



OCEANWIDE
30 YEARS OF EXPEDITIONS

Antarctica Basecamp

04th – 16th January 2024



M/V Plancius

MV Plancius was named after the Dutch astronomer, cartographer, geologist and vicar Petrus Plancius (1552-1622). Plancius was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was named Hr. Ms. Tydeman. The ship sailed for the Royal Dutch Navy until June 2004 when she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions and completely refit in 2007, being converted into a 114-passenger expedition vessel. Plancius is 89 m (267 feet) long, 14.5 m (43 feet) wide and has a maximum draft of 5 m, with an Ice Strength rating of 1D, top speed of 12+ knots and three diesel engines generating 1230 hp each.

Captain Ernesto Barria

and his international crew

Chief Officer: **Romanas Vicas**

2nd Officer: **Martin Hansson**

3rd Officer: **Don Buren**

Chief Engineer: **Aleksandr Bondarev**

Hotel Manager: **Michael Frauendorfer**

Assist. Hotel Manager: **Alfredo Bonifaz Mateo**

Head Chef: **Khabir Moraes**

Ships Doctor: **Michiel Bongers**

Expedition Leader: **Pippa Low**

Assist. Expedition Leader: **George Kennedy**

Expedition Guides: **David McKinley (Gnarly)**

David Rudkin

Erin Bastian

Eduardo Rubio-Herrera

Koen Hoekemeijer

Marco Rosso

Owain Jones

Steffi Liller

Thomas Van Hoof

Day 1 – 04th January

Ushuaia – Embarkation Day

16:00 GPS Position: 54° 48.6'S / 66° 54.0'W

Wind: E-4, **Sea State:** Smooth, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** 8°C, **Sea Temp:** 9°C

Finally, the day had arrived and our expedition to Antarctica was about to begin. We found ourselves in Ushuaia in the most southern part of Argentina which is also called *'the end of the world'*. But during our expedition we will go even further south.

We were not expected to embark gracious M/V Plancius until 16:00. That gave us time to recover from the long journey south and to relax and explore the city of Ushuaia.



At 16:00 it was time to make our way up the gangway of M/V Plancius. We were greeted at the dock by members of the expedition team, and the hotel manager quickly checked us in. There was not a lot of time to relax as at 17:30 a mandatory safety drill was scheduled so our presence in the lounge was required. We were first welcomed by expedition leader Pippa and then the chief officer guided us through a safety video and the drill procedure. Before we knew it, we all sat in the lounge wearing our big and bulky orange life vests and when we heard the abandon ship alarm we all made our way outside to the life boats where the second officer informed us further.

With the mandatory drill done, it was time to release the ropes, start the engines and leave the port of Ushuaia behind us. With the ship on its way, the captain came down to the lounge where he greeted us with a glass of Italian Prosecco, while speaking some warm welcome words.



Pippa then gave us more information about the program and the planning for the days ahead.

Soon it was time for dinner. The galley team had prepared a delicious buffet and the dining room was buzzing with excitement. The members of the expedition team also joined dinner and this offered a first opportunity to get to know each other.

The next 12 days we will see each other a lot!

Day 2 – 05th January

At Sea – Drake Passage

12:00 GPS Position: 57° 24.7'S / 65° 36.5'W

Wind: NW-5, **Sea State:** Moderate, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** 6°C, **Sea Temp:** 6°C

Wake up call was anticipated this morning since the bridge and our Expedition Leader had spotted a pod of Long-fin Pilot Whales. Earlier than expected we then rush out to the outer decks on the portside of the ship to observe these interesting cetaceans making their way on the opposite direction. Soon after a second pod of Pilot Whales were observed and then it was time for breakfast.

The first part of the Drake passage had been good on us. Wind was down to around 16-18 knots and a very gentle rolling had accompanied us during our first night. Little by little the restaurant came alive with excitement and breakfast was served with fruits, eggs, cereals, etc.

Soon after the long marathon of mandatory briefings started at 9:15am. Zodiac operations, and IAATO rules and guidelines.



A short break for a cup of coffee or tea whilst we could enjoy the outer decks and observing magnificent seabird such as Black-browed albatrosses, Southern Giant Petrels, White Chinned Petrels, Cape Petrels and Antarctic Prions soaring around our ship.



