



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

## Antarctic Peninsula

Ushuaia - Ushuaia

7<sup>th</sup> December – 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023

On board *m/v Hondius*



# Captain Remmert-Jan Koster

## and his 70 international crew

Staff Captain:	<b>Elizbar Kadarja</b>	Ukraine
Chief Officer:	<b>Matei Mocanu</b>	Romania
2nd Officer:	<b>Igor Nazarov</b>	Russia
3rd Officer:	<b>Archer Cultura</b>	Philippines
Chief Engineer:	<b>Daniel Liliac Zajontz</b>	Romania
Hotel Manager:	<b>Ingrid van de Loo</b>	The Netherlands
Assist. Hotel Manager:	<b>Albert Don</b>	The Netherlands
Receptionist:	<b>Sofia Savcisena</b>	Latvia
Head Chef:	<b>Gaurav Bawa</b>	India
Ships Doctor:	<b>Jessica Bakker</b>	The Netherlands
Expedition Leader:	<b>Adam Burke</b>	United Kingdom
Assist. Expedition Leader:	<b>Felicity Johnson</b>	United Kingdom
Assist. Expedition Leader:	<b>Alexander Romanovskiy</b>	Russia
Expedition Guide:	<b>Mikhail Barabanov</b>	Luxembourg
Expedition Guide:	<b>Gonzalo Sabattini</b>	Argentina
Expedition Guide:	<b>Jens Binderup</b>	Denmark
Expedition Guide:	<b>Beth Hitchcock</b>	United Kingdom
Expedition Guide:	<b>Monika Baczek</b>	Poland
Expedition Guide:	<b>Koen Jongerling</b>	The Netherlands
Expedition Guide:	<b>Meike Sjoer</b>	The Netherlands
Expedition Guide:	<b>Bill Smith</b>	United Kingdom
Expedition Guide:	<b>Magnus Danbolt</b>	Sweden
Expedition Guide:	<b>Saskia Van Der Meij</b>	The Netherlands
Expedition Guide:	<b>Jerry Zhao</b>	China
Expedition Guide:	<b>William Kennedy</b>	French / Irish

Welcome you on board!

# Day 1 – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## Embarkation - Ushuaia

**GPS 16.00 Position:** 54° 51.8 'S / 068° 01.9'W

**Wind:** SW **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Sunny **Air Temp:** +9°C **Sea Temp:** +9.1°C

Today is the day to embark M/V Hondius, the beautiful 107 m vessel that would take us to explore Antarctica. After visiting Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world, we boarded the ship at 4pm where we were met by the staff and crew who warmly welcomed us onboard. After checking in we were directed to our cabins, followed by the lounge for tea, coffee, and biscuits. Whilst in the lounge we started with a briefing to get us familiar with the ship, a mandatory safety briefing by Chief Officer, Matai and we completed the mandatory drill.

After the drill, in the Observation Lounge we joined the Captain's Cocktail Party, where we met the Captain and took this opportunity to enjoy the canapés. Captain Toni told us a little about himself and toasted the voyage ahead. The Expedition Team then introduced themselves; it was interesting to meet all of them and learn where they were from. If we weren't full enough already, it was then time to enjoy a delicious buffet dinner cooked by our Head Chef and the kitchen team. As the ship sailed through the Beagle Channel, we enjoyed the sights in the fantastic light along with our dinner. The excited chat at dinner was all about the journey ahead and the adventures that lay before us.

After dinner, quite a few of us went outside to enjoy the views and watched all the other vessels making their way through the Beagle Channel. This channel is a strait in the Tierra del Fuego archipelago, on the extreme southern tip of South America between Chile and Argentina. The channel separates the larger main island of Isla Grande de Tierra del Fuego from various smaller islands including the islands of Picton, Lennox and Nueva; Navarino; Hoste; Londonderry; and Stewart. The channel's eastern area forms part of the border between Chile and Argentina and the western area is entirely within Chile. The Beagle Channel, the Straits of Magellan to the north, and the open-ocean Drake Passage to the south are the three navigable passages around South America between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.



The channel itself is about 240 km long and 5 km wide at its narrowest point. It extends from Nueva Island in the east to Darwin Sound and Cook Bay in the Pacific Ocean in the west. The biggest settlement on the channel is Ushuaia in Argentina followed by Puerto Williams in Chile. These are amongst the southernmost settlements in the world.

Those who stayed up late to enjoy the views and changing light of the evening were also rewarded with our first whale sighting of the trip.

## Day 2 – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### At sea – Drake Passage

**GPS 12.00 Position:** 57°15.7'S / 065°14.3'W

**Wind:** NW4 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +5°C **Sea Temp:** +6.7°C

After our first, relatively calm, night on board of Hondius we were woken up at 07.45hrs by our expedition leader. Ready to start the day. The waves weren't that high, but some of us unfortunately felt a little sea-sick and didn't appear for breakfast in the restaurant. At 09.15hrs there was a mandatory Zodiac & IAATO Briefing in the lounge on deck 5.

Out on deck expedition guide Meike was already enthusiastically watching the sea birds that were hovering around the ship. The beautiful, patterned wings of the **Cape Petrel** were easy to recognise, where **Blue** and **Antarctic Petrel** were harder to distinguish from each-other.



We saw the **Southern Giant-Petrel** and several big Albatrosses soaring over the waves. We spotted the **Black-browed, Grey-headed and creamy coloured Light-Mantled Sooty Albatross**.

At 11.00hrs it was time to go down to deck 3 to collect our Muck boots and shortly after a wide-ranging lunch was served. The announcement at 14.00hrs said it was time to get all our outerwear, backpacks, footwear and tripods / walking sticks and go to deck 3 again to complete our biosecurity cleaning one deck at a time.

Everybody enjoyed being outside and looking at the waves and the birds till it was time for a lecture about Whales of the Southern Ocean given by Felicity in the lounge at 16.30hrs. We learned more about these ocean giants, with some clips from documentaries filmed in the Antarctic demonstrating what we could encounter along the way down south.



We all joined the expedition team in the lounge again at 18.15hrs for recap. Adam told us about the program for tomorrow, followed by some short recaps. Koen explained to us about the Drake Passage and the Antarctic Convergence Zone that we were about to cross during the late evening. Jerry informed us about useful nautical information while on Hondius and Sasha explained the question box we could use for any questions during our trip.

And Bill inspired us 'engage brain' with his interesting 'Looking, seeing, thinking...and doing' recap. Then it was time for an amazing plated 4-course dinner at 19.00hrs, prepared by head chef Bawa and his team.



## Day 3 – Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### At sea – Drake Passage

**GPS 12.00 Position:** 61°41.4'S / 062°41.3'W

**Wind:** NNW4 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Overcast/Fog **Air Temp:** +2°C **Sea Temp:** +2.1°C

We awoke to the subtle reminder that we were still in the Drake. That delicious feeling [When you are lying in bed!] a dozy state, our bodies unweighting and weighting and rocking from side to side. It is extraordinarily pleasant to savor this monotonous gently motion of the sea. That is, until you get out of bed and topple over, trying to stand on one leg to pull on your clothes. Thankfully the weather was really quite kind to us. Only a few passengers had felt a bit sick and uncomfortable the previous day and missed the early morning Zodiac briefing and biosecurity session...they attended a repeat lecture today as this was a requirement if they were to leave the ship.



At 10.30 Meike delivered her 'What is penguin lecture!' in the lounge to an almost full house of passengers eager to learn about these iconic symbols of Antarctica. This was followed by lunch with us all marveling at the splendid catering on board and the professionalism of the ever smiling incredibly friendly dining room team and the rest of the staff. In the afternoon after lunch, Jens our Danish guide delivered a beautifully crafted superbly presented talk on Sir Ernest Shackleton and the Transantarctic Expedition. This voyage was proving to be not only fun but highly educational. We were learning new stuff all the time and each little snippet of information made us hungry for more.



Beth finished the lecture programme for the day by talking about the Ice of the Southern Continent. Very appropriate as we were encountering our first signs of ice. In the beginning sightings of specs of white, isolated 'growlers' followed bobbing small bergs then stately monsters in the form of dramatic full size ice-bergs. Cameras clicked constantly. This was the first real signs of the visual delights that lay ahead.



Throughout the day during this exciting and informative programme of lectures, pulse rates rose regularly in response to loudspeaker announcements from the bridge... 'Orcas 1 o'clock... Humpbacks 3 o'clock... black-browed albatross flying around the ship etc'. 'Fin Whales at 12 o'clock' was a real highlight as we even had time to layer up and head out on deck to watch the krill feast. Thousands of photographs were poured over and edited in the evening with people proudly sharing the most dramatic.

