



**OCEANWIDE**  
30 YEARS OF EXPEDITIONS

## Weddell Sea In Search of the Emperor Penguin

10<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023



### M/V Ortelius

M/V *Ortelius* was built in 1989 and served as a special-purpose vessel for the Russian Academy of Science named *Marina Svetaeva*. The vessel was completely rebuilt as a passenger vessel in 2019 and complies with the latest SOLAS regulations (Safety of Life at Sea). She is 90,95m long, 17.2m wide, and has a maximum draft of 5,4m. Her ice class is UL1 (Equivalent to 1A), and she sails 10,5 knots average cruising speed with a propulsion of 6 ZL 40/48 SULZER.

# Captain Remmert-Jan Koster

and his international crew

Chief Officer: **Sven Holzhausen**  
2nd Officer: **Per Martin Hansson**  
**Yaroslav Pyetukhov**  
3rd Officer: **Sander Witseburg**

Chief Engineer: **Guntis Dizbite**

Hotel Manager: **Volodymyr Cherednychenko**  
Assist. Hotel Manager: **Lilianna Van Meurs**  
Head Chef: **Heinz Hacker**

Ships Doctor: **Edwin Van Leeuwen**

Expedition Leader: **Sara Jenner**

Assist. Expedition Leader: **Chris Long**

Expedition Guide: **Claudio Ghiglione**  
**Martin Anstee**  
**Chloe Marechal**  
**Charlotte Taplin**  
**Gary Miller**  
**Werner Kruse**  
**Massimo Candolini**

Pilots: **Marcelo Lira Contreras**  
**Felipe Valenzuela**  
**Julio Cesar Arce**

Engineers: **Fernando Silva Soto**  
**Mario Solano**  
**Jose Mansilla Vivar**

# Day 1 – 10<sup>th</sup> November

## Ushuaia - Embarkation Day

**12:00 GPS Position:** 54°48.561'S / 068 18.070'W

**Wind:** NW 3, **Sea State:** Rippled, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** 14°C, **Sea Temp:** 8°C



Today was the start of something amazing: the start of an expedition to the Weddell Sea in search of the Emperor Penguin at Snow Hill Island. This is where the most northerly Emperor Penguin colony exists, and it is where we will be going once we leave the port of Ushuaia.

The 77 guests embarked on Ortelius at 14:00 with smiling faces and excited hearts. Sara the Expedition Leader started with a safety briefing followed by a safety drill where everyone donned their big life vests and went to the lifeboat station. This was shortly

followed by the captain's cocktail with the Expedition Team eagerly handing out sparkling wine and canapés to welcome us all on board. While we were cruising through the Beagle Channel, Captain Remmert toasted to a safe and fantastic voyage. It had begun, and we were off! We were all introduced to the Expedition Team, nine of them all from different walks of life, with an array of knowledge and experience on birds, whales, photography, and microorganisms.

That night there was a buffet dinner in the restaurant, and there was everything you could possibly want to eat. This is going to be a good voyage! We joined in the bar and chatted away as the ship slowly moved farther into the notorious Drake Passage, a body of water 620 miles (820 km) wide, with some of the roughest seas in the world.



## Day 2 – 11<sup>th</sup> November

### At Sea towards Antarctica

**12:00 GPS Position:** 60°55.1'S / 058°21.1'W

**Wind:** N6, **Sea State:** Moderate, **Weather:** Clear, **Air Temp:** 0.7°C, **Sea Temp:** 3°C



Waking up to Sara calling us for breakfast was a welcome relief after the hectic days of travelling to get to Ushuaia. As I lay in bed feeling the gentle rocking of the ship, I thought to myself how lucky we were to have such an easy Drake Passage on our first full day. We had a busy day ahead of us, so it was time to get up and get ready for all the activities.

First on the agenda for the Expedition Team was to spend an hour on the bridge watching for wildlife. The sailor on watch let me know that he already spotted a Minke whale earlier this morning, so I set in to record some of the many birds circling the ship. For most of the day, the most common species was the Black-browed albatross. They were joined by a much larger Wandering Albatross and a Southern Royal Albatross. There was a constant squadron of Cape Petrels and Southern Giant Petrels swirling around the ship. Over the day, we also spotted a few other species of birds to add to our wildlife list. To get everyone in the wildlife mood, Martin gave us a brilliant talk on identifying many of the birds we will be seeing along the way in the Drake Passage. No penguins yet, but all the likely flying birds along our crossing.

After a delicious buffet lunch, things started to get serious. We all met for mandatory briefings to prepare us for our upcoming adventure. First there was a video and briefing about IAATO rules for visiting wildlife, then Sara prepared us for getting in and out of the Zodiacs when we go to shore. This was followed closely by a video safety briefing for the helicopters and some additional explanation. We're nearly ready for the big days to come! Tomorrow we'll go through a dry run for getting into and out of the helicopters safely.

By later in the afternoon, we were ready for something a bit lighter, and Werner



came up with just what we needed. He gave us a talk on photography to get us all thinking about how to get the most from our pictures. That brought us nearly to dinner, but first our recap. Sara started us off with a little summary about what will happen tomorrow, and what the weather should be like over the next couple days. Things are looking very good for at least one of the next few days, so anticipation is running high along with great optimism. Gary gave us some fascinating information about how seabirds use the wind to soar great distances without even so much as flapping a wing. Sara then showed us very graphically, with lengths of rope, just how big the wingspan of the seabirds we've seen around the ship all day is. Very impressive. It's hard to imagine those birds can be that large.

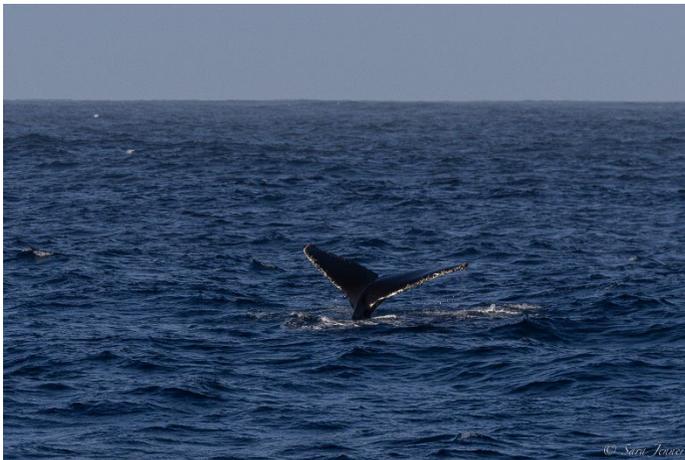
That took us to dinner. Tonight there was nothing scheduled after dinner, so most of our group spent a little time at the bar for a quiet nightcap or headed directly to our cabins for another peaceful rocking sleep as we continued to make progress across the Drake Passage.

## Day 3 – 12<sup>th</sup> November

### At Sea towards Antarctica

**12:00 GPS Position:** 60°55.1'S / 058°21.1'W

**Wind:** N 6, **Sea State:** Moderate, **Weather:** Clear, **Air Temp:** 0.7°C, **Sea Temp:** 1°C



Sara roused us from our slumber earlier than expected, announcing the sighting of Fin Whales near the ship. Watching outside in anticipation, we were treated to the majestic sight of blows in the distance. The weather was sunny, and the normally turbulent Drake Passage was surprisingly tranquil. It appeared luck was on our side, granting us a serene 'Drake Lake' instead of the anticipated 'Drake Shake'. Following a hearty

breakfast, Charlotte delighted us with a lecture on the whales of the Southern Ocean. This ocean, acting as a vital feeding ground for these magnificent marine creatures, provides an ample supply of food, including krill. Following this enlightening session, Gary took the stage with a lecture on ice. Antarctica is home to the largest ice sheet on Earth, holding approximately 70% of the world's fresh water. While Gary later provided a comprehensive explanation of ice--its formation and the reasons behind its blue hue--in the afternoon, we underwent a biosecurity check and helicopter drill.

