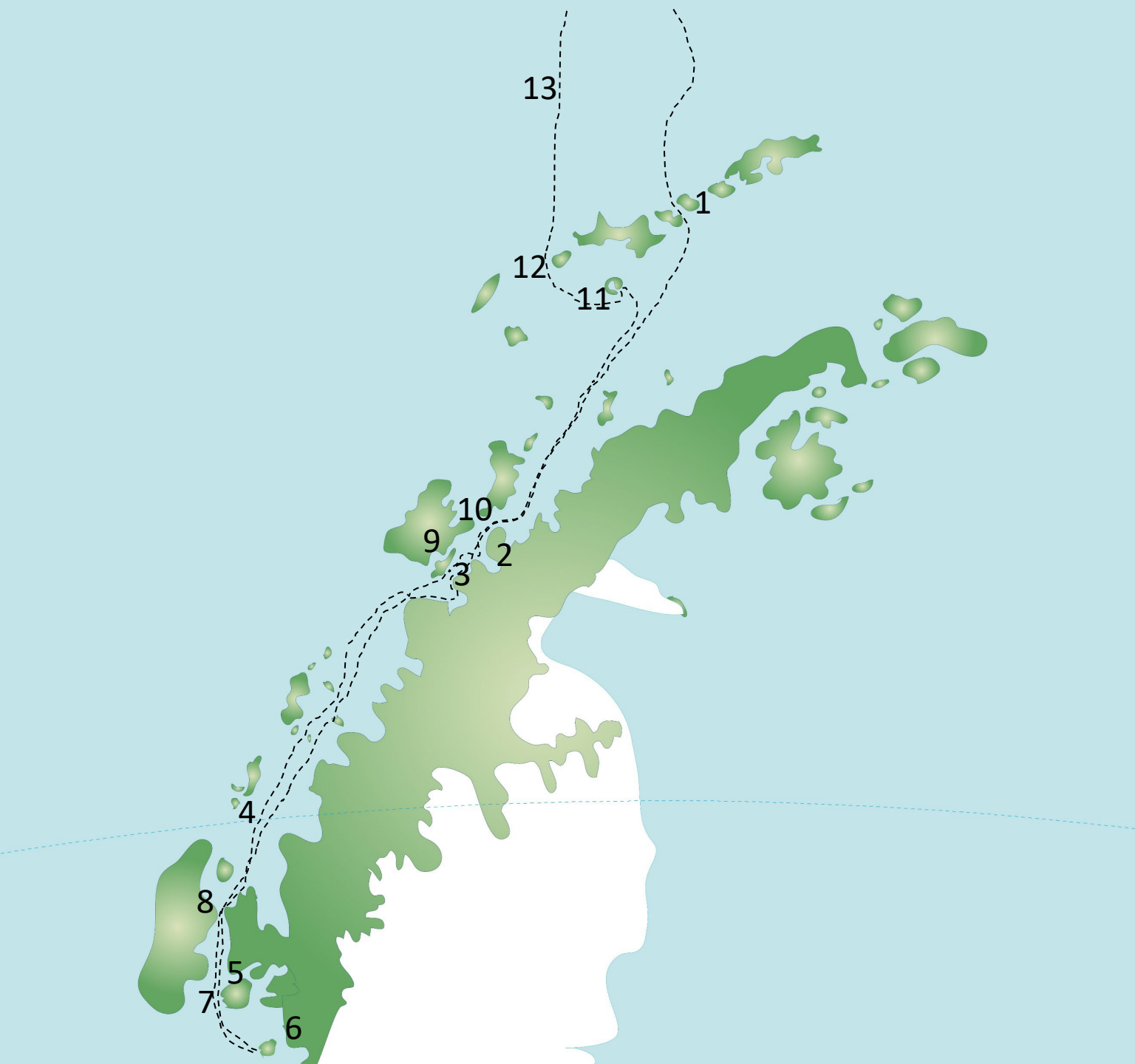
Thank you all for travelling with us on this voyage, for your enthusiasm, support, and good company. We very much hope to see you again in the future, wherever that might be!

Total distance sailed on our voyage: **2,229 nautical miles**
Southernmost position: , **68°17.517'S, 67°11.209'W**

Crew photo

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Per Andersson, Expedition Leader Allan White, Hotel Manager Albert Don and all the crew and staff of M/V Ortelius, it has been a pleasure travelling with you.





1. 23rd March 2023 English Strait. Cruising between Greenwich and Robert Islands
2. 24th March 2023 Cuverville Island, Errera Channel.
3. 25th March 2023 Lemaire Channel Cruising from North to South. Port Charcot.
4. 23:56 We crossed the Antarctic Polar Circle
5. 26th March Landing at Bongrain Point and Horshoe island
6. 27th March 2023 Red rock ridge and Stonington Island
7. 28th March 2023 Landing at Jenny Island
8. Ship Cruise around "The Gunnel"
9. 29th March 2023 Lemaire Channel from South to North
10. Barbecue night at the Errera Channel
11. 30th March 2023 Landing At Telephone Bay , Deception Island
12. Leaving the South Shetlands cruising in between Smith and Snow Islands.
13. 31st March Heading back North to Ushuaia. DRAKE PASSAGE.