Gnarly and Dave, our Mountaineering Guides introduced us to the different options we had in the white continent and later on it was time to collect our Muck boots just before lunch.

Lunch was served and right after at 2pm Marco and Thom briefed us about the overnight stay experience; followed by lovely Erin with the kayaking activity.

Koen gave us his first lecture about photographic composition, meanwhile outside a full display of birdlife was emphasizing our approach to the Antarctic Convergence which we expected to



cross overnight. More and more Antarctic species joined the dance around the ship.

Eventually at 6:15 we had our first briefing of the voyage, Pippa presenting the plan and the weather for next day; followed by Marco, Steffi and Eduardo with their interesting and scientific introductory talks about wind patterns, the open of the Drake passage and the Aurora Australis.

Day 3 – 06th January

At Sea – Drake Passage and Bransfield Strait

12:00 GPS Position: 62° 05.5'S / 63° 54.7'W

Wind: N-3, **Sea State:** Slight, **Weather:** Fog, **Air Temp:** 4°C, **Sea Temp:** 2°C

We woke up founding that the gentle swell even decreased during the night.

M/V Plancius was steaming her way down South at a good speed of 11,5-12 knots and had made good progress over the night. The Antarctic Convergence had been crossed a few hours prior to hour waking up call, thus we found ourselves already inside the political and biological boundaries that define Antarctica.

Among the many ways to define Antarctica, two are mostly use by the general public: a political definition of the White continent sees all land and ice south of the 60-degree parallel whereas from a biological perspective the boundaries are set by the Antarctic Circumpolar Current (ACC). The ACC is one of the main oceanic currents of the planet that flows around the Antarctic continent in a clockwise direction and helps to keep at bay the warmer tropical waters of the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian oceans, thus creating the perfect conditions for life to thrive into the Southern Ocean.

The day took off with the activity signing up in the lounge room and among keen mountaineers, excited campers and avid kayakers, we started seeing regularly icebergs on our way down.



The morning carried on with Marco enlighten us with a beautiful and thorough "Introduction to the Antarctic Peninsula", when we not only learned about the peculiarity of the white continent, but also the geography, geology and history of the Antarctic Peninsula; that special area of Antarctica where M/V Plancius was carrying us to.

Afternoon Biosecurity followed while the sea was still calm. We did not see much seabirds, but Steffi offered an interesting lecture about these iconic birds and how they live in this vast environment.

In the evening we cruised west of the South Shetland Islands further South, dotted with glimmering and beautiful icebergs. Porpoising penguins escorted us into the Bransfield Strait that we were about to cross during the night on our way to the first landing of this Antarctic - Basecamp expedition. The next morning the calm and protected waters of Cuverville Island awaited us.



Day 4 – 07th January

Cuverville Island and Brown Station

12:00 GPS Position: 64° 41.7'S / 62° 36.3'W

Wind: NW-2, **Sea State:** Calm, **Weather:** Snow, **Air Temp:** 0°C, **Sea Temp:** 0°C

On our first activity day we awoke to the sight of Humpback Whales and porpoising Penguins. As we turned south from the Gerlache Strait into the northern entrance of the enchanting Errera Channel, our first landing, Cuverville Island, presents itself as an eye catching, snow-capped, rocky dome. To its west we have Ronge Island and to the east, the Arctowski Peninsula, which forms the channel boundaries.

After visiting Cuverville our captain navigated the Errera Channel southwards past Danco Island before turning hard to the west to enter Andvord Bay and sail through the Aguirre Passage into Paradise Bay. Our second landing of the day was at the Almirante Brown research station (Argentinian) and the beautiful Skontorp Cove.



For our first day we had fantastic wildlife sightings. All three brushtail penguins, the Gentoo, Chinstrap and Adelle and sightings of Weddel, Crabeater and Leopard Seals.



MOUNTAINEERING

Location: Cuverville island, Errera Channel

We ascended Cuverville Islands steep NW flank, gaining approximately 250 meters in height to reach the broad open summit. Thick mist didn't deter the enthusiastic team, the cloud parting momentarily on the top allowing us views all the way to the Errera Channel.