Wow, wow.... if this is a taste of the things to come when we get to the peninsula then bring it on! Oceanwide Expeditions were living up to the brochure promises. The product was excellent!

# Day 4 – Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## Portal Point & Føyn Harbour

**GPS 12.00 Position:** 64°20.0'S / 061°43.3'W

**Wind:** W4 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Air Temp:** +3°C **Sea Temp:** +2.9°C

The scene was set beautifully for our first Antarctic mainland landing – a bit of snow during the late evening and night (making the deck and stairs a bit slippery) but quite a few were on deck to look for wildlife and the beautiful sunlit landscapes.



After a healthy breakfast, we were ready to board the Zodiacs – one group for the cruise, the other for landing on the mainland continent – and what a morning! A bit of cloud cover to give us the dramatic scenery of all the mountains and glaciers. There were also a few gentoo penguins welcoming us ashore. It was time to test our balance on snowshoes and enjoy the pristine whiteness of the snow and glaciers at Portal Point.



Back to the warmth of Hondius, we enjoyed a cup of tea or coffee and sharing all the impressions of our morning landing and cruise. After a delicious lunch we were ready to set out again for a two-hour cruise in the Zodiacs at Foyen Harbour. It was a bit more windy this time with dramatic snow showers covering some of the mountaintops, while others were in bright sunlight – needing sunglasses to look at them – fantastic contrasts! One of the historical highlights on this cruise was the wreck of an old Norwegian whale factory ship, named Governoren/The Governor, which was struck by disaster back in 1915. Having processed about 22.000 gallons of whale oil, the crew of 65 were ready to return to Norway with a fortune in oil, but a fire spread at the celebration party, and the ship went up in flames. Fortunately, the captain was wise enough to sail the ship aground and thereby saving the lives of all of all 65 crewmembers!



As we continued on our cruise both Antarctic shags, Weddel seals and a couple of Adelie penguins were spotted among the rocks and majestic icebergs.

Back at Hondius – and maybe after a hot shower – it was time for the daily recap, plans for tomorrow by Expedition Leader Adam, a very instructive lecture from Misha about tips, tricks and settings for taking good and memorable photos on our journey, and our proud Scotsman, Bill, gave us a lot of interesting information on both our own Hondius, but also on Plancius and Ortelius – two other Oceanwide ice going vessels, that operate in both the Arctic and Antarctic waters. We are all well prepared now for questions from friends and family back home about our ship and how we managed to take so beautiful pictures! 😊

“The frosting of today’s cake” was also the fin- and humpback whales, we saw during the day – a beautiful day!



# Day 5 – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## Paradise Harbour (Brown Station) & Damoy Point

**GPS 12.00 Position:** 64°44.8'S / 063°02.8'W

**Wind:** NE5 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +1°C **Sea Temp:** +2.9°C

Today we awakened in the accurately named Paradise Harbour. This Bay offered us the full spectrum of Antarctic beauty. From the ship one could gaze over dozens of active calving glaciers, sharp and tall dark dagger-like mountains sticking out from their eternal white mantel to reach the clouds, floating icefields of freshly forms Icebergs of all sizes and shapes contrasting with the multicolour rock formations of the shoreside. One could feel the palpable anxiety to get on board our zodiacs and discover the dream like world.



After breakfast we began our first operation of the day, a zodiac cruise of Paradise Bay. We set off headed towards the intriguing Brown station, a spec of orange in the otherwise binary landscape. It dates back to 1951 and was taken over by the Argentine Antarctic institute in 1964. This patch of land does not only provide for scientists but also for a healthy Gentoo penguin colony. Their hygiene standards were clearly debatable but after a fresh dip in the bay, the sweet creatures would come back clean and shiny.

Further along began the dense icefield, a maze of small and large icefloes where our first Leopard Seal encounter occurred. A single individual, hauled out on a floe, was peacefully napping as we slowly cruised by him and borrowed a moment of his time. Some moments later the breathtaking glacier faced us, showing its immense strength and unpredictable temper. His heart the deepest blues, teasing us with a possible calving kept us silent for long minutes of contemplation.

As we rounded the cape, a multitude of seabirds found refuge and a fitting nesting place for their offspring. At vertigo triggering heights, the Shags and Petrels fought for space but joined forces to chase away the mighty Brown Skua, relentlessly ready to capitalise on a distracted parent and snatch an egg for lunch.

In the Afternoon, the Antarctic mood having cradled us in a false sense of security during the early hours of the day, showed us her raw power and changed her mood. The wind picked up, waves increased and menacing fog crawled in on us. It was time to brave the elements to set foot on Damoy.



The hut offered a glimpse of the past, a time gone where a trip to Antarctica meant uncertainty and hardship. But where the company of fellow humans would warm both hearts and souls during the cold and dark winter months. Antarctica stubbornly kept throwing weather at us and we had to cut our visit short after gusts up to 50 knots were recorded. We were quite pleased now to have it confirmed that our waterproof gear actually works!



In the evening a celebration was held, not for any peculiar reason, just for the simple beauty of being alive together hanging off the edge of the world (but conveniently it was our guide Meike's Birthday too!). We were treated to a feast fit for kings and queens as our dear crew barbecued meats and vegetables, along with keeping us suitably hydrated with a rich variety of beverages and mulled wine. We ate, drank, laughed and danced on deck until the early hours, braving the cold and connecting with our innate ability to unite as one and feel as family.



## Day 6 – Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### Danco Island & Cuverville Island

**GPS 12.00 Position:** 64°36.6'S / 062°34.1'W

**Wind:** NE 6 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Snow / Fog **Air Temp:** -1°C **Sea Temp:** +2.7°C

Nothing. If you ask someone what nothing looks like, no one will give you a clear answer, because how can you describe something that doesn't exist? Nevertheless, when the word 'nothing' is uttered, an image takes shape in everyone's mind: something colourless, monochrome, without beginning or end, without directions, without height, without scent, without emotions — something lifeless and oppressive. That's how one could characterize what unfolded before our eyes on the morning of December 12th. The black waters of the Gerlache Strait, gusty wind, and heavy snowfall. Antarctica, like an old quarrelsome woman, decided to show us its nasty character: 'Look, they've come for a visit! And who invited you? Clear off! No need to wander around here!'

The snowfall was so thick that the wipers on the captain's bridge windows could barely cope with their task. The gusty wind made relentless attempts to plaster everything around with snow, depriving us of the ability to see anything. The *Hondius*, our ship, albeit slowly, but persistently moved forward through this snowy chaos. The staff captain sat silently in his chair, gazing at the instrument readings. Adam, our expedition leader, stood motionless near the window on the starboard side, accompanied by his assistants. The tense silence was intermittently broken by short and quiet remarks about the weather, visibility, wind, and plan adjustments. In the end, it was decided to gather on the bridge a little later, reaching the Orne Harbour, our place of morning activity. Exactly at 6:45, Adam, checking his notes, pressed the loudspeaker button, leaned over the microphone, and spoke in a pleasant baritone: 'Good morning, good morning, good morning...'



While we were having breakfast, the *Hondius* reached Orne Harbour. Peering out of the window, we could discern a massive, towering cliff with sheer walls. At its base, a picturesque iceberg swayed in the water, propelled by the wind and waves. The wind, by the way, was relatively mild, as the harbour was well-sheltered by the surrounding mountains. However, all the brash ice in the water had been driven ashore right around the landing site. It was evident that no Zodiac could overcome this barrier. A painful and difficult decision loomed – to cancel the operation. After a brief consultation, the ship's senior officials reluctantly arrived at this discouraging conclusion. Orne Harbour remained unconquered, leaving us with nothing but to gaze through the snowy veil at its contours, imagining how the Chinstrap penguins triumphed and gloated, observing us from their nests high on the shore. Well, it's fate, nothing to worry about. Let's move on; perhaps luck will be on our side in the second half of the day.

The heavy, rust-coloured anchor chain creaked and grated as the powerful winches wound it, link by link, onto their spools. Once the anchor was raised, the *Hondius* subtly shifted, setting course for Danko Island in the middle of the Errera Channel. Meanwhile, we settled into the main lounge, listening to a lecture about shipwrecks resting on the bottom of Antarctic waters. Monika, our guide, narrated with great interest, and we hung on to her words, holding our breath.

As soon as Monika finished her narrative, Adam took the microphone and briefed us on the plans for the remainder of the day. The decision regarding the subsequent schedule was, it must be said, quite original. It was decided to compensate for our morning setback with an evening landing on Cuverville Island, scheduled after dinner. The old cantankerous lady, Antarctica, exchanged her wrath for mercy, and by lunchtime, the weather had somewhat improved. The snow had almost stopped, and the wind had subsided, turning the landing on Danko Island into a tangible reality.