BIRD AND MAMMAL LIST

DEEP ANTARCTICA: Ushuaia to Below the Antarctic Circle to Ushuaia

BIRDS	Latin name	March											April		
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>														
King Penguin	<i>A. patagonicus</i>														
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua</i>		X		X	X	X				X	X			
Adelie Penguin	<i>P. adeliae</i>					X	X	X	X	X					
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>P. antarctica</i>				X	X	X					X			
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>		X												
Snowy Wandering Albatro	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>														X
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>D. epomophora</i>														X
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>D. sanfordi</i>														
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche melanophrys</i>		X	X	X	X							X	X	
Grey-headed Albatross	<i>T. chrysostoma</i>			X	X							X			
Light-mantled Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>												X		
Cape/Pintado Petrel	<i>Capense capense</i>			X	X	X					X	X			
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>														
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>									X	X				
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialisoides</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X					
Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>														X
Southern Giant Petrel	<i>M. giganteus</i>		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>			X								X	X		
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>														
Slender-billed Prion	<i>P. belcheri</i>														
Antarctic Prion	<i>P. desolata</i>			X											
White-headed Petrel	<i>Pterodroma lessoni</i>														
Mottled Petrel	<i>P. inexpectata</i>														
Soft-plumaged Petrel (dar	<i>P. mollis</i>			X											
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>		X												X
White-chinned Petrel	<i>P. aequinoctialis</i>														X
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X				X
Fuegian Storm-petrel	<i>O. chilensis</i>														
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregatta tropica</i>			X								X			
Grey-backed Storm-petrel	<i>Garrodia nereis</i>														
Common Diving-petrel	<i>Pelacanoides urinatrix</i>			X											
Imperial Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>		X												X
Antarctic Shag	<i>P. bransfieldensis</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>		X												X
Subantarctic skua	<i>C. antarctica</i>				X	X						X			
South Polar Skua	<i>C. maccormicki</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>		X												
Kelp Gull	<i>L. dominicanus</i>	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Antarctic Tern	<i>S. vittata</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
South American Tern	<i>S. hirundinacea</i>	X	X												
Arctic Tern	<i>S. paradisaea</i>														
Pale-faced Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>						X								

MAMMALS	Latin name	March											April		
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>														X
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>											X			
Sei Whale	<i>B. borealis</i>		X												
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>B. bonaerensis</i>							X	X						
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>														
Antarctic Killer (type A)	<i>Orcinus species</i>														X
Antarctic Killer (type B)	<i>Orcinus species</i>							X		X					
Ross Sea Killer (type C)	<i>Orcinus species</i>														
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>														
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>														X
Dolphins	<i>Unidentified Species</i>														
Arnoux's Beaked Whale	<i>Berardius arnuxii</i>														
Beaked Whale-	<i>Cuvier's or Grey's</i>														
South American Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>		X												
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonina</i>									X					
Crabeater Seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophaga</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X					
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddellii</i>							X	X	X	X	X			
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>					X									
		Depart Ushuaia	Drake	Drake	Drake-English Strait-Bransfield	Cuverville Is & Neko Hbr.	Lemaire Channel-Port Charcot	Porquoi Pas Is & Horseshoe Is	Red Rock Ridge & Stonington	Jenny Is-Rothera-Gunnel	Lemaire Channel & Damoy Pt	Deception Is.-into Drake	Drake Passage	Drake Passage	Drake-Beagle Channel-Ushuaia

Allan White - Expedition Leader



Allan was born and raised in the Falkland Islands. He's a fifth generation Islander, and a descendant of one of the original British colonists in 1840. His higher education was completed in England, after which he embarked on a military career.

He joined the British Army aged 17. After serving in West Germany for two years during the Cold War period, he completed deployments in Northern Ireland, Cyprus as a United Nations peace-keeper, and with British Forces South Atlantic Islands. He left the Army to settle back in the Falklands.

While working as a Port Agent, Allan worked with the late Lars-Eric Lindblad, the inspirational pioneer of small ship expedition cruising. He encouraged Allan to become a Zodiac driver and go to sea for a year. Twenty eight years later, he's still at it. His voyages have taken him all over the world, with particular focus on the Polar regions. His travel experience ranges from 90° North to 76° South.

In the Falklands, Allan and his wife owned and operated their own tourist lodge for over a decade. More recently they managed a privately owned island, where they were the sole residents for almost 5 years, with thousands of albatrosses, penguins and seals for neighbours.

Allan is an experienced guide and Zodiac driver, with a keen interest in natural history and polar exploration. He lives in the Falklands capital Stanley, with his wife Jacqui.

Chloé Maréchal – Assistant Expedition Leader



Chloé is a passionate diver fascinated by marine life and exploration. She earned a European master degree in Marine biodiversity and conservation and loves to share her expertise for the marine environment. In April 2013, she was selected as the 2013-14 European Rolex our world underwater scholar. She spent a year working side by side with current leaders in underwater fields, getting very different experiences in marine science and in the diving industry. Diving and science are not her only passion; she enjoys exploring new countries and discovering new cultures. She has been diving on all continents and living in more than 20 countries.