The IAATO biosecurity procedures took place in the lecture room on Deck 3, where we prepared our outer garments, bags, and boots. Pocket vacuuming and velcro cleaning with a paper clip were necessary precautions to prevent the inadvertent introduction of alien seeds, pests, or diseases to the pristine white continent. The helicopter drill was organized by group at the bar. Clad in warm attire, mimicking a flight to Snow Hill, we endured the challenge of waiting with layers of clothing making us overly warm. Upon the call, we made our way to the helideck, where our pilots briefed us on procedures: door opening, embarking, and fastening seatbelts. Inside the helicopter, we felt the confined space of the helicopter, preparing us for the adventure ahead. The evening brought our daily recap, where Sara outlined the plan for the following day. Our arrival in Antarctica was close, with hopes of a first landing at Hope Bay near Esperanza Station.

## Day 4 – 13<sup>th</sup> November

### Hope Bay and Brown Bluff

**12:00 GPS Position:** 63°24.5'S / 057°01.8'W

**Wind:** NNW 6, **Sea State:** Slight, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** 1°C, **Sea Temp:** 1°C



We woke this morning to ice. We had travelled overnight into the Antarctic Sound and had arrived at Hope Bay. It was a wonderful snowy scene, everywhere around us turned black and white, with the snow complementing the dark bare rock. The expedition team were already out scouting the landing site as we got up. The landing site was currently too dangerous to land, so it was time for a leisurely breakfast followed by a very interesting lecture from Sara about Penguins with some

fantastic photographs.

Meanwhile, the rest of the expedition team were back out to the landing site. This time the tide had dropped, exposing some beach and making the landing possible. The team spent the next 30 minutes preparing the landing site for us, cutting steps into the ice and preparing a circular route taking in some great views. Following Sara's excellent lecture, we all got dressed in our finest winter gear and stepped out for our first Zodiac ride and our first steps on Antarctic soil: actually rocks and snow!

We arrived on land at Hope Bay and were greeted by the Expedition Team and large numbers of Adelie Penguins and a few Gentoo penguins for comparison. We spent the next two hours being entertained by the penguins, walking through the pristine snow and enjoying some fresh air. We watched the antics of the Penguins, carrying stones, squabbling over the best nest sites and Brown Skua's trying to harass the nesting Penguins, trying their luck at stealing any newly laid eggs. Of course, time went too quickly and before we knew it was time to go back to the ship. It was time to warm up, dry off and have a well-deserved lunch.



After another great lunch, it was time to relax and watch the scenery, there were some spectacular tabular icebergs, the clouds forming great skylscapes. We then had the news that we had arrived at Brown Bluff, huge red brown cliffs formed from volcanic action, home to thousands of Adelie and Gentoo Penguins. Excitingly we were offered a Zodiac cruise! Loading from the gangway onto the Zodiacs was quick and efficient, and we cruised around icebergs and along the beach at Brown Bluff. Adelie and Gentoo Penguins, Antarctic Shag, Kelp Gulls, and a Wilsons Storm Petrel were the highlights of the trip, not forgetting the jaw-dropping scenery.

Most of us had gotten wet from the spray during the cruise, so it was some relief, to some, to get back on board Ortelius. Following a very informative (Sara and Massimo) and entertaining recap from Gary, it was time for another sumptuous dinner, followed by time to relax either outside in the sunshine or in the bar chatting to fellow guests. A great day in Antarctica!

## Day 5 – 14<sup>th</sup> November

### Snowhill Island

**12:00 GPS Position:** 64°37.5'S / 057°21.4'W

**Wind:** S 2, **Sea State:** Rippled, **Weather:** Clear, **Air Temp:** 3°C, **Sea Temp:** 0°C



For a few hardy souls, the day started at 0300. We were still motoring down through the northern Weddell Sea, past Seymour Island, then along Snow Hill Island. The dawn was coming early, so a few decided to watch our approach. For most, the day started when Sara called over the PA that we were along the ice edge and there were many Emperor penguins along the ice to see. That got most out of their cabins and onto the

decks. It was an absolutely beautiful calm sunny day. Everyone started the day on the decks watching Emperor penguins--the keen observers also spotted a couple Crabeater Seals and a Leopard Seal in the distance on the ice as well. With a bit of diligent scanning, it turned out there were dozens of Emperor Penguins scattered in small groups all around the ice. We were right up against a big expanse of fast ice that extended for a good distance north and south and all the way to Snow Hill Island and beyond it turned out later.

At 09:30 Gary gave a talk on the life of emperor penguins and had everyone enthralled until he was upstaged by a dozen or so real penguins on the ice right next to the ship. Everyone streamed out onto the decks again for a good half hour of penguin watching. Eventually the penguins wandered off toward the colony in the distance, and Gary was able to finish his lecture. It was the perfect primer for the day though. About 11:30,



the first helicopter went out to scout the location and decide where to set up camp. It took two helicopter loads of equipment and about two hours to get everything prepared, so at 13:30, passengers started heading out to the colony.

It was still bright and sunny (not the most preferred weather for polar photography, but hard to beat for those just wanting a premier experience). As the day wore on, nearly everyone was able to walk the kilometre or so to visit one large group of the Snow Hill Emperor Penguin colony. First spotted in 1997, it was the 44<sup>th</sup> colony discovered of the 54 colonies now known. Today there were at least seven separate large groups within sight of each other. Many penguins were slowly waddling between the different groups as well as curiously stopping along our track to gawk at us walking along. Just who is watching whom here?



At the colony, there were loads of chicks standing, lying, sleeping amongst many of the adults. Some spotted a chick or two get fed by one of its parents, but everyone was held in awe as they finally got to see the largest penguins. It was a 20-minute walk each way to where the colony was, so everyone got a little less than a full hour at the colony,

but most did a splendid job of respecting their time limit and heading back along the track to the helicopter landing site. The whole experience was remarkable, just to be out walking around on sea ice dotted with icebergs. Such an otherworldly environment is a privilege to experience.

It took most of the day, but by the time everyone was back on board, the bar was abuzz with happy people sharing their excitement. Dinner was buffet style to accommodate the fact that several people were still away from the ship when it actually started, but with a short recap about tomorrow the only other business was downloading pictures and charging camera batteries for another sortie tomorrow. That's right, the word is that as long as the weather holds, we are on again! That announcement sent a new wave of excitement through the crowd in the bar. In reality, the partying didn't go on too long because the excitement of the helicopter ride and emperors wore everyone out. So most retired early to rest up, no doubt dreaming of fluffy Emperor Penguin chicks and their stately parents out on the ice.

## Day 6 – 15th November

### Snowhill Island

**12:00 GPS Position:** 64°39.2'S / 057°24.2'W

**Wind:** E 3, **Sea State:** Calm, **Weather:** Partly Cloudy, **Air Temp:** 0°C, **Sea Temp:** 0°C



While the Ortelius team prepared for our landing on the sea ice, Chloe treated us to an enthusiastic lecture on plankton. We delved into the world of beautiful diatoms, the intriguing sea angel, and, of course, the crucial krill. In Antarctica, the krill plays a pivotal role as a keystone species, serving as the primary food source for much of the life on this pristine continent.