The Zodiacs were lowered into the water, and the expedition team, leaping into the first two boats and loading all the necessary equipment, raced to the shore to mark the trail and conduct reconnaissance. Meanwhile, we started dressing and gathering near the Zodiac boarding area. And there, Albert, our assistant hotel manager, got the green light for the operation, and now we were speeding towards the shore on the Zodiacs.

Reaching the shore of Danko Island, we put on snowshoes and, imitating the waddle of penguins, began to ascend the mountain slope, aiming to climb higher to get close to the Gentoo penguin colony located there. Penguins, diligently covering everything around with their guano, were hard at work constructing nests. They carried small pebbles to and fro in their beaks, arranging them in a strict order to ensure comfort and coziness for themselves and their partners during egg incubation. The stones had to be carried from the very edge of the water. It was a considerable distance. To make their lives a bit easier, the penguins had trampled paths in the snow, known as penguin highways, along which they scurried back and forth, spreading their wings for balance.

Some penguins were already attentively sitting on their eggs, pleased with the wonderful nests they had built. Some careless and cunning ones sneakily stole stones from the nests of those who had already completed construction. And some penguins still just lay on the snow, waiting for it to melt, only then to start building their nests. We watched all of this in fascination, never forgetting to cast our eyes over the landscapes that unfolded before us.

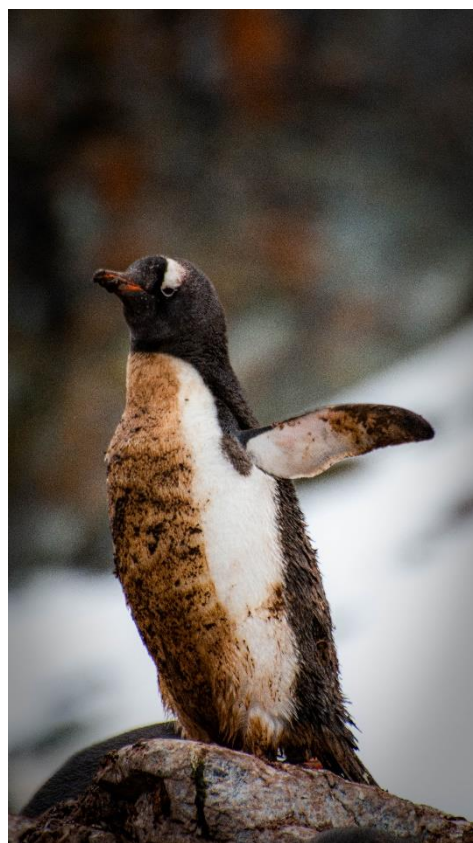


At the appointed time, we returned to the landing site, where our guides, seating us in their Zodiacs, took us on a short Zodiac cruise. Manoeuvring between icebergs, we tried to capture all this beauty in the form of photographs. Some of us were fortunate enough to see a leopard seal sleeping on an ice floe. The creature would occasionally lift its head, cast a disapproving glance at us, and flare its nostrils, trying to understand the strange scent emanating from these unfamiliar beings.

Instead of taking us back to the ship, our guides brought us back to Danco Island. Why, you might ask? Because another event was planned for us on the shore, and its name was the polar plunge – a unique opportunity to overcome fear and plunge into the cold Antarctic waters. Undressing was cold, getting into the water was even colder. One step, another step, yet another... The cold pierced to the bones, the water burned, and breathing became intermittent. But then – splash! – you dive headfirst and emerge a completely different person. No more cold, no fatigue, only joy and adrenaline! Quickly to the shore, where a towel awaits. Then you can catch your breath, calmly get dressed, and only then board the Zodiac and head back to the ship. Dinner is coming soon!

While we were having dinner, the Hondius approached Cuverville Island, home to the largest Gentoo penguin colony on the entire Antarctic Peninsula. On one hand, it was already quite late, but on the other hand, when else would we have the chance to visit here? So, we all gathered near the Zodiac boarding area and headed to the shore. The penguins, as always, were bustling about, purposefully treading their paths, carrying stones to each other for nest construction, and paying no attention to us. We had only an hour for everything, so we briskly followed our paths, concentrating on pressing the shutters of our cameras.

We returned to the ship by ten in the evening. Time for bed!



# Day 7 – Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## Fournier Bay & Orne Islands

**GPS 12.00 Position:** 64°37.5'S / 062°37.1'W

**Wind:** NE 5 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +1°C **Sea Temp:** +2.8°C

After an early breakfast we launched all Hondius' zodiacs for a cruise in Fournier Bay. The large bay was filled with icebergs and, for the moment there was a little bit of wind and light snowfall. Among the ice bergs we found all sorts of sizes and shapes that tantalized our minds. Whatever forms we could imagine we could find in the ice. The sculptures of ice were the landmarks forming a maze in which we observed passing snow petrels, southern fulmars, terns and whale tails.

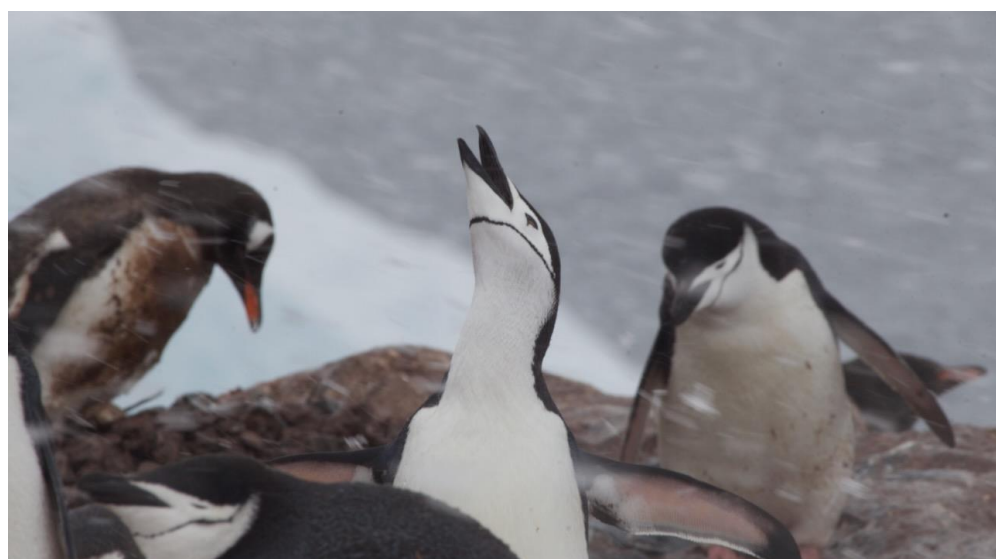


Just as we got into the zodiacs and started our cruise a call came over the radio. "HW six o'clock!". A whole group of humpback whales were feeding just in the entrance of the bay! A couple of the zodiacs carefully moved a bit closer to the area where they were surfacing and diving. We also saw a lot of birds feeding on the water. Fulmars and terns were flying around in a frenzy marking the spot but suddenly concentrating in one area on the surface of the water where we started seeing a lot of bubbles. The next moment was like an explosion as a giant head broke the surface. The humpback whales pierced the surface with their mouths wide open and throat grooves extended. The activity splashed water everywhere drawing our attention to the scene. Before we even lowered our cameras there was another head coming up. And yet another! There were birds, blows and splashing water in a chaotic mix and we sat in awe taking it all in from our small boats. It was like being in a nature documentary but all the elements around us made us feel so present in the Antarctic environment. The whales were unaffected by us and continued to dive, feed and surface, filling themselves with krill in these rich waters after returning from a long winter without feeding opportunities. What a treat!



Hondius moved north during the afternoon, and we anchored off a little island called Orne Island on the edge of the Gerlache Strait. Here we hoped to find a colony of Chinstrap penguins. The landing was straight onto slippery rocks and a little bit tricky, but everyone made it ashore. We were lucky that the island was bustling with Chinstraps, enabling us to enjoy seeing our second type of penguin with ease. Their behavior differs from the gentoos, who also nest in Orne Island, making it entertaining to watch and compare the colony goings on. There was one colony on each end of the island with one being a little bit higher than the other. It was snowing a lot making the grounds soft. Therefore, to prevent making holes which are hazardous to the penguins, we all had to put the snowshoes on to be able to walk at all.