Chloe now lives in northern Norway just above the polar circle. When she is not onboard, she can be found underwater: observing the ocean's inhabitants, searching for forgotten wrecks or mapping and exploring undiscovered underwater cave passages.

Alexis Bellezze – Kayak Leader



Alexis Bellezze was born in San Luis, Argentina in 1973. He spent his childhood in the center of the country, in a rural area, then moved to the city of Mendoza close to the Central Andes and studied in the Army High School where he fell in love with the mountains and the outdoors. Then moved to Cordoba where he spent 3 years in the Air Force Academy. After that he moved to Italy where he worked and finished a paragliding course, then returned to Argentina to finish his studies as a Veterinarian. In 2006, he did a Residency in the ICU Service of the Large Animal Hospital of the Royal “Dick” Veterinary College in Edinburgh,

Scotland. In 2006 and 2008 he did an internship as a veterinarian surgeon at Milano, Italy. Then he moved to Villa La Angostura, an isolated village in the middle of the Patagonian Lake District where he works as a veterinarian surgeon and runs a kayak company in the Nahuel Huapi National Park.

Since 2018 he has been working as a Polar Kayak Guide and Expedition Guide. He has guided in the Antarctic Peninsula many times, reaching the Antarctic Polar Circle, Svalbard, circumnavigated Spitzbergen, East coast of Greenland and many rivers and lakes in Patagonia. During the last years he travelled the south and north of Chile and Argentina as a Wilderness First Responder instructor working in different environments like the jungle, the Patagonian mountain range, the windy Patagonian estepa and the desert of Atacama. Since 2014 Alexis is the owner and Director of endurance kayak & mountain expeditions based in Patagonia Argentina, offering multiple days kayak trips in this pristine area.

Alexis is divorced, has 3 children and lives in Patagonia Argentina. He likes to cook for them with fire in the wilderness and go camping when is possible.

He speaks fluently Spanish, Italian and English.

Gary Miller - Expedition Guide



Gary's love of the polar regions began over 40 years ago when he studied polar bears in Churchill, Manitoba for his MA in Zoology.

He also studied bowhead whales and gray whales in Alaska and Mexico, and then desert bighorn sheep in Arizona for a PhD in Ecology.

His life moved south when in 1986 he began research on Antarctic penguins and skuas. Starting with 6 summers of research on Ross Island, deep in the Ross Sea, he has visited Antarctica in 31 of the past 34 years - including 10 summers and a winter at research stations studying South Polar Skuas and Adélie, Gentoo, Chinstrap, Royal, King and Emperor Penguins.

For the past 25 years Gary has joined ship-based tours where he enjoys sharing his knowledge, enthusiasm and experience with passengers from all over the world. In that time his trips include 6 tours through the Ross Sea and other parts of East Antarctica.

Gary is one of the most experienced naturalist/guides working today.

Tennessee Blackmore – Expedition Guide



From the UK, Tennessee is a historian and expedition specialist with an infectious enthusiasm for the human history of the Southern Ocean. He is an elected Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and Royal Anthropological Institute.

Tennessee began his career expeditions aged 18 in the sweltering rainforests of Borneo and remote outposts in the Himalayas before finally heeding a lifelong call South in the footsteps of great polar pioneers.

He is presently writing the first dedicated biography of Sir James Clark Ross, a project Tennessee began in 2017. This new biography tells the stranger-than-fiction career of arguably Britain's greatest polar explorer and investigates the critical influence of Inuit culture on Ross's successful polar endeavours.

Having been greatly inspired by tales from the heroic age of exploration, Tennessee is deeply fascinated by the personalities and character dynamics behind the iconic figures of the era.

Aside from polar exploration history, Tennessee has worked on a range of projects as a historical consultant specialising in the Falklands War. He recently conducted year-long research on the Falklands Air War, interviewing over twenty-five British and Argentinian veterans.

Having worked in Polar Tourism since 2018, his greatest passion is connecting people with tales of endurance and misadventure in the places those stories unfolded.

Vide Brandt - Expedition Guide



As long as he can remember Vide has been fascinated with the remote regions of the world, and the polar regions in particular.

The first time he disembarked the airplane in Ny-Alesund on Svalbard in 2001, he felt home. After several more visits to his family that resides there, he purchased a one-way ticket in 2007 and decided to call the high arctic home. He will live there forever.

Photography, camping and hiking are his great hobbies. Polar wildlife and history are his great obsessions. After

spending all his free time out in the Arctic wilderness for over 7 years he took the natural decision to enter the guiding & expeditions business.

Working for several years in the field he has been a leading guide on long snowmobile tours, ice caving trips, and various RIB operations in west Spitsbergen. Many months have been spent as a polar bear guard, and fieldworker on natural history documentary productions. After spending a few northern autumns& winters operating dive boats on diving expeditions with Killer Whales he started dreaming of the great Southern Ocean, and the frozen continent.