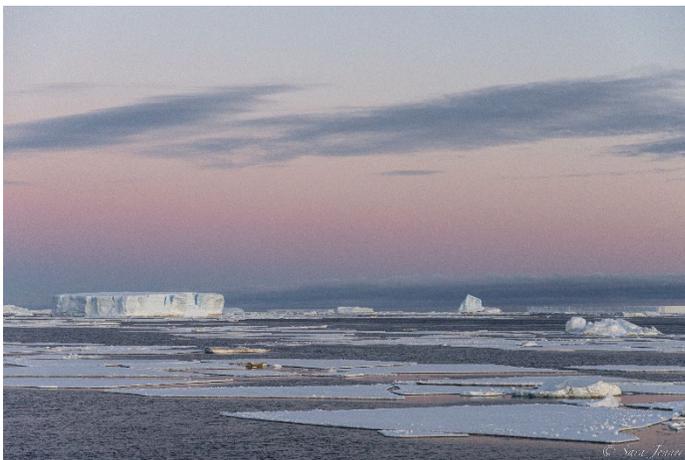
Shortly after the enlightening lecture, our attention turned to the much-

anticipated visit to the emperor penguin colony. As our group was summoned through the PA system, we adorned ourselves in our warmest attire and life jackets, gathering in the bar, which doubled as a waiting room before our embarkation.



When our turn finally arrived, we boarded the helicopter, which gracefully flew us near the colony. The experience of soaring over the vast sea ice in Antarctica was nothing short of fabulous. En route, we admired icebergs, spotted seals, and observed emperors making their way towards the sea. It was an enchanting and truly magical experience. Upon landing, we were pleasantly surprised to learn that Sara had allocated an extended 2.5-hour landing time, even longer than the previous day. We felt incredibly fortunate.

Following a phenomenal walk on the sea ice amidst icebergs, we reached the colony. Watching these majestic animals and their adorable chick with their fluffy down was an absolute delight. These adorable youngsters depend on their parents for warmth and nourishment. Waddling around in small groups, the chicks communicate through vocalizations, forming bonds that



contribute to the communal nature of their icy habitat.

In the evening, we gathered for our daily recap, during which Sara presented our plan for the following day. It was another successful day, filled with memorable experiences and adventures in the Antarctic landscape.

## Day 7 – 16<sup>th</sup> November

### Gourdin Island

**12:00 GPS Position:** 63°09.2'S / 057°26.4'W

**Wind:** WNW 4, **Sea State:** Slight, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** -2°C, **Sea Temp:** 0.5°C



The day started with another wakeup call from Sara. She announced that we were now in the Bransfield Strait, having sailed overnight through the Antarctic Sound to Gourdin Island.

There were icebergs all around us, and it was snowing gently. Gourdin Island is home to over 24,000 pairs of Adelie Penguins, around 5,000 pairs of Chinstraps, and over 1,000 pairs of Gentoos. After breakfast

we headed out to the Zodiacs for a zodiac cruise. It was cold but the sea was calm, and the snow had stopped. The weather was once again very kind to us.

Heading towards the island, we could see that there were very large numbers of penguins at the colonies. The first penguins we saw up close were a couple of Chinstraps, a new species for many of us and a first for the trip! This was closely followed by Adelie's and Gentoos all at the water's edge, either leaving or preparing to enter the water. We slowly cruised around the coastline to a sheltered bay where there were many more Penguins of all three



species and a Leopard Seal resting on some ice. It was a large animal with its serpent-like body and sinister smile. Yet another amazing sight. While some were watching the Leopard Seal, others



were lucky enough to see a Cape Petrel at close quarters feeding on an Adelie carcass in the water. The poor Adelie was most probably a victim of the Leopard Seal.

We carried on manoeuvring around the ice and found a Crabeater Seal also resting on a piece of floating ice; it was unusual in that it appeared to be a molting juvenile. We were so lucky to also see a Weddell Seal that got itself out of the water to rest on rocks directly in front of us. There was wildlife everywhere and we didn't know in

which direction to look next. Do we watch the Gentoos trying to figure out how to climb an almost vertical ice wall? It was so interesting watching the thought process.

On our return to the ship, a wonderful lunch was ready of course. It was time to warm up and refresh. The ship, our home for the past week, was repositioned along the Bransfield Strait past massive icebergs. We watched a few Penguins and other seabirds on the way as we moved towards our evening position. During this time, Chris also gave a revealing lecture about his time living in the Antarctic and working on the Scott base, New Zealand's Antarctic Research Station. This was shortly followed by Claudio presenting his lecture on climate change. By late afternoon we had positioned ourselves at Duroch Island with the Chilean research base, O'Higgins Station, in view. Dinner this evening was BBQ. The crew were fantastic and had set up tables and benches outside. We had a wonderful evening eating great food, chatting and drinking in the snow. After the meal had been eaten, the tables were moved away and the music began. Sara led us into an evening of dancing and fun. At 10pm there were still some hardy folk dancing, but it was time to prepare for an early start the next morning.



## Day 8 – 17<sup>th</sup>

## November

## Deception Island and Elephant Point

**12:00 GPS Position:** 62°48.3'S / 060°37.3'W

**Wind:** ENE 5, **Sea State:** Smooth, **Weather:** Snow, **Air Temp:** -2°C, **Sea Temp:** 1°C



Well, I think there were a few people who started a bit more slowly than usual this morning—and perhaps a couple of sore heads as well. After our lovely BBQ last night, with so many dancing into the night, the 6am wakeup call came a bit early for many. But it was well worth the effort as Captain Remmert navigated the narrow Neptune’s Bellows to bring the ship into the flooded caldera of Deception Island. The already narrow

passage is made narrower by the fact that there is a rocky shoal with a shipwreck blocking about half of the passage on the western side. As we entered the Bellows, we could see a small piece of the wreckage sitting on the left-hand shore. There was even a Chinstrap Penguin colony on that western shore at the entrance. While the penguins are smart enough not to bring their colony right inside the active volcano, they still like to take advantage of the outer slopes of Deception Island to have quick access to the rich feeding grounds surrounding the island.



As we entered, we almost immediately took a hard right turn to enter Whaler’s Bay. We could immediately spot the remains of the old whaling station and some of the additional buildings that were used exclusively by the British Antarctic Survey as a research station. With the remaining snow cover and the cold stiff breeze, it seemed a particularly desolate place to think of living and working—especially for something as hard as the whaling industry. Whaler’s Bay has a long



history for Antarctica. Deception Island was one of the first places discovered in Antarctica and very soon sealers and whalers were regular visitors to the protected area in the caldera. It wasn’t until 1911 that the full-on whaling station started operations and by 1936 the whales had been hunted out of the immediate area and factory ships started to dominate the industry that Whaler’s Bay stopped

operation. About that time, the UK decided to use the facilities for a station. They built the hangar in the 1960s for aircraft doing aerial mapping up and down the peninsula. Finally, the eruption of the volcano in 1968-69 destroyed the station sufficiently that it never operated again. It was the easy beach and the (false) promise of a little thermal activity that prompted the polar plunge. Some 15-20 of our shipmates decided on taking part in the little bit of craziness and took a dip in the decidedly cold water at Whaler's Bay.