We split the landing with a short zodiac cruise around the island. On a small snow covered outcrop we saw two little penguins slightly different from the others. Two Adelie penguins! They were right in the mix of Chinstraps and Gentoos and obviously felt right at home. Perhaps they were on a feeding mission from their own colony further south. There were a few Weddell seals hauled out among the ice too. Their mottled coloration makes them hard to spot but as they have no land predators, they are not sensitive to us spending a few minutes searching the coastline for them. The wind and snow increased during our outing, and we finally got cold and decided to head back to our warm home on Hondius.



# Day 8 – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## Half Moon Island and Whalers Bay (Deception Island)

**GPS 12.00 Position:** 62°39.6'S / 059°45.0'W

**Wind:** N3 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Foggy **Air Temp:** +1°C **Sea Temp:** +3.1°C

Embarking on an exhilarating journey aboard the *Hondius*, we set our course northward, venturing into the mystical realm of the South Shetland Island archipelago. Our destination: the captivating landscapes of Half Moon and Deception Islands, brimming with the promise of adventure and discovery.



As dawn broke, we gracefully approached Half Moon Island, a small crescent nestled between Livingston and Greenwich Islands. A beacon of exploration with this island hosts a summer Argentinian Research Base (Camara), amidst a symphony of excitement, we feasted our eyes on the nesting grounds of Chinstrap Penguins. From the ship's vantage point during breakfast, we marvelled at these charming creatures, diligently tending to their nests. Eager to set foot on this nature reserve of wildlife, we embarked on a shore expedition, guided by the allure of the penguin highways.

As we traversed the island without snowshoes, we were greeted by the bustling Chinstrap colony. Patiently waiting as the penguins returned from their morning fishing, we observed their intricate rituals—keeping eggs warm, maintaining nests, and indulging in powernaps. The wilderness unfolded before us, revealing a spectacle of a humpback whale



gracefully showcasing its fluke and head at the same time, while zodiacs cruised along the coastline, unveiling weddel seals perched on rocky outcrops.

Our journey continued south-westward towards Deception Island, a caldera born of volcanic fury. Enriching our minds during the sail, a special mini-lecture series unfolded, delving into the island's history, geology, and tales of Antarctic exploration. Meike, Beth, Bill, and Monika took us on a captivating odyssey through time and knowledge, setting the stage for the wonders awaiting us.



Approaching Deception Island through Neptune's Bellows, a narrow opening in the caldera, Captain Remmert skilfully navigated the Hondius while we were all out on deck. Our destination was Whalers' Bay, a historic site steeped in the legacy of Norwegian whalers since 1912. As we stepped onto the pitch-black volcanic beach, steam rose, a testament to the island's volcanic heartbeat.



Undeterred by wind and rain, we immersed ourselves in the remnants of the whaling station, exploring aged buildings and the cemetery, buried by a volcanic eruption in 1969. The haunting echoes of the past surrounded us as we walked along the beach, discovering relics of whaling history, including whale bones and remnants of water boats.

A steep hike up the caldera walls led us to Neptune's Window, offering a breathtaking panoramic view. Here, within the heart of an active volcano, we enjoyed looking at Cape Petrels, Gentoo and Chinstrap Penguins with the indomitable spirit of exploration that brought us here.

## Day 9 – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

### Drake Passage

**GPS 12.00 Position:** 60°35.0'S / 063°20.0'W

**Wind:** NNE 5 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Foggy **Air Temp:** +0°C **Sea Temp:** +2.7°C

Today marked the beginning of our journey back to Ushuaia through the infamous Drake Passage. Our Expedition leader, Adam, decided to give us a well-deserved break from the early morning wake-up calls, allowing everyone to recover from the exhilarating landings and zodiac cruising we experienced in the previous days.



At 9:00 am, a call was made for all guests to return their lifejackets, muck boots, dry bags, and rental gear to the designated shell doors on deck 3. This signaled that the onshore activities and outings for this trip had officially come to an end. However, we were delighted to be informed by Adam, our Expedition Leader, that there were still engaging activities planned for the sea days ahead.

Misha, one of the expedition guides, started the photo collection for the submissions to the photo competition at 9:30am, encouraging guests to submit their best shots taken during the expedition. There were three categories for the competition which were wildlife, landscape and comedy. The library became a hub of creativity as guests eagerly shared their captured moments!

Shortly after, Bill, an art teacher and artist himself, delivered a captivating lecture titled "Paintings of the Sea." He delved into the profound impact of ocean-inspired artwork on artists' thoughts and people's lives, teaching us how to interpret the meanings behind these masterpieces. He left us feeling inspired to look more deeply into artwork we see in the future, allowing our thirst for details and answers to be released.

Following a satisfying lunch, Magnus took to the stage to enlighten us about the acoustics of the underwater world. We were fascinated to learn about the distinct sounds produced by different species of cetaceans, deepening our understanding of marine life.

Meike, an expert on birds, then shared her knowledge in a lecture dedicated to the majestic Albatross. As if on cue, as Meike's lecture concluded, a spectacle unfolded before our eyes. Numerous Albatross, including the light mantled, black-browed, and wandering Albatross, gracefully soared around the ship. Enthralled, many of us rushed to the outside deck to capture photographs or simply admire these magnificent creatures up close.



During the recap session, Adam provided insights into tomorrow's plans, including updates on sea conditions and weather forecasts. Mini lectures were also conducted, allowing us to reflect on the remarkable sights and experiences of the day.

After a satisfying dinner, the winners of the photo competition were announced in the lounge. It was heartwarming to witness the camaraderie among fellow passengers as they voted for their favorite images. Following this, an entertaining Antarctic quiz, hosted by William, tested our newly acquired knowledge from lectures and conversations with guides. The quiz encompassed both educational and light-hearted questions, adding a lot of fun to the evening. As the quiz concluded, we bid farewell to an eventful day filled with captivating lectures, breathtaking wildlife encounters, and friendly competitions. Anticipation filled the air as we eagerly looked forward to the adventures that tomorrow would bring.

# Day 10 – Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2023

## Drake Passage

**GPS 12.00 Position:** 55°42.7'S / 066°03.2'W

**Wind:** NW 6 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Air Temp:** +4°C **Sea Temp:** +8.3°C

Our last day on this unforgettable journey. A day at sea, a day to reflect, a day to start saying goodbye to the people we have met. The sea state was a bit rougher this morning as the wind had picked up during the night. An adventurous start that many people were waiting for as they had asked for a Drake shake the days before. Not yet 8 meters but 4 meters was more than enough for most people on our ship. We started this morning with a lecture from William about the geopolitics of Antarctica. He explained to us how the continent got divided into camembert pieces and how all claims have no real meaning as long as the Antarctic treaty stands. Hopefully it keeps on going after the new meeting in 2049.

Later in the morning we got invited to see the movie “Around Cape Horn” in the lounge about the 1920 footage of the incredible bravery of sailing through these rebellious waters. This movie is narrated by one of the sailors that was on the sailing ship shown in the movie. His way of explaining the journey is very personalized and interesting as the footage alone would not have given the same feeling watching the ship being drowned in large 30 feet waves. Before and after lunch we had the chance to observe many birds around the ship including black browed albatross, wandering albatross and different kind of petrels. The weather was quite comfortable and the sun was shining which gave for great opportunities for taking photos on the back deck. In the afternoon we got invited by Sasha for his lecture about “How to reach Antarctica”. This is his own story about the first time he was in Antarctica helping out at a Russian research station. And as Sasha always has found himself in very interesting places together with his great sense of humor, he made it everybody’s worth a while listening in.





In the late afternoon we had a fantastic trio talk on the human impacts to the polar regions by Felicity, Meike and Bill. On board the Hondius with our fellow travelers we have crossed the wild Drake Passage into this newly discovered world. We have watched as animals roam freely living as nature does, leopard seals capturing penguins, skuas stealing eggs, penguins wickedly robbing stones to upgrade their own nests. We have seen a world without human settlements and with regulations protecting the landscape and its rich resources. Our human presence leaves evidence though. A trace with every action. We have heard and seen of the impact of the whaling days. This century, our plastic constructed items infiltrate what is left of plant earth's nature. This spread of plastic is like a disease, not always visible, masked by the vast oceans, yet our everyday lives produce it, release it, require it and of course unavoidably pollute even the most remote parts of our planet such as Antarctica. This trio informed us of our impact, both big and small, visible and invisible. And it reminds us that when returning home, we have choices each day that will impact this majestic monochrome world which we have been so lucky to explore.

At 6pm we were invited back to the lounge for Captain's cocktail. We were surprised to see all the Expedition Team dressed unprepared for Antarctic action! Instead, they were all there, set up of an evening to celebrate our voyage. Everyone had big smiles on their faces. Captain Remmert raised his glass to our voyage. Then we had the great pleasure to watch Misha's end of the voyage slideshow. It was such a delight to watch his work. Wonderful images accompanied by footage of wildlife, beautiful background music.... Wow! And the incredible amount of work he had put into the slideshow really came through. It gave a fantastic sense of togetherness and filled us with pride in the adventure we had all been part of.