Being a Svalbard resident, he is fully immersed in the Arctic lifestyle. Workdays and days off are spent relatively similar in the great outdoors, on snow and sea ice during the winter and at sea or in the mountains during the summer. Periods without work are generally spent in a canoe or hiking in the great forests of Scandinavia. Polar bug or not, he still loves green trees.

By luck & fate he was granted the privilege of joining the Oceanwide Expeditions team in Antarctica in 2019. You will find him working as a generalist lecturer, often in the camping team and of course as a zodiac driver and purely as a Polar Guide.

Michael Donoghue – Expedition Guide



Michael began his career with the Royal Marine Commandos at 18 where he served all over the world. His deployments were in some of the most hostile and extreme conditions, from the Jungles to the Arctic where he taught as a Military ski instructor.

After leaving the Marines, he travelled extensively through Central America, Australia, New Zealand and Asia. His thirst for travel continued as he later became involved in the Yachting industry working as an Engineer. He has worked on a variety of sailing and motor vessels as well as being based ashore.

Aside from his time with the yachting industry, he co-established a charity for young, disadvantaged persons, and served as a mountain Trekking and Outdoor Activities Guide. In his spare time he can be found in the mountains (having completed his Mountain Leaders Training), climbing, hiking and most recently in the winters skiing and Ice climbing. Fitness is a very important part of his life, and he loves to run, cycle and open water swimming.

Bill Smith - Expedition Guide



“Super Bill” as described by his colleagues and clients, is a fun-loving outdoor pursuits enthusiast, cartoonist and former Head of Art and Design Education at Ellon Academy Aberdeenshire.

Bill joined Oceanwide Expeditions as a guide when Plancius was built and over the last few years has become addicted to the Polar Regions.

He has 58 years’ experience of Art and Design Education and Design for Industry. Plus 58 years leading and instructing a range of outdoor pursuits.

Bill delights in producing humorous cartoon logs of each trip and operates as an Artist / Designer / Illustrator / Cartoonist

Aside from his artistic commitments Bill is qualified instructor in a range of Royal Yachting Association disciplines including sailing, windsurfing and powerboating. He is also a British Canoe Union Open Canoe Instructor and British Caving Association Local Cave leader. He is a safety expert in these fields.

During the winter at home Bill is a National Patroller for the British Association of Ski Patrollers and in addition is a member of Member of the Federation Internationale de Patrolles De Ski.

As Bill lives in the North-west of Scotland he is President of Lochinver Highland Games Committee and former Chieftain Assynt Highland Games.

Bill is an Honorary Member Assynt Crofters Trust and recently awarded Honorary Lifetime Guardian of Island of South Georgia.

Jerry Sutton - Dive Team Leader



Jerry grew up running around the country side, reading Tintin & Famous Five and watching Jacques Cousteau on the TV, all of which spawned a taste for outdoor adventure.

University was the springboard into many activities that involved leaving the safety net of modern society, and he's is just as happy rummaging through a wreck, squeezing through a cave, scaling a mountain cliff or jumping out of a perfectly serviceable airplane.

In real life, when not guiding, Jerry is an engineer with the oil and gas industry, living in the granite city of Aberdeen.

Always hankering for adventure and something a bit different, a love for extremes has lead from bug infested rain forests, to the high dry deserts, and on to the ice of the polar regions.

Jerry has also been lucky enough to work on several expeditions over the years. He has built bridges & cut trails in the Bornean rain forests, carried out coral reef surveys in the South China Sea, and worked directly and indirectly with the BBC natural History Unit in such things as trekking in search of various seeds & plants in Borneo, fixing ropes, platforms and cameramen into the forest canopy whilst filming the elusive mandrill in Gabon, or ice diving with the Frozen Planet 2 team.

Jerry has taught scuba diving since university, just for fun, and holds instructor ratings through the British Sub Aqua Club across many diving related activities.

Diving has led to many interesting activities from hacking through solid ice, to supervising music videos and even snorting vodka in remote Scottish bars with well-known TV personalities.

Back at home, Jerry has a young family who in no way take the constant wish to leave home personally (yet!).

Lorenzo Begaud – Dive Guide



Lorenzo grew up in France far from the sea in the Champagne region. In 2012 he went to Patagonia on his first adventure to work in a local tour operator guiding hikes & kayak trips in Puerto Natales, Chile, gateway to the famous Torres del Paine National Park.

That was an eye opening experience and ever since, he never stop traveling and exploring new places.

He has been working all over the world for the past 10 years, from Africa to Antarctica, through South, Central & North America, Australia, and all around the Nordic countries.

His biggest appeal ? Meeting new people, blending into new culture & lifestyle but also going to remote places to enjoy a “simpler” life. Going out of his comfort zone and learning new things is what keeps him going.

Few years ago he turned his passions into work and decided to dedicate himself full time to outdoor activities by leading people to experience the beauty of the wilderness.

After hard work and plenty of trainings he became really comfortable above and under the water as he works now mostly as dive & kayak guide / instructor.

From leading snowmobile trips and northern lights hunts in Lapland to dive in the Sac Actun cave system in the Yucatan Peninsula, Mexico, he’s sure always eager to learn something new.