Leaving the caldera was just as serious a navigation as coming in, but having done it on the way



in it just didn't seem to have the tension of entering. Shortly after getting clear of Neptune's bellows, we had our best whale experience of the voyage. A particularly energetic Humpback Whale breaching repeatedly was the first to catch our attention, but eventually it was 3 humpbacks, 2 Fin Whales and at least 5 Orcas all in the same area off the southeast corner of Deception Island. We spent a magical pause in our navigation to view the

whales.

As we proceeded, we came to Elephant Point on Livingston Island. As our last landing, we had choppy weather at the gangway and a little surf at the beach, but what a place. We were all greeted by the visual—and olfactory—sensation of piles of elephant seals, a good-sized Gentoo Penguin colony and many Giant Petrels at a fantastic landscape. The weather made it a bit of a challenge, but the diversity of experience made it a tremendous final stop. Many of the penguins had at least one egg in their nests, the elephant seals occasionally had arguments, we even had a horny male trying his best to mate with a few of the remaining females on the beach.

Finally, though we had to leave the shore and we all got back onboard Ortelius just in time for recap and dinner. The day ended as we navigated around Low Island and into the Drake passage. Those who may have still been up would have felt the ship start its rolling and pitching late at night.



**Day 9 – 18<sup>th</sup> November**

## At sea towards Ushuaia

**12:00 GPS Position:** 60°26.3'S / 063°20.8'W

**Wind:** ENE 7, **Sea State:** Moderate, **Weather:** Cloudy, **Air Temp:** 0°C, **Sea Temp:** 2°C



Today, we commenced our journey towards Ushuaia, once again confronting the challenging waters of the Drake Passage. Although the waves measured a mere 2 meters, the boat's movement exceeded expectations due to the interplay of wind direction, swell, and wave angles. Unfortunately, some of us began to feel unwell, succumbing to seasickness. Amidst this, light mantle sooty albatross, cape petrel, and Prion gracefully circled the ship. The morning unfolded with insightful history

lectures. Martin delved into the compelling story of the HMS Terror and Erebus, robust vessels utilized in the Ross expedition—a scientific exploration of Antarctica from 1839 to 1843, led by James Clark Ross.

Following Martin, Charlotte discussed the intense race to the South Pole in 1911, where Britain's Robert Falcon Scott and Norway's Roald Amundsen launched competing expeditions. Amundsen emerged victorious, marking triumph for him and tragedy for Scott. Post-lunch, we gathered in the bar as Martin shared his adventurous tale of overwintering with Emperor penguins in Antarctica. In the evening, our final daily recap featured Sara demonstrating the size of cetaceans with a rope, Gary discussing penguin divorce rates, and Chloe presenting a recap on an unexpected Antarctic inhabitant: the water bear.

## Day 10 – 19<sup>th</sup> November

### Drake Passage

**12:00 GPS Position:** 56°10.4'S / 065°47.6'W

**Wind:** SSW 6/7, **Sea State:** Moderate, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** 2°C, **Sea Temp:** 8°C



We continued our journey through the Drake Passage as the ship rolled from left to right. We ate breakfast and afterwards slowly wandered up to the bar for Chloe's lecture on diving in Antarctica, it was fascinating to see all the sea creatures that live down here in the freezing cold, icy environment. Chris very quickly followed with an intriguing lecture on Weather forecasting. After another delicious last lunch, we all paid our bills and Sara gave us a sad lecture on

marine threats, but something we all need to be aware of! It was Captain's cocktail at 18:15. The staff dressed up and fed us sparkling wine, while Werner showed us his unbelievable slideshow of the trip. Wow, that was absolutely stunning! Lastly, we had the most fantastic 'Surf and Turf' dinner while we chatted about how magnificent the trip was.

## Day 11 – 20<sup>th</sup> November

### Disembarkation Day- Ushuaia Port

**12:00 GPS Position:** 54°48.6'S / 068°18.0'W

**Wind:** NW 3, **Sea State:** Calm, **Weather:** Cloudy, **Air Temp:** 4°C, **Sea Temp:** 8°C

The ship docked late last night, so as we woke up this morning, we looked outside the window and saw the familiar view of the beautiful mountains of Ushuaia. We finished packing our belongings and put them outside our cabins for the staff to take to the gangway. We filled up on our last free breakfast and shortly afterwards sadly said our goodbyes to the staff. What a fantastic trip it has been!

Thank you for your enthusiasm and support, but most of all for joining us on this adventurous Arctic voyage. We hope to see you again in the future, wherever that might be!

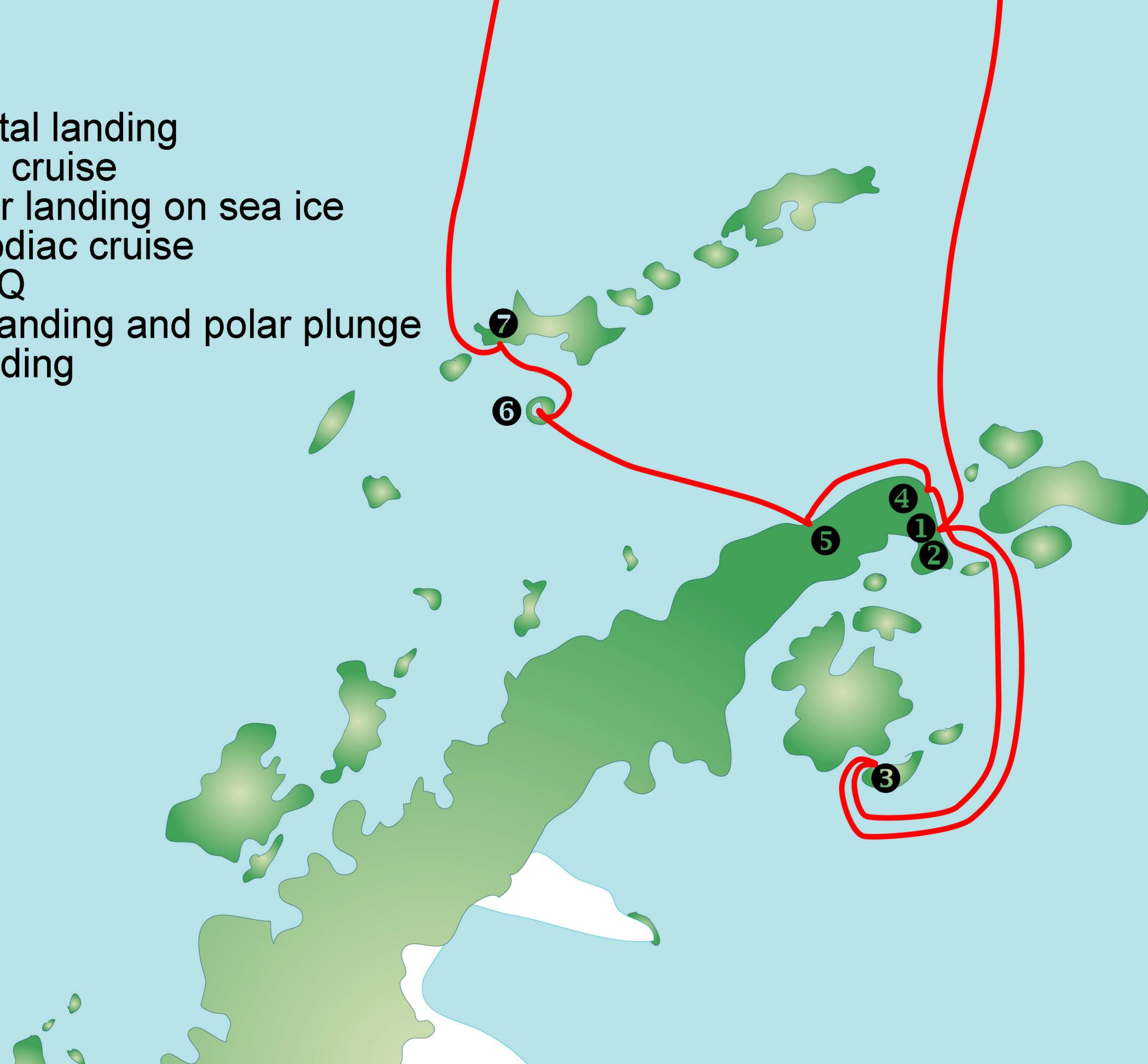
**Total distance sailed: 1686 nautical miles**