After this emotional gathering in the lounge, we were invited to our dining room for one last dinner on board. The Galley team did not disappoint. Another delicious meal, laughter, and many happy faces. We also had a chance to show our gratitude to the hotel team who always made sure we always got what we needed. This was also a way to show our appreciation for the many other staff who are involved in the smooth operation on board Hondius many of

who we have not even seen! But we know that walking the decks where we cannot go there is another world of crew working hard.

## Day 11 – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December

### Disembarkation - Ushuaia

**GPS 09.00 Position:** 54° 48.6 'S / 068° 17.8'W

**Wind:** NE2 **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Cloudy **Air Temp:** +5°C **Sea Temp:** +9.7°C

When we awoke, we were already at the port of Ushuaia ready to disembark for the final time. The last 10 days have taken us on a remarkable journey to the Antarctic Peninsula, the South Shetlands, and the vast Southern Ocean in between. This unforgettable journey showed us how varied and numerous life is in these remote and sometimes inhospitable corners of Planet Earth. We have encountered amazing wildlife, made new friends, learned and experienced together. We will all take different memories from our voyage back home, but those memories will stay with us for the rest of our lives.

## This was our expedition:

### Location of Landing Sites

Date	Place	Latitude	Longitude
10.12.23 - AM	Portal Point	64°30'S	61°46'W
10.12.23 - PM	Foyn Harbour	64°33'S	62°1'W
11.12.23 - AM	Paradise Harbour	64°51'S	62°54'W
11.12.23 - PM	Damoy Point	64°49'S	63°32'W
12.12.23 - PM	Danco Island	64°44'S	62°37'W
12.12.23 - EVE	Cuverville Island	64°41'S	62°38'W
13.12.23 - AM	Fournier Bay	64°31'S	63°6'W
13.12.23 - PM	Orne Islands	64°40'S	62°40'W
14.12.23 - AM	Half Moon Island	62°36'S	59°55'W
14.12.23 - PM	Whalers Bay	62°59'S	60°34'W

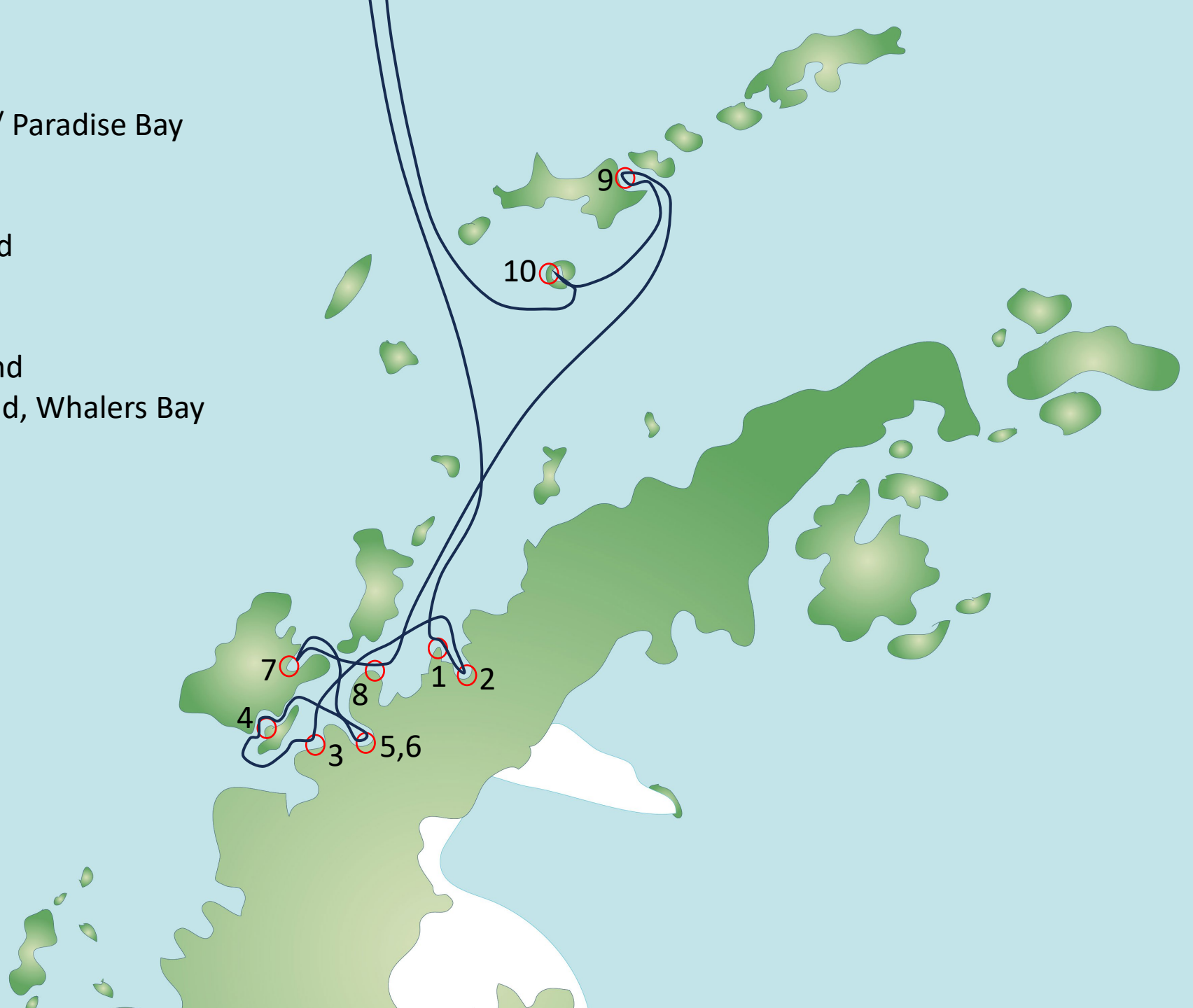
**Total distance sailed on our voyage: 1,716 Nautical Miles**

**Furthest point south: 64°58.8'S / 063°25.8'W**

## Your Expedition Team



1. Portal Point
2. Foyen Harbour
3. Brown Station / Paradise Bay
4. Damoy Point
5. Danco Island
6. Cuverville Island
7. Fournier Bay
8. Orne Islands
9. Half Moon Island
10. Deception Island, Whalers Bay