Life is a journey and you should make sure you make the best of it while having plenty fun on the way.

Arne Mogstad - Dive guide



Arne is a passionate diver, fascinated by exploration and adventure. He lives in Northern Norway, above the arctic circle. He mostly dives in Scandinavian waters, which means cold and dark conditions, and has never dived without a drysuit. Being a certified trimix, rebreather and cave diver, one of his favorite places to dive is in the Plura Valley, a local arctic cave, with water between 1 and 5 degrees. He is also involved in cave exploration and mapping projects together with a team of international cave divers.

Diving is not his only passion. Arne loves to be outdoors in nature. He has been actively climbing since the age of 16, in every condition, both on ice and rock. His personal favorite is climbing long multi-pitch ice climbing routes, with the possibility to ski back down the mountain. He has been part of the Norwegian Alpine Rescue Group since 2012 and spent several hundred nights camping outdoors in sub-zero temperatures.

Being Norwegian, he believes in the old Norwegian saying, that there is no such thing as bad weather, only bad clothing. This is a necessary mentality if you want to be outdoors a lot in the arctic.

He recently bought a 40 foot aluminum expedition sailing yacht and is learning to sail it, to further expand the opportunities for exploration and new challenges. So far he's crossed the North Sea and spent last winter living aboard while sailing Northern Norway looking for whales.

In his daily life, Arne works at the hospital as a Certified Registered Nurse of Anesthesia.

Duncan McGregor – Dive Guide



Duncan is a BSAC instructor and TDI technical diver, qualified on both open circuit and rebreather set ups, who loves exploring different under water environments, and teaching diving to new divers and more experienced divers alike. mostly in the cold waters around Scotland. He has a BSc honours degree in Geology and petroleum geology but has never pursued a career in that field preferring to work outside as a gardener then as boat crew and dive guide. When at Aberdeen university and for many years after he instructed for the university dive club also building experience driving ribs and running trips.

Although Duncan's time working as a diving crewman on a Scapa Flow dive boat has fuelled his love of wreck diving and allowed him to develop his technical abilities, his primary passion has remained with instructing and dive guiding, taking great pleasure from helping others to get the same enjoyment from the sport as himself.

When not diving, Duncan likes to spend time in the wilderness climbing hills and mountains enjoying the challenge and the wildlife, preferring the snowy environments available during the Scottish winter. He looks forward to meeting new people and helping them to enjoy the spectacular sites around Antarctica.



DAILY PROGRAM

Welcome aboard!

Antarctica - Deep South Discovery Voyage

20th March 2023

Day 1 – Embarkation, Ushuaia

Please settle into your cabins and check that you have received all your luggage!

IF YOU HAVE LUGGAGE MISSING, OR YOU HAVE LUGGAGE THAT DOES NOT BELONG TO YOU, PLEASE ADVISE RECEPTION IMMEDIATELY.

Tea & coffee are available in the Bar located on Deck 6.

PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 17:00+/- As soon as we have everyone onboard, there will be a **MANDATORY** ship safety briefing in the Lecture Room (Deck 3 forward).
After the briefing, please return to your cabin and await the sounding of the emergency alarm. Upon hearing the alarm proceed to your **MUSTER STATION** with your life vest in hand. Please check your cabin key card to see which station you are assigned to. If you are in **Lifeboat 1** you muster in the Bar (Deck 6). If you are in **Lifeboat 2** you muster in the Restaurant (Deck 4).
- 18:00+/- Please join the Hotel Manager and Expedition Leader in the Lecture Room for welcome and ship orientation briefings (Deck 3, forward).
- 19:00 Please join us in the Bar to meet the Expedition Team. This will be followed by **Captain's Cocktail**, a toast to the forthcoming voyage.
- 19:30 Buffet dinner in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 20:45 There will be a **MANDATORY** briefing in the Lecture Room for all guests on Antarctic Visitor Guidelines and Zodiac operations.

*Tonight, we leave the shelter of the Beagle Channel and enter open ocean. Take your seasick prevention measures before you go to bed. Make sure that all your belongings are put away safely and that doors and drawers in your cabin are securely closed. Take your time when moving around, and always have one hand available to hold on.
Keep your fingers out of door frames!*



DAILY PROGRAM

Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

21st March 2023

Day 2 – Crossing the Drake Passage

- 0745 **Wake-up call** – Good morning!
- 0800-0900 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (Deck 4)
- 0915 **Lecture:** Gary invites you in the **bar** (Deck 6) for his lecture about the fascinating birds of the Southern Ocean.
- 1115 **Lecture:** Join Chloe in the **bar** (Deck 6) to get a general introduction about cetaceans and learn how to recognise the species we might encountered during our journey.
- 1230-1330 **Buffet lunch** is served in the **dining room**. (Deck 4)
- 1400 **Divers** please meet Jerry and his dive team in the **lecture hall** (Deck 3) for your mandatory dive introduction and briefing.
- 1500 **Boot:** We will call you by deck to collect your boots in the **lecture Hall** (Deck3). If you are unable to attend, a spouse or friend may collect it for you
- *Please listen for announcements.*
- 1615 **Lecture:** Please join Tennessee in the **bar** (Deck 6) for the captivating story of James Cook's Second Voyage of Discovery.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (Deck 4). Bon Appetit!