**Farthest South: 64°44.3'S / 057°22.3'W**

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Remmert-Jan Kostet Expedition Leader Sara Jenner, Hotel Manager Volodymyr Cherednychenko, all the crew, staff and pilots and engineers of M/V Ortelius, it has been a pleasure travelling with you!



- ① Hope Bay - Continental landing
- ② Brown Bluff - Zodiac cruise
- ③ Snow Hill - Helicopter landing on sea ice
- ④ Gourdin Islands - Zodiac cruise
- ⑤ Duroch Islands - BBQ
- ⑥ Deception Island - Landing and polar plunge
- ⑦ Elephant Point - Landing



BIRD AND MAMMAL LIST

Ortelius: Weddell Sea Emperors 10-20 November

BIRDS	November										
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Emperor Penguin					X	X					
King Penguin											
Gentoo Penguin				X			X	X			
Adelie Penguin				X	X	X	X				
Chinstrap Penguin							X	X			
Magellanic Penguin											
snowy Wandering Albatross		X									
Southern Royal Albatross		X								X	
Northern Royal Albatross											
Black-browed Albatross	X	X	X					X	X	X	
Grey-headed Albatross		X	X						X	X	
Light-mantled Albatross		X	X						X	X	
Cape/Pintado Petrel		X	X	X			X	X	X	X	
Antarctic Petrel											
Snow Petrel				X	X	X	X				
Southern Fulmar	X		X						X	X	
Northern Giant Petrel								X	X		
Southern Giant Petrel	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Blue Petrel		X	X						X	X	
Fairy Prion											
Slender-billed Prion											
Antarctic Prion		X	X						X	X	
White-headed Petrel											
Mottled Petrel											
soft-plumaged Petrel (dark)											
Sooty Shearwater			X								
White-chinned Petrel		X	X						X	X	
Wilson's Storm-Petrel			X	X			X	X	X	X	
Fuegian Storm-petrel											
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel			X						X	X	
Grey-backed Storm-petrel											
Common Diving-petrel											
Imperial Cormorant	X									X	X
Antarctic Shag				X			X	X			
Chilean Skua	X									X	X
Subantarctic skua				X	X	X	X	X			
South Polar Skua											
Dolphin Gull	X										X
Kelp Gull	X			X	X	X	X	X		X	X
Antarctic Tern				X	X	X	X	X			
South American Tern											
Arctic Tern											
Pale-faced Sheathbill				X			X				
Southern Lapwing	X										
Kelp Goose	X										

MAMMALS	November										
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Southern Right Whale											
Humpback Whale			5					3	5		
Fin Whale		2	4					2	1		
Sei Whale											
Antarctic Minke Whale		1									
Killer Whale			6					5			
Hourglass Dolphin											
Dusky Dolphin											
Dolphins											
Arnoux's Beaked Whale											
Strap-toothed Whale		3									
South American Sea Lion											
Antarctic Fur Seal											
Southern Elephant Seal								X			
Crabeater Seal					X	X	X				
Weddell Seal					X	X	X	X			
Leopard Seal					X		X				
	Depart Ushualia	Drake Passage	Drake Passage	Hope Bay; Brown Bluff	Snow Hill	Snow Hill	Gourdin Is.; Duroch Is.-BBQ	Deception Is.-Polar Plunge; Elephant Pt	Drake Passage	Drake Passage	Drake-Beagle Channel-Ushualia

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# Charlotte Taplin – Expedition Guide

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

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

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# Chloé Maréchal – Expedition Guide

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Chloé is a dedicated diver with an insatiable passion for marine life and exploration. Armed with a European master's degree in Marine Biodiversity and Conservation, she's on a mission to share her expertise and promote the conservation of the marine environment. But here's the twist—while everyone else is busy oohing and aahing over flashy dolphins and majestic whales, Chloé's heart belongs to the unsung heroes of the ocean, the often-undererrated world of plankton and the mysteries of unseen microbes. She's here to show that even the tiniest organisms can have big personalities!

In April 2013, Chloé's dedication and skills were recognized when she was chosen as the prestigious 2013-14 European Rolex Our World Underwater Scholar. This remarkable opportunity allowed her to work alongside renowned leaders in the fields of marine science and diving industry, providing her with diverse experiences and invaluable insights. During this transformative year, her first encounter with Antarctica left an indelible mark, igniting a lifelong passion for polar exploration.

Chloé isn't just a science nerd with a thing for plankton. She's an adventurous soul with an insatiable curiosity. She's dived across all continents, lived in 20 countries, and now sails on her 12-meter aluminum boat. Together with her partner she has recently crossed the challenging waters of the North Sea.

Currently, Chloé calls northern Norway her home, residing just above the polar circle. When not guiding, she explores underwater wonders, uncovers forgotten wrecks, and maps uncharted underwater caves. Her passion for the ocean, sailing, and work with Oceanwide Expeditions fuel her relentless pursuit of adventure.

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# Chris Long – Assistant Expedition Leader

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Chris grew up as a part of New Zealand's remotest family two long days hike from the nearest road at a place called Gorge River, on the South Islands West Coast, New Zealand.

His family lives as self-sufficiently as possible in a small cabin surrounded by the jungled rainforest, the rough rugged coastline, and an emerald green river. Most of their food came from a huge vegetable garden or was fished from the ocean. This wild untouched natural corner of New Zealand was Chris's home for the first 17 years of his life, until, one day, he set out to explore

what the rest of the world had to offer.

Since leaving Gorge River Chris has set out to see, explore and experience as much of the globe as possible. This constant search for adventure has seen him travel to over 60 countries on all seven continents. Along this journey, he spent two full summer seasons living and working as a field trainer at Scott Base, a New Zealand research station in Antarctica, as well as multiple voyages to the Ross Sea and East Antarctica.

Chris is also no stranger to the arctic. He once sailed the notorious northwest passage across the top of Greenland, Canada, and Alaska and spent much of the covid pandemic living with 150 husky dogs in Tromso, northern Norway, enduring two long cold dark arctic winters training for long distance dog races.

Since recently returning to New Zealand, he has published an autobiography and is training for his commercial fixed-wing pilot's license.

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# Claudio Ghiglione – Expedition Guide

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Claudio was born in Italy in 1983. He is a marine ecologist specialised in polar regions, expedition guide and nature photographer.