Location: Brown Station, Paradise Harbour

After roping up above the Station, we climbed the short but sharp initial snow slope by zig-zagging with strange new snow-shoe cointarptions on our feet. Beyond that we walked on less steep but still deep snow, which required a trail to be made passable. From the summit, we paused to enjoy the views and sounds of Paradise Bay. Blows from Humpback Whales passing through the Ferguson Channel were visible below, and Terns swooped above trying to deter a scrounging Skua.



KAYAKING

Location: Cuverville island, Errera Channel

Wow what a way to start our trip. Cuverville was beautiful! A light breeze was blowing in towards the island. The kayakers tucked in behind a large iceberg to get perfect clam water for climbing into the kayaks from the zodiac. We then let the breeze blow us through the giant icebergs on the west of the island. Weaving in and out, there were penguins jumping around everywhere. We paddled along the shore of a pebble beach where many Gentoo penguins were bathing, preening and napping in between parental shifts. Navigating around a small rocky island we found two sleeping wedel seals. And we finished this fabulous paddle by pushing our way through thick ice close to the shores of Cuverville where the other passengers had landed.



Location: Brown Station, Paradise Harbour

We had just climbed into our kayaks when we spotted a whale, who needs to practice kayaking skills like turning and stopping when you can catch up with 2 feeding humpback whales. One even popped up in between the kayakers no more than 3 metres from the luckiest boat. We watched for many minutes before the whales decided the krill were better somewhere else. This gave us the opportunity to carry on exploring. We found a few wedel seals napping on floating icebergs and mad a loop around the ship before finding more whales. Whale-tastic! They headed further into the bay towards the glacier, we shared them with a few cruising zodiacs, but wow what a beautiful experience!



CAMPING

Location: Leith Cove, Paradise Harbour

At around 21:00, right after dinner we got ready to get on shore with the Zodiacs and were welcomed by Marco, Tom and Owain our camping guides for the night. The disembarkation on the southern part of the small island was a bit difficult due to some exposed and steep rocks, until we got our feet on solid and crunchy snow.



The evening was lovely, overcast although with absence of wind. After digging our snow pits and having set up our equipment, we slipped into our sleeping bags. Meanwhile in the southern corner of Leith cove a humpback whale appeared, cruising and feeding alongside the glacier terminus which encompassed the bay forming a beautiful amphitheater of ice and peaks.



The whale stayed around for a good half an hour; the goose bumping noise of its blows and breaths echoed in the bay during the entire night. A truly and unique Antarctic experience.

The following morning, we got an early wake-up call, around 5am; got dressed and shuttled back to M/V Plancius and ready to sail towards the De Gerlache strait on our way to Orne harbour. Another fantastic day awaited us!

Day 5 – 08th January

Orne Harbour and Damoy Point

12:00 GPS Position: 64°39.2'S / 62°52.7'W

Wind: ENE-4, **Sea State:** Slight, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** 2°C, **Sea Temp:** 1°C

Overnight the navigation officers repositioned the ship to Orne Harbour, a small cove, 1 mile wide which indents the west coast of Graham Land, 2 miles south west of Cape Anna. The cove was discovered by the Belgian Antarctic Expedition under command of Gerlache in 1898. The name Orne Harbor was probably in use by Norwegian whalers, because it was used by Scottish geologist David Ferguson following his geologic reconnaissance of this area aboard the whaler Hanka in 1913. The site is dominated by Spigot Pesak, a sharp 289 m above sea level sharp, ice corniced peak.

Our day started with our wake up call from our expedition leader Pippa informing us about the location of our ship and the conditions outside. Our plans for the morning consisted of deploying our activities in Orne Harbour.



Breakfast was offered at quarter past seven and immediately after our team of Mountaineers departed the ship in a zodiac. Gnarly and Dave were the first to board and they departed without delays to try to climb their objective of the day, Mount Spigot. The conditions at the landing site were a bit challenging, because of brash ice along the shore.

Our zodiac drivers managed to reach the shore and deployed in no time the small group who unloaded their equipment from the small boat. The Mountaineers were confronted with a steep snowy trail, that led to a rocky ridge from where it is possible to appreciate the Errera Channel, the Gerlache Strait as well as Anvers and Brabant islands. A number of chinstrap penguins were nesting in the ridge and from this height it was possible to contemplate some penguin highways going all the way up. From here we also had the chance to spot some humpback whales in the distance.