***Take extreme care when moving around the ship, never rush.
Always keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship.
Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames.***

Let us probe the silent places, let us seek what luck betide us.
Let us journey to a lonely land I know.
There's a whisper on the night-wind, there's a star agleam to guide us,
And the Wild is calling, calling . . . let us go.

- from "The Call of The Wild" by Robert Service.



Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

22nd March 2023
Day 3 – Crossing the Drake Passage

Sunrise: 0737
Sunset: 1940

0745 **Wake-up call.** Good morning!

Please find out in which group you belong to on the white board at the reception. If you wish to make any change, please contact one of the staff or the reception before 12.00.
If you still have issue with your rental gear, please contact one of the staff members as soon as possible.

0800-0900 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).

0915 **Biosecurity:** We will call you by deck to the **lecture hall** (deck 3) to complete our biosecurity cleaning. Please bring your outerwear, backpack, and muck boots. *Please listen for announcements.*

1130 **Lecture:** Please join **Vide** at the **bar** (deck 6) for his lecture on the **Antarctic treaty** and the **dream of mining** on the white continent.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **dining room**.

1615 **Lecture:** Please join **Gary** at the **bar** (deck 6) for a lecture exploring the wonderful world of **penguins**.

1830 **Recap:** Please join the expedition team in the **bar** (deck 6) for our daily recap and briefing.

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

Walk slowly around the ship, never rush.
Keep one hand for yourself and one hand for the ship.
Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames.



DAILY PROGRAM

“I now belong to a higher cult of mortals, for I have seen the albatross.”

- *Robert Cushman Murphy.*



Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

23rd March 2023
Day 4 – Approaching Antarctica

Sunrise 0739
Sunset 1937

- 0745 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Lecture:** Please meet **Bill** in the **bar** to have a look behind the scenes of our beautiful expedition vessel, the **M/V Ortelius**. Bill will show pictures of areas passengers can't access and he will explain the logistic involve in our expedition.
- 1115 **Lecture:** Would you like to travel in in time? **Tennessee** invites you in the **bar** for his lecture about **James Clark Ross's** voyage to Antarctica.
- 1230 **Buffet lunch** is served in the **dining room** Restaurant.
- 1400 **Biosecurity.** Anyone who is yet to have their biosecurity check, please come to the **lecture hall**. Please bring your outerwear, backpack, and muck boots. *Please listen for announcements.*
- 1615 **Lecture: Chloe** will share her passion for **Plankton!** She invites you in the **bar** to learn about the incredible and truly fascinating critters drifting in our oceans.
- 1815 **Recap:** Please join the expedition team in the bar for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

Walk slowly around the ship, never rush.
Keep one hand for yourself and one hand for the ship.
Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames.

“So tomorrow we disappear into the unknown. I have no doubt that we are really on the eve of some most remarkable experiences.”

- from *THE LOST WORLD* by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.



Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

24th March 2023

Day 5 – Cuverville Island and Orne Harbour

Sunrise 0741
Sunset 1937

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

This morning we hope to offer landing and zodiac cruise at Cuverville Island – an island surrounded by panoramic Antarctic views. The team Shackleton will come to shore first whilst the team Amundsen will cruise. The teams will swap halfway through the morning on the beach. Both groups will enjoy both activities.

0800 **Divers** – Please join Jerry and his dive team at the **helideck** (deck 7).
0815 **Team Shackleton** – Please come to the **gangway** (deck 4) for a landing at Cuverville island.
0830 **Team Amundsen** – Please come to the **gangway** (deck 4) for a zodiac cruise around Cuverville Island.

1230 **Buffet lunch** is served in the **dining room**.

In the afternoon we hope to land and cruise at Orne Harbour. This will be a continental landing. The team Amundsen will come to shore first whilst the team Shackleton will cruise. The teams will swap halfway through the afternoon on the beach. Both groups will enjoy both activities.

1345 **Divers:** Please join Jerry and his dive team by the diving zodiacs.
1345 **Team Amundsen** - Please come to the **gangway** (deck 4) for a landing at Orne Harbour.
1400 **Team Shackleton** - Please come to the **gangway** (deck 4) for a zodiac cruise

In the evening we will be passing through the Errera channel, a beautiful narrow channel with fantastic Antarctic sceneries.

1915 **Recap:** Please join the expedition team in the **bar** for a short briefing about tomorrow's program.
1930 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

*“One must never be in haste to end a day; there are too few of them in a lifetime.”
- Sir Francis Drake*

Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

25th March 2023

Day 6 – Lemaire Channel, Port Charcot, Grandidier Channel and Crystal Sound

Sunrise 0743
Sunset 1932

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

This morning we hope to transit through the spectacular Lemaire Channel. Many photographers describe this channel as the "Kodak Gap".