Interested in science and nature since he was very young, he graduated first in *Marine Environmental Sciences* (BA) and then in *Marine Science* (MA). In March 2017 he obtained a *PhD in Earth, Environmental and Polar Sciences* run in cooperation with the Italian National Antarctic Museum (Italy) and the British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge (UK).

For several years he worked as a polar researcher focusing his work mainly on the South Pole (Antarctica); his objective is to analyse and evaluate information used for ecological modelling and possible future scenarios following global warming. During his academic career, he actively takes part in some scientific expeditions both in Arctic and in Antarctica in cooperation with Norway and England.

His passion for travel, mainly to cold and often inhospitable places, and his career as a photographer led him to travel a lot, creating and managing – often in complete autonomy – itineraries and logistics. In 2017 – thanks to his professional experience, the skills acquired over the time and the need to spend more time on the field – he starts working full time as a guide Oceanwide.

Specialised in nature, scientific and travel photography, Claudio uses his photos as a means of telling stories to draw attention mainly to his main subjects, namely animals, nature and environment. In the 2019 he published his first book ‘Polar Lights’ with whom he shares the passion for nature photography.

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# Edwin van Leeuwen - Doctor

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Edwin van Leeuwen is general practitioner in the city of Almere, Netherlands. Since 2012 he regularly joins expedition cruises with Oceanwide Expeditions and enjoys to be helpful in more or less primitive circumstances.

After registration in 1997 he worked as a locum in more than 80 practices in the Netherlands.

The free-lance work made it possible for him to travel a lot and lead him amongst other places to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro in 1999 and around the Annapurna Circuit in Nepal in 2000.

In 2003 he took up his own GP practice in Almere where he works with two associates in a beautiful award-winning building. The last 14 years he took up training young GP's. Coaching them is something he enjoys very much to do. The city of Almere is a very new and fast-growing city in the Netherlands which was built in a polder.

When one of his patients asked him to join Oceanwide Expedition as a doctor this combined his two passions: working as a doctor and traveling to remote rough corners of the world.

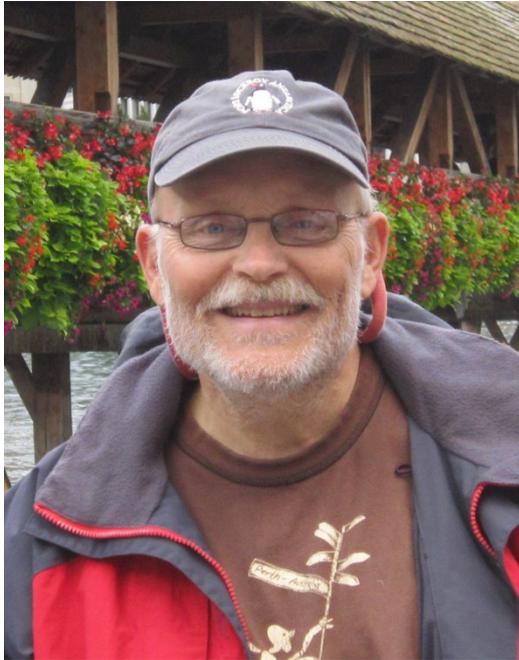
He lives in the city of Naarden, is married and has three children. Leisure activities he loves to do are riding his HD motorcycle, cycling, photography and being outdoors.

His motto in life: "Just because my path is different doesn't mean I'm lost."

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## Gary Miller – Expedition Guide

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Gary's love of the polar regions began over 40 years ago when he studied polar bears in Canada for his MA in Zoology. He started by following an academic career as a scientist studying wildlife. During that time he also worked on bowhead whales and gray whales in Alaska and Mexico and then a 3-year study of desert bighorn sheep in Arizona for his PhD in Behavioral Ecology in 1986. After that his life took a dramatic turn to the south when he began research on Antarctic penguins and skuas. He immediately fell in love with the Antarctic and has continued to work there for his career. Starting with 6

summers of research on Ross Island, deep in the Ross Sea, he has logged 10 summers and one winter at research stations studying South Polar Skuas, Adelie, Gentoo, Chinstrap, Royal, King, and Emperor penguins. Gary has tremendous experience with Emperors having spent an entire winter studying the emperor penguins at Auster colony in East Antarctica.

For the past 30 years, Gary has split his time between research expeditions and ship-based tours to the polar regions. He enjoys sharing his knowledge, enthusiasm and experience with passengers from all over the world. In his many years he has circumnavigated Antarctica, visited a wide range of penguin colonies in different parts of Antarctica, and has managed to visit 10 different Emperor penguin colonies. Gary is one of the most experienced naturalist/guides working today.

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# Martin Anstee - Expedition Guide

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Martin has been a keen naturalist and wildlife photographer for most of his life.

Martin has been an active Bird Ringer since the year 2000 and particularly enjoys studying/ringing and just being around seabird colonies.

Martin has used a camera since an early age and has combined his love of the outdoors and seabird habitats with photography. Martin has just spent a month in Zimbabwe and Botswana photographing other wildlife.

Martin has combined this with a career in the Police Service, firstly in the UK where he was, amongst other roles, a wildlife crime officer. His last role in The Police was as a Police Sergeant in The Royal Falkland Islands Police.

Martin lived in the Falkland Islands, Stanley, for just over two years, leaving to return to the UK in November 2021. In his two years Martin was a volunteer with Falklands Conservation, he helped with The Falkland Islands Seabird Monitoring Program (FISMP) in particular counting Seabirds and ringing Black browed Albatross. Martin was also involved in fieldwork for a Striated Caracara (Johnny Rook) study. As a result Martin has visited most of the larger (and some of the smaller) outlying islands that form part of The Falkland Islands.

This is also where Martin started his career as a guide, he enjoyed sharing his knowledge of the Islands and the wildlife which he continues to do to this day.

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# Massimo Candolini – Expedition Guide

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I have been climbing mountains since I was young, doing activities in the Alps, especially in the winter, such as winter ascents, icefalls, ski touring, freeride, and steep ski.

In 2001, I left my job of programming computers/electronics and I attended the Italian Mountain Guide National Course. I was qualified in 2003 and ever since have been working as a professional Mountain Guide.

In 2010 I founded the Mont - Mountain Guiding, Mountaineering School and Adventure Travels company, which focuses on climbing in the Alps (rock climbing, ski touring, high mountain), consultancy (Natural Parks Organizations, Snow and Avalanche Office Forecast, via Ferrata building and maintenance), publishing (I wrote several ski touring and rock climbing guide books) and adventure expeditions organization (Nepal, Perú, Bolivia, Norway, Greenland, Alaska, Spitzbergen, Peninsula Antarctica, Russia, Kyrgyzstan and others).

Having skied all the continents and summited several mountains, I chose the extreme north and the white slopes as my mountaineering home. In 2015 I started to work on board of Rembrandt Van Rijn in Greenland and Spitzbergen. I continue to travel searching to push my skis over untouched snow trying to calm my desire of adventure into a natural, wild and savage environments. I am definitively convinced, my favourite mountain is the next one!

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# Sara Jenner – Expedition Leader

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For as long as Sara could remember she has had a passion for travel and searching for the wildest and most remote places on earth.

Back in the UK when she was only 10, she remembers trading in her favourite pink bicycle for the money to start her travel fund. Every birthday and Christmas she added a little more in the kitty and finally, at 18 she realised her dream of diving at the Great Barrier Reef! At that point the travel addiction was born. Ever since Sara has been travelling the globe in search of wild and remote places and has spent many

months volunteering on wildlife conservation projects in a bid to help some of our most iconic and endangered species.