The wind was blowing hard at around 25-30 knots and it would have been unsafe for kayakers to go. Despite this, we offered the possibility to have a closer look to the Chinstrap penguins nesting here and there was a small but steep hike offered for those wanting to have a closer encounter with the chinstrap penguins. These penguins nest high above the ridge, so guests walked hike up the ridge.

Sadly due to the increasing wind, our mountain fellows took the decision of turning back from the mountain and almost at the same time, our expedition leader decided to suspend the activity for the rest of the passengers too. The risks of being trapped by brash ice were a bit high and for the safety of the operation we cancelled it. We turned



back to the ship zodiac by zodiac and after about 30 min we were all back in the safety of M/V Plancius. Almost all our guests had the chance to step outside the zodiacs, and many if not all, had the chance to enjoy an atmospheric afternoon, with grey clouds enshrouding Spigot Point.

We repositioned the ship at noon sailing to our next stop of the day: Damoy Point. This is a landing that offers many interesting possibilities and here we had again a few activities to undertake. We drop first our Mountaineers. They were heading for mount Jabet and they started their afternoon sortie. Finally everyone was out for a nice leg stretching walk with snowshoes in the slopes behind the landing. Ashore we had the chance to see two historical huts, one belonging to the Argentinians and the other one recently renovated by the Antarctic Heritage Trust, belonging to the British Antarctic Survey Program of the United Kingdom. The activity was very pleasant for everybody, and we had the chance to walk under very good conditions. The wind eased as well as the fog and as the hours passed during the landing, we saw how the mountains around the area cleared up.



The weather remained like that for the rest of the evening. We had our recap when we came back to the ship. Dinner was served at 19:30 and as we had dinner our Captain Ernesto decided to sail through the Peltier Strait. This is a 6 miles long channel, that runs North East - South West direction and separates Doumer and Wiencke Islands to the South of Port

Lockroy, in the Palmer Archipelago. This majestic channel was discovered by the French Antarctic Expedition from 1903 to 1905 and was named by Jean Baptiste Charcot to honor Jean Peltier a noted French physicist.

MOUNTAINEERING

Location: Spigot Peak, Orne Harbour

Beginning the day in Orne Harbor provided enough shelter for the team to don crampons and prepare for the ascent, but strong winds and drifting snow on Spigot Peak's south ridge was already visible from below. At the saddle the mountaineers felt the full force of the wind, but the first sighting of the equally adventurous Chinstrap Penguins was a momentary distraction. The team showed true grit pressing on up the ridge, until strong buffeting wind and the encroaching brash ice filling in the bay below threatening our chance of egress meant a swift about turn was required before the summit.



Location: Jabet Runway, Wiencke Island



Splitting into two roped teams, the mountaineers left the rocky landing and Gentoo colonies, passed above the old airway building and gained the glacial runway by a steady ascent that required a trail to be blazed in the snow. Once at the high point on the runway, views were possible down into Port Lockroy and the British Post Office.

Day 6 – 09th January

Petermann Island and Salpêtrière Bay

12:00 GPS Position: 65°10.4'S / 64°02.4'W

Wind: NE-3, **Sea State:** Calm, **Weather:** Clear, **Air Temp:** 5°C, **Sea Temp:** 0°C



In the morning we were early on deck as the Captain was going to steer the ship through the famous narrows of the Lemaire channel. Just before the Captain could enter the channel we were stopped by a small pod of Killer-whales, it looked like they were guarding the entrance. After a while we were granted permission and Captain navigated Plancius with great skill through the narrows. The landscape was breathtaking, a

high Alpine landscape at sea level with glaciers everywhere. It was a very sunny start of the day and the weather proved to be awesome during the rest of the morning as well.

After yet another delicious breakfast the expedition team landed us at Peterman island. On the island we could go and visit an Adelie penguin colony, and stretch our legs going to the top. The Adelies had some recently hatched chicks which were comfortably tucked away under their parent's belly.



Close to the Argentine station building there was a group of elephant seals hauled out which we could approach. We could closely observe the resting behavior of these giants, they were lying very relaxed yawning and scratching, digesting their food and getting rid of their loose fur.