0700 We will pass **Una's Peaks**.

0730 We begin our transit of **Lemaire Channel**.

0730 Buffet **Breakfast** is served in the dining room. **Bon Appetit!**

This morning we aim to land and Zodiac cruise at Port Charcot. On land, we will enjoy penguins and spectacular views, whilst in the Zodiacs we cruise amongst icebergs in search of wildlife.

0830 **Divers** – Please meet Jerry and his dive team.

0830 **Team Shackleton** – Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Port Charcot.

0845 **Team Amundsen** – Please come to the **gangway** for a Zodiac cruise in Salpetriere Bay.

PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS, AS TIMINGS MAY NEED TO BE ADJUSTED.

1230 **Buffet lunch** is served in the **dining room**.

In the afternoon we will continue our journey south through Grandidier Channel and Crystal Sound. Join the Expedition Team on the bridge and outer decks to look for wildlife.

1615 **Lecture:** Gary invites you to the **bar** for a refreshing lecture about **Icebergs**.

1815 **Recap:** Please join the expedition team in the **bar** for our daily recap and briefing on our plans for tomorrow.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

"I tell you deliverance will not come from the rushing, noisy centres of civilisation. It will come from lonely places! The great reformers of history have come from the wilderness".

-Fritjof Nansen

Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

26th March 2023

Day 7 – Expedition Morning & Horseshoe Island.

+/- 0000 **Antarctic Circle Crossing!** Captain Per Andersson invite you for sparkling wine on the bridge to celebrate our crossing.

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

Expedition morning! We will be navigating toward Margarite Bay. This large Bay was discovered in 1909 by the French Antarctic Expedition under Jean Baptise Charcot, who named it after his wife. Our progress will depend on the ice conditions. If progress is good, they may be an opportunity for a short landing in the morning. Please be flexible and listen for announcement.

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

In the afternoon we hope to offer a landing at Horseshoes Island. We aim to visit the historic British base “Y”, a time capsule of life and science of the late 1950s and hikes to different viewpoint on the Island. Time of arrival will depend on our progress. Please listen for announcement. We will call you by group, 10 minutes apart, only to avoid cluster at the gangway.

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

TBA* **Team Shackleton** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing in Horseshoe Island.

TBA* **Team Amundsen** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing in Horseshoe Island.

1830 **Recap:** Please join the expedition team in the **bar** for our daily recap and tomorrow’s program.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

2030 A service of reflection and thanksgiving will take place in the Lecture Room with fellow guest Lee Punke. Everyone welcome.

*“At the farthest end of the world, you can hear the noise of the rising sun.”
- Tacitus.*

*TBA = To Be Announced

Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

27th March 2023

Day 8 – Red Rock Ridge & Stonington Island.

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

*This morning we hope to offer a landing at Red Rock Ridge, a conspicuous, reddish-coloured ridge which rises to 690m.
This will be our southernmost location of the voyage.*

0900 **Divers** - Please join Jerry and his dive team.
0900 **Team Amundsen** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Red Rock Ridge.
0915 **Team Shackleton** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Red Rock Ridge.
1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dinning room**.

In the afternoon we hope to offer a landing at Stonington Island. This Island was chosen as the site for the East Base of the United Sates Antarctic Survey expedition (1939- 41). It was name after Stonington, Connecticut, home port of the sloop Hero in which captain Nathaniel Palme sighted the Antarctic continent in 1820.

1400 **Team Shackleton** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Stonington Island.
1415 **Team Amundsen** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Stonington Island.
1815 **Recap:** Please join the expedition team in the **bar** for our daily recap and tomorrow's program.
1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

*"Life is either a daring adventure, or nothing at all."
- Helen Keller.*



Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

28th March 2023
Day 9 – Jenny Island & The Gullet .

Sunrise 0748
Sunset 1925

0715 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
0730 **Breakfast** is served in the dining room. **Bon Appetit!**

Expedition morning! This morning we hope to offer a landing at Jenny Island, Jenny Island is a rocky island which rises to 500m. The island was discovered by the French Antarctic Expedition (1908-1910) under Jean-Baptiste Charcot and named by him for the wife of Sub-Lieutenant Maurice Bongrain, French Navy, second officer of the expedition.

0930 **Divers** - Please join Jerry and his dive team.
0930 **Team Shackleton** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Jenny Island.
0945 **Team Amundsen** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Jenny Island.

1245 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

In the afternoon we hope to ship cruise the Gullet. This scenically stunning channel runs between the southern edge of Hansen Island and Adelaide Island, offering dramatic scenery and the chance of iconic wildlife. The islands will dwarf the ship as we pass through it.

1815 **Recap:** Please join the expedition team in the **bar** for our daily recap and tomorrow's program.
1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

*"In memories we were rich. We had pierced the veneer of outside things. We had suffered, starved, and triumphed, groveled yet grasped at glory, grown bigger in bigness of the whole. We had seen God in his splendor, heard the text that nature renders. We had reached the naked soul of man."
- Sir Ernest Shackleton.*

Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

29th March 2023

Day 10 –Lemaire Channel & Damoy Point .

Sunrise 0750
Sunset 1923

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

After breakfast we hope to transit through the spectacular Lemaire channel. We thus encourage you to enjoy the towering glaciers and wildlife from the outer deck of Ortelius.