Sara's love of wildlife and the great outdoors has taken her to all seven continents, and she has travelled extensively in the polar regions including the Antarctic Peninsula, Weddell Sea, Ross Sea, Falklands, South Georgia, NZ and Australian Sub Antarctic Islands, Spitsbergen, Greenland, Iceland, Baffin Island and Canadian High Arctic. Returning to the UK, Sara used this knowledge to work in the travel industry as a polar specialist for several years, until the travel bug hit again, when she decided to swap life on the land for a life at sea and joined the Oceanwide Expedition Team in 2016.

During 2020-2021 she worked extensively on a leopard seal identification project and took the opportunity to fulfil a lifetime dream of visiting South Georgia in winter by working on the M/V Pharos, which is deployed by the South Georgia Government as a fishery patrol vessel.

Sara is a keen wildlife photographer and when she is not wrapped up warm in the polar regions she enjoys working as a photographic guide in Botswana, on the beautiful Chobe River and Okavango Delta, so really has a life of two halves.

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# Werner Kruse - Expedition Guide

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Werner Kruse is a well-seasoned traveller and an experienced filmmaker, photographer and expedition guide. He has worked on numerous international productions and produced travel documentaries, including wildlife and expedition documentaries in Africa. His film, *The Boy from the Wild*, premiered at the Royal Geographic Society in London as well as the Wildlife Conservation Film Festival in New York City. Currently the film is available on Amazon Prime Video.

After completing his studies, he travelled extensively, making documentaries all over the world. He explored places such as Petra, Machu Picchu, Great Barrier Reef and Rapa Nui, Spitsbergen, Iceland as well as his favourites, the Hawaiian and Tahitian Islands. He is currently based in Cape Town, South Africa, working on TV shows, documentaries, commercials and corporate productions. He frequently travels abroad for various video and photographic assignments.

Werner is extremely passionate about conservation, particularly wildlife and the ocean and supports various environmental causes. His work depicting Gentoo penguins in Antarctica was featured by National Geographic, and his annual return to Antarctica remains a highlight for him. His travels have taken him to 112 countries, enabling him to capture a richly diverse spectrum of images.



## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins Welcome aboard!

Date: 10 November 2023

Day 1: Ushuaia - Embarkation

Please make yourselves at home in your cabins and check you have received all your luggage! Tea/coffee is available in the bar located on Deck 6.

### PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 15:30+/- Ship safety briefing, in the **Lecture Room on Deck 3**. Attendance to this is **MANDATORY**. After the briefing the emergency alarm will be sounded, and you will need to go back to your cabin and get your life jacket. All guests will go to their **MUSTER STATION** which is either the Bar on Deck 6 or the Restaurant on Deck 4, please check your cabin room card to see which station you are assigned to. If you are assigned **Lifeboat 1** you will muster in the Bar and if you are assigned **Lifeboat 2** you will muster in the Restaurant.
- 16:30+/- The Hotel Manager and Expedition Leader will do a welcome briefing, to orientate you to life on board and explain the plan for the forthcoming days. This will take place in the **Lecture Room on Deck 3**.
- 18:00+/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Bar on Deck 6** for staff introductions, this will be followed by Captain's Cocktail, a toast to the forthcoming voyage.
- 18:30 Buffet dinner in the **Restaurant on Deck 4**.
- 19:45 The Expedition Team welcomes you the **Lecture Room on Deck 3** for the **MANDATORY IAATO** briefing. Attendance will be checked.

Please note that tonight we will be sailing into the open sea. Take your seasickness medication before you really feel the movements of the vessel, the doctor will be available in the bar after dinner to assist with such matters.

Make sure that all your belongings are put away safely and that doors and drawers in your cabin are tightly closed. Walk slowly on the ship, always use one hand for yourself and one for the ship and beware of your fingers because of doors slamming!

*"All things considered there are only two kinds of men in the world; those that stay at home and those that do not, the latter are more interesting." - Rudyard Kipling*



## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins

Date: 11 November 2023

Day 2: Drake Passage - At Sea

- 07:45 Wake-up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 10:00 The Expedition team will hand out your rubber boots. You will be called, deck-by-deck to the **Lecture Room**, so please listen to announcements. Bring your thick socks to find the best-sized boots for you!
- 11:00 Martin will give a lecture about Sea Birds in the **Bar on Deck 6**.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 14:00 The Expedition Team invites you to the **Lecture Room** for the **MANDATORY** Helicopter and Zodiac briefing. Attendance will be checked.
- 16:00 Please join Werner in the **Bar on Deck 6** for a presentation about Photography - Tips on how to take great photos.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap, this is a daily event where we go through what we have seen during the day and plans for tomorrow.
- 19:00 Plated dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

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

*"You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore"*  
- Christoph Columbus



## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins

Date: 12 November 2023

Day 3: Approaching Antarctica – At Sea

- 07:45 Wake-up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 09:30 Charlotte invites you to join her in the Bar for a lecture about Whales of the Southern Ocean.
- 11:30 Please join Gary in the Bar for a presentation titled 'Ice is nice: Glaciers, Ice caps and Icebergs'.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the dining room on Deck 4.
- 14:00+ During the course of the afternoon you will be called to the **Bar** by your activity group number for the **MANDATORY Helicopter Drill**. We will gather you in groups of either 4 or 5 people, at which point you will be escorted to the Heli deck. Please wear your Muck boots, waterproof clothing, helicopter life jackets and bring your helicopter key card and signed helicopter declaration form. We will start with Group 1 and work upwards (1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9).
- Simultaneously, we will also be calling activity groups for the **MANDATORY IATTO Biosecurity** in the **Lecture Room**, we will start with Group 5 and work upwards (5,6,7,8,9,1,2,3,4). When called, please bring all your outer garments, bags, boots, life jackets etc. that you plan to use in Antarctica for the Expedition Staff to check. Please ensure everything is clean before proceeding to the Lecture room and ensure you sign the self-declaration form once you have approved by the Expedition Team.
- IT IS IMPORTANT YOU LISTEN TO ANNOUCEMENTS, AND ONLY ATTEND EACH ACTIVITY WHEN YOUR GROUP IS CALLED.**
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap.
- 19:00 Plated dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 20:30 Movie Night in the Lecture Room – A screening of the animated musical comedy, Happy Feet 1.

*"When your feet are cold, cover your head." - Inuit proverb*



## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins

Date: 13 November 2023

Day 4: Hope Bay and Antarctic Sound

07:15 Wake-up call.

07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

09:00+ We invite you to the gangway on Deck 4 for a continental landing at Hope Bay.

Please ensure your lifejackets are fitted correctly before approaching the reception area, remember to swipe out with our cabin key card and to clean your boots/walking sticks in the Virkon solution provided.

On your return to the ship, once again remember to clean your boots, walking sticks etc in the Virkon solution provided.

12:30-13:30 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

During the afternoon we will slowly navigate through Antarctic Sound, in the direction of Snow Hill. We encourage you to join the expedition staff on the bridge and outside decks to look for wildlife and enjoy the magnificent scenery and ice that the Weddell Sea offers.

15:00 Sara invites you to the Bar for a presentation about Penguins.

18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap!

19:00 Dinner is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

*“A journey is a person in itself, no two are alike. And all plans, safeguards, policies and coercion are fruitless. We find after years of struggle that we do not take a trip, a trip takes us.” - John Steinbeck*



## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins

Date: 14 November 2023

Day 5: Snow Hill

07:15 Wake-up call.