In the afternoon we zodiac cruised a so-called Iceberg graveyard round Planeau island. The weather was amazing and we observed with amazement how nature had sculpted the chunks of ice in all kinds of fantastic forms. The light played with the forms and provided us with a spectacle of colors. In the ice we encountered leopard seals and Wedel seals, a truly spectacular afternoon.

In the evening we had a recap and a quick dinner before the second group of campers were dropped off at a site called Hovgaard. Initially it was a bit windy, but when the sun dropped behind the horizon, the local winds dropped and the campers had a great night with spectacular scenery. The bridge held a close watch on a big iceberg floating towards the entrance of the Lemaire channel, but luckily it did not block the entrance during the night.



MOUNTAINEERING

Location: Hovgaard Island, Penola Strait

Pristine weather and untouched snow made for a majestic ascent of Hovgaard Island, the summit reaching 369 meters above sea level. Clear skies allowed distant views south past the Vernadsky Islands and beyond. Some of the more adventurous members of the team even took the opportunity to explore a couple of crevasses!



KAYAKING

Location: Petermann island, Penola Strait

The sea looked like glass! It couldn't be any calmer. With mountains reflected in the mirror like water, we climbed into the kayaks and started our journey. The plan was to navigate the whole length of Peterman N to S and then head out into the Bay to see if we could find a Whale.

As we paddled along the coast we were met by a small gang of Antarctic Shags, clearly curious by us kayakers they came in for a closer look. After their curiosity was fulfilled, they flew off and we continued to the penguin rookery.



There were plenty of Adele penguins rafting in the water, launching and landing off the rocks and we had a fabulous view of the shag chicks on top of the cliffs. Continuing on we found a tiny wedel seal by the hut and several large wedel seals lying on the snow on the islands south of Petermann.

We finished our journey by paddling out and through the huge icebergs. One Ice arch towered above all the others. A tempting adventure, but these icebergs can't be trusted.

KAYAKING

Location: Pleneau island, Salpêtriere Bay

With such perfect conditions the best expedition decision we could make, was to invite the cancelled Orne harbour kayakers out to play as well as the original signed up team. So, Erin had the joy of leading two teams this afternoon. The first paddling out from the Lemaire channel through the brash ice and into the Iceberg graveyard. These huge bergs really make you feel tiny! A giant tower marked the middle of the iceberg graveyard, a leopard seal sunning himself on an iceberg nearby. We continued through the maze and popped out into a deep channel where we found a crabeater seal floating on a small berg. We met George who had a zodiac full of more kayakers who had been cruising.

We did some swapping magic and 'hey presto' the second team of kayaks were now on the water. This team would get to paddle back across the channel and into the graveyard. The wind had picked up now and there was a bit more chill in the air. We found the huge tower using it as a navigational mark to get back to the ship. "Give it a wide berth guys" Skimming around the edge of the big bergs bay, a yacht cut through underneath the giant berg tower. CRACK! Uh-oh! Face the wave, that's the tactic. The yacht scarily close to the berg as it crumbled had quite some near miss. Lucky Boat. But the wave was for sure going to give us a challenge. CRACK! Uh-oh. The entire tower fell into the water. "PADDLE GUYS!" this was a wave we should try to avoid. Finding a little cover from an iceberg we surfed the huge waves as we escaped. Now that's going to be a fun story to tell back home.



CAMPING

Location: Hovgaard island, Penola Strait

After a fantastic afternoon zodiac cruise around Planeau and Booth islands; M/V Plancius hold on in position right in the middle of Penola strait among tabular, pinnacle and drydock icebergs. The weather was excellent as it had been throughout the day; a clear sky and wispy air. Soon after dinner our zodiac drivers shuttled us to the eastern shore of Hovgaard island. We collected our shovels and started arranging our snowpits for the night.

Across the bay views of the craggy peaks of Booth island enlightened by the warm yellow light a long Antarctic sunset, while a couple of Weddell seals were resting nearby and a few Gentoo penguins visited the shoreline. This was our special setting for our first and memorable overnight in the White Continent. Certainly an experience to remember!