HDS24 - Birds and Marine Mammals of the Antarctic region

English	Latin	7-dec	8-dec	9-dec	10-dec	11-dec	12-dec	13-dec	14-dec	15-dec	16-dec	17-dec	German	French	Dutch
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>												Kaiserpinguin	Manchot Empereur	Keizerpinguin
King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>												Königspinguin	Manchot royal	Koningspinguin
Adélie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>			x									Adéliepinguin	Manchot Adélie	Adélie-pinguin
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>				x	x	x	x	x				Eselspinguin	Manchot Papou	Ezelspinguin
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>		x	x	x	x	x	x	x				Kehlstreifpinguin (Zügelpinguin)	Manchot à jugulaire	Kinbandpinguin
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>												Goldschopfpinguin	Gorfou doré	Macaroniepinguin
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>	x										x	Magellanpinguin	Manchot de Magellan	Magelhaenpinguin
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>										x		Wanderalbatros	Albatros hurleur	Grote albatros
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>												Nördlicher Königsalbatros	Albatros royal du Nord	Noordelijke koningsalbatros
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>									x	x		Königsalbatros	Albatros royal du Sud	Zuidelijke koningsalbatros
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	x	x	x							x	x	Schwarzbrauenalbatros	Albatros à sourcils noirs	Wenkbrauwalbatros
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>		x	x									Graukopfalbatros	Albatros à tête grise	Grijskopalbatros
Light-Mantled Sooty Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>		x	x									Graumantel-Rußalbatros	Albatros fuligineux	Roetkopalbatros
Northern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>			x									Nördlicher Riesensturmvogel	Pétrel de Hall	Noordelijke reuzensturmvogel
Southern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>									x	x		Südlicher Riesensturmvogel	Pétrel géant	Zuidelijke reuzensturmvogel
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	x	x	x	x			x	x		x		Silbersturmvogel	Fulmar argenté	Zuidelijke stormvogel
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>										x	x	Kapsturmvogel	Damier du Cap	Kaapse duif
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>												Weißflügelsturmvogel	Pétrel Antarctique	Antarctische stormvogel
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>					x	x	x					Schneesturmvogel	Pétrel des neiges	Sneeuwstormvogel
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>		x	x									Blausturmvogel	Pétrel bleu	Blauwe stormvogel
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>										x	x	Weißkinnsturmvogel	Puffin à menton blanc	Witkinnsturmvogel; Witkeelsturmvogel
Soft-Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>												Weichfedersturmvogel	Pétrel Soyeux	Donssturmvogel
Great-winged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma macroptera</i>												Langflügel-Sturmvogel	Pétrel noir	
Atlantic Petrel	<i>Pterodroma incerta</i>									x			Schlegelsturmvogel	Pétrel de Schlegel	
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>		x								x		Dunkelsturmtaucher	Puffin fuligineux	Grauwe pijlstormvogel
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>												Großer Sturmtaucher	Puffin majeur	Grote pijlstormvogel
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>			x						x	x		Taubensturmvogel	Prion de la désolation	Antarctische prion
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>												Feensturmvogel	Le Prion colombe	Duifprion
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>			x						x	x		Belcher-Sturmvogel	Le Prion de Belcher	Dunbekprion
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>			x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		Buntfußsturmschwalbe	Océanite de Wilson	Wilson stormvogeltje
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>		x										Schwarzbauchmeerläufer	Océanite à ventre noir	Zwartbuisstormvogeltje
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>												Graurücken-Sturmschwalbe	Océanite néréide	Grijsrugstormvogeltje
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecyanoides (urinator) berard</i>												Lummensturmvogel	Puffinure plongeur	Alkstormvogeltje
Magellanic Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecyanoides magellani</i>												Magellan-Lummensturmvogel	Puffinure de Magellan	Magelhaen Alkstormvogeltje
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	x										x	Blauaugenscharbe	Cormoran impérial	Keizeraalscholver; Blauwoogaalscholver
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>												Antarktikscharbe	Cormoran (impérial) antarctique	Keizeraalscholver; Blauwoogaalscholver
Snowy (Pale-faced) Shearbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>				x	x	x	x	x				Weißgesicht-Scheidenschnabel	Chionis – Bec en fourreau	Poolkip
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>												Chileskua	Labbe du Chili	Chileense skua
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta macormicki</i>				x	x	x	x	x				Südpolarskua	Labbe de Mac Cormick	Zuidpooljager
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta lonnbergi</i>	x									x		Braune Skua (Subantarktiksua)	Labbe brun	Subantarktische Grote Jager
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>		x									x	Blutschnabelmöwe	Goéland de Scoresby	Dolfinmeeuw
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>		x		x	x	x	x	x				Dominikanermöwe	Goéland dominicain	Kelpmeeuw
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>		x								x		Falklandseeschwalbe	Sterne hirundinée	Zuid-Amerikaanse visdief
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>				x	x	x		x				Antarktisseeschwalbe (Antipoden-)	Sterne couronnée	Zuidpoolstern
Arctic tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>												Küstenseeschwalbe	Sterne arctique	Noordse stern
<b>Marine mammals</b>		7-dec	8-dec	9-dec	10-dec	11-dec	12-dec	13-dec	14-dec	15-dec	16-dec	17-dec	<b>Meeressäuger</b>	<b>Mammifères Marin</b>	<b>Zeezoogdieren</b>
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>												Südkaper	Baleine franche australe	Zuidkaper
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>												Zwergwal	Petit Rorqual antarctique	Antarctische Dwergvinvis
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>			x	x	x	x	x	x	x			Buckelwal	Mégaptère (Baleine à bosse)	Bultrug
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>												Blauwal	Baleine bleue	Blauwe Vinvis
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	x		x									Finnwal	Rorqual commun	Gewone Vinvis
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>												Seiwal	Rorqual boréal	Zuidelijke Noordse Vinvis
Southern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>												Südlicher Entenwal	Baleine à bec australe	Zuidelijke Butskop
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>												Grindwal	Globicéphale noir	Griend
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>			x		x							Schwertwal	Orque (épaulard)	Orka; Zwaardwalvis
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>												Stundenglasdelfin	Lagénorhynque sablier	Zandloperdolfijn
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>												Pealedelfin	Lagénorhynque à menton noir	Dolfijn van Peale

Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>											Schwarzdelfin	Dauphin obscur	Donkergestreepte dolfijn
Commerson's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>											Commersondelfin	Dauphin de Commerson	Kortsnuitdolfijn
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>					x		x				Seeleopard	Léopard de mer	Zeelupaard
Crabeater Seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophagus</i>											Krabbenfresserobbe	Phoque crabier	Krabbeneter
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>					x	x	x	x	x		Weddellrobbe	Phoque de Weddell	Weddell-zeehond
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>					x				x		Südlicher Seeelefant	Eléphant de mer austral	Zuidelijke Zeeolifant
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>											Antarktischer Seebär	Otarie à fourrure des Kerguelen	Antarctische Pelsrob
Southern Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>											Mähnenrobbe	Lion de mer d'Amérique du Sud	Patagonische Zeeleeuw

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# Adam Burke – Expedition Leader

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

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

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

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

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

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# Felicity Johnson – Assistant Expedition Leader

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Felicity, a marine biologist, commercial skipper, and guide, is driven by a strong commitment to marine mammal conservation. With a decade of experience, she has developed expertise in marine mammal research, including cetacean entanglement studies, biopsy collection and analysis, and global photo identification projects.

Currently residing in Vancouver, Canada, Felicity takes on several roles. She serves as an Environmental Educator at Sea Smart Schools, a non-profit organization focused on educating the next generation about the importance of our oceans and our changing climate. Additionally,

Felicity is a dedicated crew member and research assistant on board an Environment Canada research vessel, aligning with her mission to protect marine ecosystems.

Having grown up in Scotland, Felicity's appreciation for the outdoors grew during childhood holidays along the Scottish coast and hills. Her journey led her from teaching sailing during school breaks to pursuing a degree in marine biology. During her Master's degree, she earned certifications as a commercial skipper, marine mammal observer, advanced diver, and wilderness first aider.

This period also sparked Felicity's concern about marine pollution, prompting her to focus her professional and personal responsibilities in raising awareness, coordinating events, talks and organising clean-ups, all geared towards addressing the challenges posed by our changing climate.

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# Alexander Romanovskiy - Assistant Expedition Leader

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

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

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

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

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# Mikhail Barabanov – Expedition Guide

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Born in St Petersburg, Russia, but raised in Luxemburg, Mikhail now lives in Switzerland, where he delights in camping all over the local mountainscape.

He spent quite some time in the academic world, obtaining master's degrees in Marine Mammal Science and in Ecology and Nature Conservation. After working for several field seasons as a scientist in distant places on marine mammals and birds, he was keen to pursue a way to combine his passion for travelling, outreach and the higher

latitudes.

His deep interest for the polar regions was formed on a visit to Antarctica with Oceanwide in 2018 as part of a university course. At the time, he was stunned by the pristineness and the vibrance of life found in the Southern Ocean and wanted to find a way to return in a professional capacity. As he prefers the world's colder regions, Oceanwide provided the opportunity to immerse himself in the polar world.

No stranger to adverse weather and difficult living conditions, Mikhail is always looking to find places and moments that exude true calm and serenity. As an avid photographer and videographer, he is always seen carrying his gear around from place to place, trying to improve his craft and capture wildlife in their natural behaviour.

Usually in high spirits, he works as a guide on a variety of expeditions, on which he can be found always ready to help and looking to increase his savoir-faire in all things ocean and wildlife.

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# Gonzalo Sabattini- Expedition Guide

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

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

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

Activities (FAAS\_CMAS)-One Star Diver at the age of 16.

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

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

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

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

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# Jens Binderup – Expedition Guide

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Born on a farm in central Denmark, later working as an air traffic controller in Copenhagen for many years, now living near the coastline on the countryside south of the capital.

A keen interest in wildlife has been a lifelong companion, and the majority of travelling through the years has been to all 7 continents, where animal life- and behaviour was the main focus.

Whether it was swimming with the orcas in northern Norway, dogsledding in Finland, experiencing the abundance of wildlife in southern Africa or enjoying the magnificence of landscapes and animal

life in the Arctic and Antarctica.

Jens is a sociable and talkative person, loving to share all the experiences with our guests – and his enthusiasm has made him guiding friends and colleagues on several occasions.

He also possesses a deep interest in the polar expeditions – both to the Arctic and Antarctic – made by the brave men a hundred years ago, exploring the last frontiers by ships, planes, airships and dogsleds.

When not travelling, spare time is used enjoying the massive migration of birds of prey near his home, mountain biking, trekking in the Scandinavian wilderness and flying gliders together with all the predatory birds.