07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

09:30 Gary welcomes you to the Bar for his lecture about Emperor Penguins.

12:00-13:00 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

We hope to take you ashore at Snow Hill Island, please listen to announcements for exact timings. As you appreciate, helicopter operations take a significant time, so please be patient.

As and when your group is called, please proceed to the bar, ensuring you have your numbered helicopter card with you and clearly visible. Please dress warmly, in waterproof clothing and with your Muck boots. On arrival in the bar, we will deactivate both canisters in your lifejacket.

We will be starting with activity Group 8 and working downwards in the following order 8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1.

Your allocated time at the colony will be dependent on weather conditions and the flight time from the ship to the landing site.

At the landing site, one person from each flight will be assigned a landing card, which will state what time your flight group needs to be back at the landing site for their return flight to the ship. **PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE.**

When you return to the ship, please ensure you are swiped back in, and your canisters are reactivated in your lifejacket by a member of staff.

**Please listen to announcements for exact timings.**

18:30 Buffet dinner is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

*"An adventure is only an inconvenience rightly considered. An inconvenience is only an adventure wrongly considered." - G. K. Chesterton*



## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins

Date: 15 November 2023

Day 6: Snow Hill Island

07:15 Wake-up call.

07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

09:00 Chloe welcomes you to the Bar for her lecture about Phytoplankton.

13:00 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

We hope to take you ashore at Snow Hill Island, please listen to announcements for exact timings. As you appreciate, helicopter operations take a significant time, so please be patient.

As and when your group is called, please proceed to the bar, ensuring you have your numbered helicopter card with you and clearly visible. Please dress warmly, in waterproof clothing and with your Muck boots. On arrival in the bar, we will deactivate both canisters in your lifejacket.

We will be starting with activity Group 1 and working upwards in the following order 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8.

Your allocated time at the colony will be dependent on weather conditions and the flight time from the ship to the landing site.

At the landing site, one person from each flight will be assigned a landing card, which will state what time your flight group needs to be back at the landing site for their return flight to the ship. **PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE.**

When you return to the ship, please ensure you are swiped back in, and your canisters are reactivated in your lifejacket by a member of staff.

**Please listen to announcements for exact timings.**

18:15 Daily recap in the Bar.

19:00 Dinner is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

*"It must be remembered that the men whose desires lead them to the untrodden paths of the world have generally marked individuality." - Sir Ernest Shackleton*



# DAILY PROGRAM

## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins

Date: 16 November 2023

Day 7: Gourdin Island

07:45 Wake-up call.

08:00-09:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

09:15 Chris welcomes you to the Bar for his lecture about 'Living in Antarctic - his time working at Scott Base, New Zealand's Antarctic research station.

11:15 Claudio welcomes you to the Bar for his presentation about Climate Change.

12:30-13:30 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

14:00+/- We hope to take you ashore at Gourdin Island, please listen to announcements for exact timings.

18:30 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap!

19:00 Dinner will be served.

*"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it." - Robert Swan OBE*



# DAILY PROGRAM

## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins

Date: 17 November 2023

Day 8: Deception Island, Whalers Bay, and Elephant Point

06:00 Wake-up call.

06:15 We will sail into Deception Island, we encourage you to be on the outside decks to enjoy this remarkable navigation. The caldera has a narrow entrance, just 230 metres (755 feet) wide, called Neptune's Bellows. Navigating a ship through the bellows can be very tricky, adding to the hazard is Ravn Rock, which lies 2.5 metres (8.2 feet) below the water in the middle of the channel. Remains of a shipwreck, a Norwegian whale catcher that hit Ravn Rock in 1957, can still be seen in the passage.

06:30-07:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

07:30+/- We hope to take you ashore at Whalers Bay in Deception Island.

We plan to offer a **polar plunge** at the end of the activity, please wear your swimwear underneath your expedition clothing, we will provide the towels, please do not bring the ones from your cabin.

12:00-13:00 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

14:30+/- We hope to take you ashore at Elephant Point.

18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap!

19:00 Dinner is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

*"Anything more wonderful than the polar night does not exist. It is a dream-like sight. It is a light poem of all the finest and most delicate tones of the soul.*

*-Fritjof Nansen*



## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins

Date: 18 November 2023

Day 9: Drake Passage – At Sea

07:45 Wake-up call.

08:00-09:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

09:15 Martin welcomes you to the Bar for his presentation titled 'Erebus and Terror – A Tale of Two Ships.'

11:15 Gary invites you to the Bar for his presentation about Overwintering in Antarctica with Emperor Penguins.

12:15 We will call you deck by deck to the Lecture Room to return your Muck boots and Helicopter Key Cards, please listen for announcements.

12:30-13:30 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

14:00 Charlotte invites you to the Bar for her lecture titled 'Race to the South Pole'.

18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap!

19:00 Dinner is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Upon arrival in Ushuaia, we will provide free busses to the airport for morning flights only, at 09:00 a.m. Please get from Reception a **Blue** luggage tag if you would like this service. For the Guests with afternoon flights, we will transfer your luggage to the drop-off center, and you will need to pick up your luggage before 14:00 hrs. Please get from Reception an **Orange** luggage tag if you wish to do this. For guests who have their own transportation or planning to stay in Ushuaia, please wait till the ship is cleared by the port agent and you are free to go, no luggage tag is required for this.

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



## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins

Date: 19 November 2023

Day 10: Heading towards Ushuaia – At Sea

07:45 Wake-up call.

08:00-09:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

09:15 Chloe welcomes you to the Bar for her presentation about Diving in Antarctica.

11:30 Chirs invites you to the Bar for his presentation about Weather forecasting in the Southern Ocean'.

12:30-13:30 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

16:00 Sara would like you to join her in the Bar for her presentation about Marine Threats.

During the afternoon the Hotel Department will call you deck by deck to settle your accounts, please listen to announcements.

18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for Captain's Farewell Cocktails and a viewing of the slideshow.

A copy of the voyage slideshow will be available for collection from the Bar after dinner, please bring a USB or similar, or we can help airdrop it to Apple devices.

19:00 Dinner is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

*"An Antarctic expedition is the worst way to have the best time of your life." - Apsley Cherry-Garrard*



## Weddell Sea - In search of emperor penguins

Date: 20 November 2023

Day 11: Ushuaia

07:15 Wake-up call.  
Please ensure your luggage is outside your room before going to breakfast.

07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Upon arrival in Ushuaia, we will provide free busses to the airport for morning flights only, at 09:00 a.m. Please get from Reception a **Blue** luggage tag if you would like this service. For the Guests with afternoon flights, we will transfer your luggage to the drop-off center, and you will need to pick up your luggage before 14:00 hrs. Please get from Reception an **Orange** luggage tag if you wish to do this. For guests who have their own transportation or planning to stay in Ushuaia, please wait till the ship is cleared by the port agent and you are free to go, no luggage tag is required for this.

09:00+/- We invite those guests going straight to the airport to disembark. Please identify your luggage on the pier and ensure it is placed in the bus with you going to the airport.

09:15+/- We invite all other guests to disembark. You can either choose to take your luggage with you into town or you can place it in the luggage truck which will take it to a storage facility in Ushuaia.

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

*"It's when you are safe at home that you're having an adventure. When you're having an adventure, you wish you were safe at home." - Thorton Wilder*