Day 7 – 10th January

Jougla Point and Port Lockroy

12:00 GPS Position: 64°49.6'S / 63°30.3'W

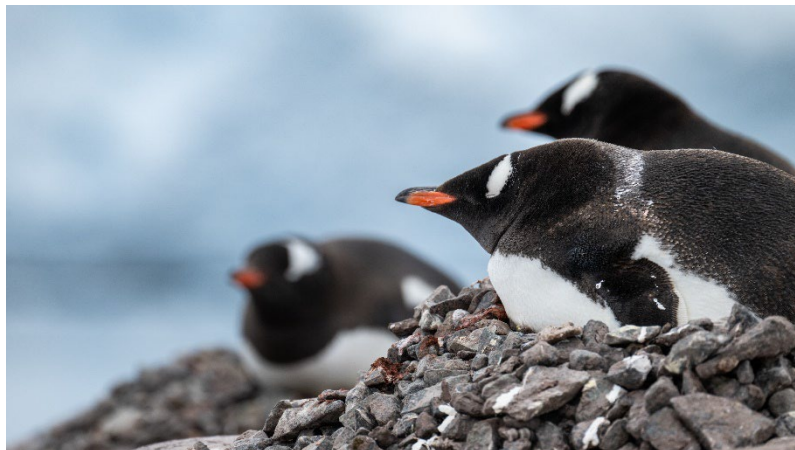
Wind: NE-4, **Sea State:** Slight, **Weather:** Snow, **Air Temp:** 0°C, **Sea Temp:** 1°C

Today was going to be yet another exciting one. Usually that's related to the landing spot and the type of wildlife we expect to see, but this time it was a bit different; today was a chance to get in touch with friends and family. Not so much through fast 5G wifi connections, but through a classic and proven method of communication; sending postcards through a post office! Yes today we dropped anchor in front of Port Lockroy, the most southern post office in the world.



Port Lockroy is managed and maintained by the British Antarctic Heritage Trust and is usually occupied by four people from the UK. They run the shop and museum, but they're also involved in scientific research involving the penguin colonies around the base and neighboring Jougla Point.

Unfortunately, due to avian influenza the base is closed to visitors. However, if we can't go to the base then we just make the base come to us. And so it happened that our ship was visited



by the entire team of Port Lockroy. They gave us a brief presentation about their work and the British Antarctic Heritage Trust. Soon after they set up shop in the dining room where we could buy all kinds of memorabilia and buy stamps to send our postcards. Today's postcard record for a single person was a stunning 47 postcards, amazing!

In the meantime, the expedition team set out a small loop on Jougla Point. It's a place with many Gentoo penguins, but we can also find many remains from the last whaling era. Large whale bones are lying around, whereas rumors tell us that it was Jacques Cousteau himself who put a number of whale bones together to show visitors the size of these gentle giants. The conditions

were perfect with no wind and not too cold. There were lots of penguins with chicks in all sizes so a great opportunity to fill those memory cards with cute photos and videos.

After a brief visit to Joula Point, a short zodiac cruise was offered so we could all see the base of Port Lockroy and some crab eater seals on an ice flow. Not a bad morning!



The plans for the afternoon were unfortunately cancelled due to bad weather. Strong winds and snow prevented us from landing at Danco Island, instead a true expedition plan was put in motion. The weather forecast for the entire region was very poor and as such it was decided to relocate to an area with calm weather. We raised all the sails and set course to the Antarctic Sound! We never go this far north during Basecamps, so we are embarking upon a *new* expedition.

MOUNTAINEERING

Location: Jabet Col, Wiencke Island



A long tough hike to this spectacular high col on the mighty Jabet Peak. We did not linger for too long due to the strong fresh winds blowing through the col. The long and winding snowshoe road home demands our concentration and tested our tired legs!

KAYAKING

Location: Port Lockroy, Goudier Island

This was going to be a Seal-tastic day! From the ship we could see a handful of icebergs, with some snoozing seals. The first we found in our kayaks was the biggest leopard seal ever, Big Berther. She was a whooper. The second ice berg was home to 4 napping crab eater seals, little did they know they were on a collision course with the ship. Kenny our Safety boat driver had to push their iceberg away from the anchored ship so as not to damage the gangway. The 4 lazy seals thought nothing of this manoeuvre and carried on with their nap. The 3rd iceberg had 2 crabbies and one wedel aboard, not a single head lift as we paddled past. We continued our exploration of Port Lockroy, enjoying incredible mountain views through the low clouds, and gentoo penguins everywhere! Baby shags sat in nests on the low cliffs, and we paddled around the island home to the most southerly post office in the world.