Fulfilling a lifelong dream of being an expedition guide, Jens is looking forward to his first season in the Antarctic with passion and enthusiasm, sharing the magnificent experiences that await all on an expedition cruise.



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# Beth Hitchcock – Expedition Guide

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After graduating from her Geology honours degree in 2018 at Glasgow, Beth balanced two jobs until she succumbed to full time in the guiding world in 2021. Beth worked as a deckhand / guide on a tall ship and, when on the land, as an Engineering Geologist working mainly on Scotland's road and railway networks.

On the tall ships, Beth visited many places around the Atlantic Ocean from the Azores to Cape Town and Tristan da Cunha. In the austral summers she guides on the ship when they visit Antarctica and South Georgia. These

are ideal places to interpret the landscape and explain to the guests how the glaciers and geological processes have carved what we see today. The incredible human history in these regions has a significant impact on the regional geological story and on our understanding of geology globally.

Beth also enjoys spending time in the mountains of Scotland where she works when she is not guiding on board ships. She grew up sailing around the islands of the west coast of Scotland - home to some fascinating geology where she spent many field trips during her undergraduate years. This sparked the desire to explore and embark on adventures to discover new landscapes and cultures around the world.

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# Monika Baczek - Expedition Guide

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Monika has always been fascinated by the sea and with what is hidden in a deep. After graduation with degree in Navigation and Marine Technology from Liverpool John Moores University she worked on varies offshore projects researching the seabed. She continued her education in (MSc) Maritime Archaeology at Bournemouth University. This enabled her to take part in archaeological investigation projects, both on land and underwater.

She has an experience in management of coastal cruises and introduced 'Shipwreck Cruises' in South - East

England during which she gives presentations about varies artefacts found on the seabed.

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# Koen Jongerling - Expedition Guide

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

Combining his love for nature and the desire to learn more, he started guiding expeditions through the mountain ranges of Patagonia. Travelling back and forth to Europe for additional mountain courses - every time feeling more at home in the rough conditions of Patagonia. In 2017 he started his own guide company, introducing travelers to the beauty of Southern Chile.

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

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# Meike Sjoer - Expedition Guide

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Meike Sjoer, a dedicated birder, nature enthusiast, and polar expedition guide, has spent her life immersed in the beauty of the natural world. Growing up in the heart of the Dutch forest, Meike developed a profound love for nature from a young age, a passion that would shape her extraordinary journey as a birder and wildlife explorer

She holds a Master of Arts from the University of Utrecht. During her studies Meike discovered a natural inclination towards sharing her wildlife experiences with others.

For the past 26 years, she has devoted her talents as a television director for the Dutch National Television. In this role, she dedicated herself to directing programs that involved stories of nature, wildlife, and environmental conservation. Meike's talent for filming and editing led her to directing the renowned Dutch National Wildlife television program *Vroege Vogels* for the past 15 years. Beyond her television work, Meike is a certified nature guide for the Dutch Institute for Nature and Education. When she is not sailing across polar waters, she takes

great pleasure in guiding birding and wildlife tours within the second largest National Park of the Netherlands.

Additionally, driven by her deep concern for the well-being of our planet, Meike was part of the Sea Shepherd media team for 5 years and played a role in raising awareness about the urgent need to protect marine life and preserve delicate ecosystems.

Yet, it is in the polar regions of Antarctica and the Arctic that Meike finds her greatest fulfilment. Here, surrounded by icy vastness and majestic wildlife, she is happiest creating outdoor experiences that challenge individuals to connect with their inner selves and develop a profound respect for the planet we call home.

Meike is thrilled to be your guide on this trip and looking forward to sharing her passion and knowledge for wildlife with you.

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# Bill Smith - Expedition Guide

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“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.

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# Magnus Danbolt – Expedition Guide

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Magnus works as a marine biologist in Sweden, focusing on porpoises in the Baltic Sea and marine protected areas in Kalmar County. He is also a captain and works with the English Foundation Marine Conservation Research. The research and expeditions focus on marine mammals and acoustics, for example, how whales are affected by noise from ships.

His work has taken him to many places around the world, all the way from the tropics to the polar regions. He has surveyed penguins in the Sub-Antarctic, Monk seals in Africa and has been researching blue whales in the seas surrounding Iceland and Greenland. While the research projects have focused on cetaceans and acoustics the fascination for the polar regions got him hooked and since 2017 Magnus has work as an expedition guide.

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# Saskia van der Meij – Expedition guide

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Saskia is an enthusiastic girl born in The Netherlands. With a huge national park in her backyard, she felt at a young age how great it is to be active in & part of nature.

Multiple-day hikes in the Andes or the Himalayas, kayaking around remote islands in Canada or camping on mountain tops overlooking Alaska's glaciers.

Saskia has a background in tourism and hospitality. For almost twenty years she was a product manager for a nature-oriented tour operator. She travelled to develop interesting products in Alaska, Canada, Argentina, Chili, Southern Africa, Australia and New Zealand. In that time, while co-guiding a trip in Iceland, she knew she wanted to be a nature guide.

In 2019 she worked for three months in Namibia as an assistant hotel manager in two different private game lodges. Two fantastic years followed while spending her time in North Norway, Spitsbergen and the Baltic Sea as a hotel manager on a three mast Barque (Tallship).

But her heart told her to go guiding. She spent almost every season in Spitsbergen and became an expedition guide on several ships. She called Antarctica home for three months last winter/summer. As a camping guide she took guests out for a night on this amazing continent.

She has a wide interest and understanding, from animals and landscapes to ice and history with its interesting explorer stories.

Hospitality lies in her core and her ongoing 'sunshine' is what guests remember Saskia by. She welcomes you on board and likes to share her knowledge and enthusiasm for these breathtaking destinations.

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# Jerry Zhao - Expedition Guide

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Jerry has been in love with nature and wildlife and traveling all his life. Soon after completed his degree in Business Administration at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Jerry began a career in the travel industry. Jerry first started as an international travel consultant and tour leader and led exclusive small high-end groups throughout Europe.

He then became partner in an international traveling consulting firm and focused on route planning and employee training.

As he searched for more adventure, He collected skills and knowledge while he traveled around to world. Finally, his step stopped at Polar regions, and joined Oceanwide Expeditions as Expeditions Guides, He has guided expeditions to the North Pole, Svalbard, Greenland, Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia many times.

Along the way as he spent more time in polar regions, learns more about polar regions, he is more interested in polar regions. He has self-studied the geography, wildlife and history of the Polar regions. He is beginning to learn wildlife photography.

When he is not in polar regions, he likes to spend his time in the forest, dessert, and plains in Northwestern part of China. He loves nature, wildlife, and he loves to share all that he knows to everyone who comes across.



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# William Kennedy – Expedition Guide

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William was brought up in the west coast of France in an Irish household. From a very young age he travelled to visit relatives on the emerald isle and the bug for discovering other cultures and lifestyles caught him.

Curiosity brought him all over Europe, working as a farmer in Iceland, building cabins in the Pyrenees, bartending in Scotland, carpentering in Norway and becoming a kitchen chef in Sweden.

While living yet another adventure on the remote archipelago of Svalbard, he discovered the polar world and its famous adventurers.

He since then has been sailing the Arctic and Antarctic waters, blending his passion for history, storytelling, and travel by shining the light on unsung polar heroes, events and adventures.

When not on the ships he lives in Malmö, Sweden where he found a place to call home. Hiking and sailing are his main past times along with playing rugby and ice hockey, depending on the season.

## WELCOME ABOARD!

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

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

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

### **Lifeboat Drill**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 0745      **Wakeup call** – Good Morning!
- 0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 0915      **Zodiac & IAATO Briefing** - Please join our expedition leader Adam in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our **mandatory** zodiac and IAATO briefings.
- 1100      **Muck Boots** - We will call you by deck to collect your Muck boots from the boot room on **deck 3**. *Please bring your thick socks to make sure you have the perfect fit! **Please listen for announcements.***
- 1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400      **Biosecurity:** We will call you by colour groups to **deck 3** to complete our biosecurity cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, footwear and tripods / walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. *Please listen for announcements.*
- 1630      **Whales of the Southern Ocean** – Please join Felicity in the lounge to learn more about these ocean giants we may encounter along the way!
- 1815      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our first daily recap and briefing to know the plans for next day and get some other interesting information.
- 1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).