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

In the afternoon we hope to land at Damoy Point. Here we aim to enjoy a long walk and stunning Antarctic scenery. In addition, we hope to visit a well-preserved hut containing scientific equipment and other artifacts It was built in 1973 and used for several years as a British summer air facility and transit station for scientific personnel. It was last occupied in 1993.

1330 **Team Amundsen** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Damoy Point.

1345 **Team Shackleton** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Damoy Point.

After our landing we aim to sail through the Neumayer channel, a narrow channel known for its majestic cliffs and shaped like an S, which can make us feel like we are in a maze.

1830 **A special Antarctic Dinner** will take place on the helideck – Dress warmly

*“Nature is the one place where miracles not only happen but happen all the time.”
- Thomas Wolfe (1900 - 1938) - American novelist.*



Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

30th March 2023
Day 11 – Deception Island

Sunrise 0748
Sunset 1921

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

After breakfast we hope to transit through the Neptune's Bellows into Deception Island. Neptune's Bellows are just 230 metres (755 feet) wide. It requires precision navigation because Ravn Rock lies submerged in the middle of the channel.

This morning we hope to land in Telefon Bay in Deception Island. This Island is the caldera of an active volcano and previously held one of the largest whaling stations.

0915 **Team Shackleton** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Telefon Bay.
0930 **Team Amundsen** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Telefon Bay.

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

After lunch we will ship cruise whaler's bay, an abandoned whaling station and British research facility located near the entrance to Deception Island. Then we will exit through Neptune bellow's.

1615 **Lecture: Chloe** will (finally!) share her passion for **Plankton!** She invites you in the **bar** to learn about the incredible and truly fascinating critters drifting in our oceans.

1815 **Recap:** Please join the expedition team in the bar for our daily recap.
1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.

Walk slowly around the ship, never rush.
Keep one hand for yourself and one hand for the ship.
Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames

*"Antarctica left a restless longing in my heart, beckoning towards an incomprehensible perfection forever beyond the reach of mortal man.
It's overwhelming beauty touches one so deeply that it is like a wound."
- from BEYOND THE FROZEN SEA by Edwin Mickleburgh.*



DAILY PROGRAM

Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

31st March 2023

Day 12 – Crossing the Drake Passage

- 0745 **No Wake-up call.**
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Lecture:** Please meet **Vide** in the **bar** for his lecture about the dangerous race for the South pole between Roald Amundsen and Robert Falcon Scott.
- 1115 **Lecture:** Please join **Bill** at the **bar** for his lecture on the painting of the sea.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the **dining room**.
- 1345 **Boots, rental gear, and life jacket collection:** We will call you deck by deck to return your muck boots, your life jacket, and any rental gear to the **lecture hall** (deck 3). Please ensure your rubber boots are clean before returning them.
- 1615 **Lecture:** Please join **Alan** in the **bar** to his lecture about sledge dogs: the unsung heroes of antarctica exploration.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!
- 2030 **Happy hours!** Enjoy a **half price drink** at the **bar** while **Tennessee** tells the story of **Shackleton and the Endurance**.

***Take extreme care when moving around the ship, never rush.
Always keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship.
Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames.***

At length did cross an Albatross, Thorough the fog it came,
As if it had been a Christian soul, We hailed it in God's name.

- from *THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER* by Samuel Taylor-Coleridge.



DAILY PROGRAM

Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

01st April 2023

Day 13 – Crossing the Drake Passage

No Wake-up call.

- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Lecture:** Please meet **Tennessee** in the **bar** for his lecture about the French and the Belgium Antarctic expedition:” Exploring with taste”.
- 1115 **Lecture:** Please join **Alexis** at the **bar** to learn about the Yámana, who were the traditional occupants of the south coast of Tierra del Fuego.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the **dining room**.
- After lunch we will be sailing pass the legendary Cape Horn! Cape Horne is the southernmost headland of the Tierra del Fuego archipelago of southern Chile and is located on the small Hornos Island.*
- TBA* **What the divers saw?** Join **Jerry and his dive team** in the **bar** to learn about the experience of our divers in Antarctica.
- 1815 **Farewell Toast & Trip Slideshow** – Please join the Captain and the expedition team for a toast to our voyage through the Southern Ocean and a slideshow of our expedition.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

***Take extreme care when moving around the ship, never rush.
Always keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship.
Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames.***

At length did cross an Albatross, Thorough the fog it came,
As if it had been a Christian soul, We hailed it in God’s name.

- from *THE RIME OF THE ANCIENT MARINER* by Samuel Taylor-Coleridge.



DAILY PROGRAM

Antarctica – Deep South Discovery Voyage

2nd April 2023

Day 14 – Disembarkation, Ushuaia

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

07:00 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining room**.

*Please place your large/check in **luggage outside your cabin** no later than **0700**. 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.*

0800 - 0900 **Disembarkation**

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.*

From all the Expedition Team and Crew on board the MV Ortelius, we wish you safe onward travels, and thank you for sharing this incredible voyage with us. We look forward to sailing with you again in the future.