Day 8 – 11th January

Duroch Islands and Kinnes Cove

12:00 GPS Position: 63°18.6'S / 57°55.9'W

Wind: S-3, Sea State: Calm, Weather: Overcast, Air Temp: 10°C, Sea Temp: 1°C



A magnificent day following our long transit to the far reaches of the Trinity Peninsula, the northern culmination of the Antarctic peninsula itself.

In the morning we made a Zodiac landing on Kopaitic Island (Duroch Islands). Home to hundreds of Chinstraps penguins rearing their young chicks which we were able to observe and enjoy their antics. We also noted that several of the penguins were under observation by scientists from the close by Chilean Antarctic research station,

namely the Base General Bernardo O'Higgins.

In the afternoon we sailed eastwards away from the peninsula crossing the Antarctic Sound and sailing into Kinnes Cove on Joinville Island.

A full ship Zodiac cruise around the cove proved to be a visual and sensory overload for everyone. It is near impossible to articulate what we could see! Adelie penguins in their multiple thousands. A cacophony of sound and activity, indescribably beautiful.



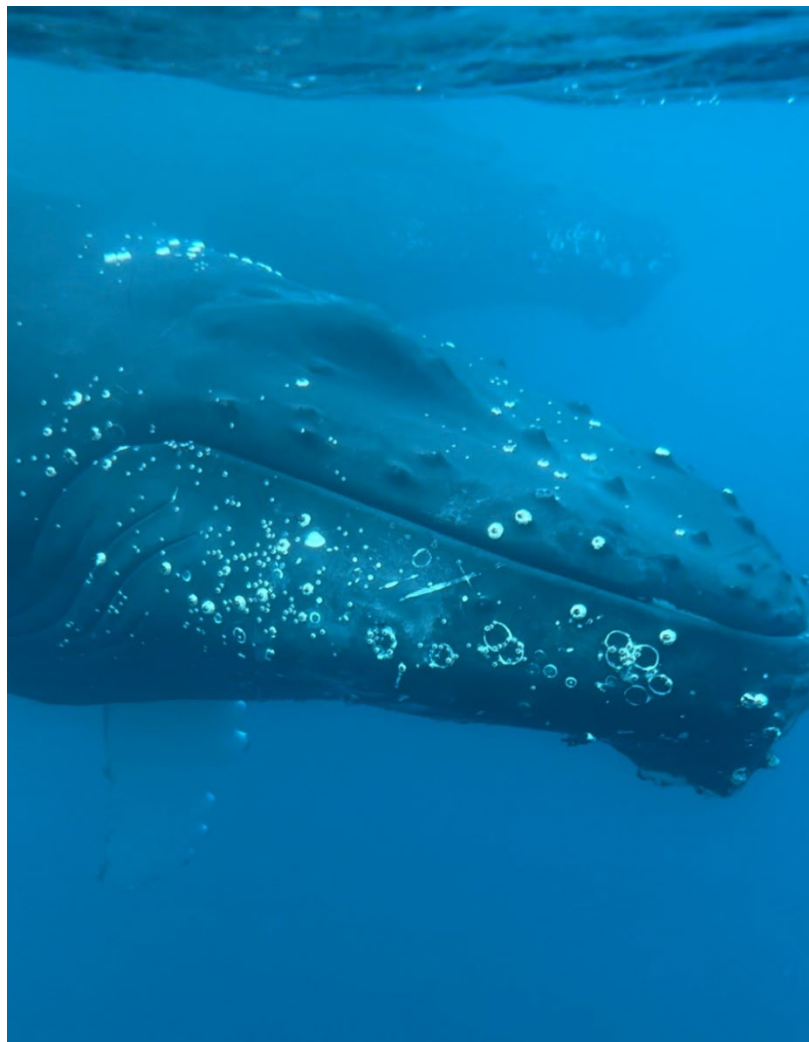
KAYAKING

Location: Kopaitic, Duroch Islands

This was to be a very memorable paddle, not just for the paddlers, but also for Erin the kayak guide.