Antarctica – Discovery and Learning  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
At Sea to Antarctica – The Drake Passage

- 0745      **Wakeup Call** – Good Morning :)
- 0800      **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 0930      **(REPEAT ONLY) IAATO/Zodiac Briefing & Biosecurity**– This is the **final** opportunity in the **lecture room** (deck 5), for anyone who missed yesterday’s mandatory IAATO/Zodiac Briefings and biosecurity. You must attend if you would like to join activities off the ship.
- 1030      **What Is A Penguin?** – Please join Meike in the lounge to learn more about one of the symbols of Antarctica!
- 1230      **Lunch** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400      **Sir Ernest Shackleton and the Transantarctic Expedition** – Please join Jens in the **lounge** to become familiar with one of the most epic explorations that took place on the white continent!
- 1600      **Ice of the Southern Continent** – Please join Beth in the lounge to learn more about glaciers, how they work and what’s underneath the ice!
- 1815      **Recap** – Please join the Expedition Team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900      **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4)

0645      **Wake up call** - good morning!

0700      **Breakfast** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to offer a landing and a cruise at legendary Portal Point – the starting point of many Antarctic expeditions of the past. This is a continental landing and a great area for views over Charlottle Bay in search for ice and whales!*

The **Red group** will go to shore first while the **Green group** will go zodiac cruising first. We will then swap halfway through the morning.

0830      **Red group** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Portal Point.

0845      **Green group** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Portal Point.

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

*This afternoon we hope to offer you a zodiac cruise at Foyen Harbour – a picturesque cove with many little islands, icebergs and an old shipwreck of a whaling era. This will be a full zodiac cruise so please dress up warmly!*

1415      **Green group** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Foyen Harbour.

1430      **Red group** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Foyen Harbour.

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

1900      **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.

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

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

*Skontorp Cove is a cove within Paradise Harbour, an aptly named bay that is home to the Almirante Brown Scientific Station. We have the opportunity to see multiple penguin species, cetaceans and beautiful ice whilst on our full zodiac cruise.*

0815      The **Red** group - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for your zodiac cruise.

0830      The **Green** group - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for your zodiac cruise.

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

*In the afternoon we hope to land and cruise at **Damoy point**. Here we hope to enjoy several gentoo penguins, a long walk to a historic hut and stunning Antarctic scenery.*

1430      The **Green** group - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Damoy Point.

1445      The **Red** group - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Damoy point.

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

1900      **Special Antarctic Dinner** will be served – don't forget to dress warmly!

*This afternoon we hope to offer you a landing and zodiac cruise at Danco Island – a stunning dome island in the middle of the picturesque Errera channel. We will also offer you a Polar plunge – if you would like to plunge, please wear your swimsuit underneath your warm clothes. Please **DO NOT BRING TOWELS FROM YOUR CABINS, WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH TOWELS.***

*The **Green** group will go to shore first while the **Red** group will go zodiac cruising first. We will then swap halfway through the afternoon.*

- 1400      The **Green** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Danco Island.
- 1415      The **Red** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Danco Island.
- 1800      **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.
- 1830      **Buffet dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This evening we hope to offer you a **unique experience of an evening landing** at Cuverville island, home to the biggest Gentoo penguin colony on the Antarctic peninsula. There will be no Zodiac cruise, the landing will be carried out in two waves. **Red** group goes first, **Green** group follows.*

- 1945      The **Red** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Cuverville island.
- 2045      The **Green** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Cuverville Island.



# OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Antarctica – Discovery and Learning  
Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023  
Orne Harbour & Danco Island

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

0700      **Breakfast** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to offer a landing and a cruise at Orne Harbour – home to a colony of Chinstrap penguins. This is a continental landing and a great area for views over Gerlache Strait and Errera channel!*

*The **Red** group will go to shore first while the **Green** group will go zodiac cruising first. We will then swap halfway through the morning.*

0830      The **Red** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Orne Harbour.

0845      The **Green** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Orne Harbour.

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

*This afternoon we hope to offer you a landing and zodiac cruise at Danco Island – a stunning dome island in the middle of the picturesque Errera channel. We will also offer you a Polar plunge – if you would like to plunge, please wear your swimsuit underneath your warm clothes. Please **DO NOT BRING TOWELS FROM YOUR CABINS, WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH TOWELS.***

*The **Green** group will go to shore first while the **Red** group will go zodiac cruising first. We will then swap halfway through the afternoon.*

1430      The **Green** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Danco Island.

1445      The **Red** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Danco Island.

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

1900      **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.

2030      **Movie Night!** – enjoy Happy Feet playing in the lecture room!



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

0700      **Breakfast** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to offer you a full zodiac cruise at Fournier Bay. This sheltered bay has the opportunity to find imperial cormorants, icebergs and cetaceans, whilst cruising along the glaciated coastline.*

0800      The **Red** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise in Fournier Bay.

0815      The **Green** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise in Fournier Bay.

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

*This afternoon we hope to offer a landing and zodiac cruise at Orne Islands, home to a colony of Chinstrap penguins and Gentoo penguins, as well as panoramic views across the Gerlache Strait!*

*The **Green group** will go to shore first while the **Red group** will go zodiac cruising first. We will then swap halfway through the afternoon.*

1330      The **Green** group - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Orne Islands.

1345      The **Red** group - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Orne Islands.

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

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

2030      **Movie Night!** – enjoy Happy Feet playing in the lecture room!

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

0700 **Breakfast** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to land at Half Moon Island, home to the Argentine Cámara Base. The island also supports a wide range of seabirds including a breeding colony of Chinstrap penguins. Besides it is one of the places where pinnipeds sometimes rest.*

0830 The **Red group** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Half Moon Island

0845 The and **Green group** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Half Moon Island.

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

1330 **Deception Island mini-series** – Please join the team in the lounge to learn more about the varied history of the island.

+/-1500 **Arrival at Neptune's Bellows** – Head out on deck to marvel at the steep cliffs as we sail into a flooded caldera!

1600 The **Green group** – please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Whalers Bay.

1615 The **Red group** – please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Whalers Bay.

1915 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.

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

***This evening we will sail into open water – please secure your belongings and take your seasickness medication as required. Please remember to keep one hand for the ship and take care when moving around. We may need to close the outer decks – please pay attention to the signs on the outer doors.***

- 0800      **No wakeup call** – Have a lovely morning!  
**Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0900      **Lifejackets, Muck Boots, Dry Bags & Rental Gear Collection** – We will call you by deck to return your zodiac lifejackets, muck boots, dry bags and any rental gear to the **shell doors on deck 3**.  
**Please listen for announcements.**
- 0930      **Photo competition** – Did you take some amazing images during our trip? Enter your best shot into our photo competition! Please join Misha in the **library** to submit your best images.
- Pictures will be displayed all day in the lounge throughout the afternoon where you will be able to vote for your favourite pictures.*
- 1030      **Paintings of the Sea** – Please join Bill in the lounge to absorb the artistic knowledge about something that is even older than the wise ole Scotsman.
- 1230      **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1400      **Sonic World of Cetaceans** – Please join Magnus in the **lounge** for his lecture all about the acoustics of the underwater world.
- 1600      **Life of the Albatross** – Please join Meike in the **lounge** to learn more about the most spectacular gliders of all birds!
- 1815      **Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap.
- 1900      **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 2030      **Photo Competition** - Please join the team in the **lounge** to reveal the competition winners.
- 2045      **Antarctic Quiz** - Demonstrate your newly obtained knowledge of Antarctica and **join the team** for a fun quiz in the **lounge!**

**No wakeup call** – Have a lovely morning!

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

0930 **Antarctic Geopolitics** - Please join William in the lounge to learn about the hidden part of the geopolitical iceberg of Antarctica.

1100 **Around Cape Horn** – Don't miss the chance to watch this documentary in the lounge, dated with 1920's footage of incredible bravery of sailing through these rebellious waters!

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

*After lunch you will receive your bill in your cabin. We will call you by deck to make payments at reception – **Please listen for announcements.***

1430 **How to Reach Antarctica** – Please join Sasha in the lounge to hear his story of how he conquered the white continent!

1600 **Climate Mini-series** – Please join the expedition team in the **lounge** to learn about how humans are altering our climate and what we can do about it.

1800 **Farewell Toast & Trip Slideshow** - Please join the Captain and the expedition team in the **lounge** for a toast to our voyage through the Southern Ocean and a slideshow of our expedition.

1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.



Antarctica – Discovery and Learning  
**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2023**  
**Disembarkation - Ushuaia**

0715      **Wakeup call** – Good Morning!

0730-0830   **Breakfast** will be served in the dining room.

*Please place your large/check-in luggage outside your cabin no later than 0730. During breakfast we will collect your luggage and deposit it on the pier where it will be your responsibility to identify and collect each item.*

0830-0900   **Disembarkation – Please listen for announcements.** We will inform you once we have been cleared by local authorities. Once clearance has been completed, we will invite you to the gangway to disembark Hondius.

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

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

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