We started off a little wobbly in the windy waves on the southern part of the island, but we quickly dashed through the narrow channel onto the more sheltered northern coastline. There were chinstraps everywhere! Nesting on steep rocky cliffs, landing on pebble beaches, and rafting all around our kayaks, sheer curiosity on their cheeky little faces as they swam around our kayaks.

We decided why fight the wind when you can just go with it. We downwinded to the next cluster of islands and found 4 humpback whales feeding on krill. We floated in awe as we watched them feed. Soon they realised we were there and they too were very curious. They very gracefully came and checked us out. 6 kayakers surrounded by these huge graceful creatures. We watched them dive between and under our kayaks for nearly an hour. What an incredible experience



KAYAKING

Location: Kinnes Cove, Joinville Island

So many penguins! The hill sides of the island were alive with nesting penguins. The kayakers would paddle along the coast enjoying the penguins going about their business. The Adele's are very entertaining. They hustle onto the very edge of the rocky coast, gathering in numbers until they are satisfied, they have enough for safety in numbers, and then they all dive in and make a



dash for the deep ocean. When we sit quietly in our kayaks you can see the little black and white torpedo's swimming beneath our kayaks. We navigated around a small rocky islands home to many baby penguins, fluffy and clumsy in their teenage stage of growing.

Day 9 – 12th January

Brown Bluff and Hope Bay

12:00 GPS Position: 63°31.0'S / 56°52.1'W

Wind: SE-2, **Sea State:** Smooth, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** 1°C, **Sea Temp:** 1°C

Another day in paradise, good morning! The decision to relocate further north has proven to be fantastic. Sunny skies, little wind and a fantastic landing site this morning; Brown Bluff! Brown Bluff is home to thousands of Adelie Penguins and some Gentoos here and there as well.

During Basecamps we usually only see Adelie penguins on Petermann Island, but the colony on Brown Bluff is a lot bigger and also more active. Upon landing we saw hundreds of Adelies marching on the beach, ready to plunge into the ocean for a foraging trip. Seeing them walking almost synchronized is one of the best things ever. The highway runs across the beach and some of us planted our GoPro's and phones to capture some close up footage of these incredibly cute creatures.



Marco had set out a route to a higher viewpoint from where we had a fantastic view on the glacier and Erin was at the end of the beach where the Adelie colony was. Here we could see many penguin chicks that already had grown quite big. At the other end of the landing site we got close to the glacier and George had

spotted a fur seal. Later in the summer fur seals arrive at the peninsula and we can see more and more of them.

We did not only see beautiful landscapes and cute penguins, the rock formations here are stunning as well and we could even see some geothermal activity. Tom passionately explained us more about this during recap that evening.

After a delicious lunch it was time for a zodiac cruise in Hope Bay. The weather was still great so we were all looking forward to seeing Esperanza Base before heading out of the bay to see if we could find whales.

Esperanza Base is one of the few bases that are occupied year round. It is a real community with children, a school and even a bank. It is also infamously known for an incident that took place in the early 50's. Shots were fired when a British Navy vessel came too close. Later on the Argentinian apologized for the incident claiming the commanding officer



had no approval for the shooting and would be penalized accordingly. However, upon returning to Argentina the soldiers involved in the incident were treated with a heroes welcome!

George in the meantime had picked up another passenger; an Adelie penguin had jumped onto his zodiac and the little penguin was standing proudly on the bow box for several minutes before diving off again. What an amazing encounter!



Then it was time to find some whales, and whales we found. Feeding whales all around and accompanied by thousands of penguins as well. Feeding humpbacks often feed in circular patterns so all we had to do was stop the engines and wait. And our waiting was rewarded, some whales came up very close to the zodiacs or swam by at a few meters distance only. In a few occasions we could even feel and smell the whale blow, not the nicest smell though. But definitely a once in a lifetime experience and good skin treatment ;)

We wished we could have stayed out longer, but after more than 3 hours it was really time to head back to the ship. What a day!

MOUNTAINEERING

Location: Brown Bluff, Tabarin Peninsula

Exploring new terrain, the team ascended the glaciers, weaving between moulins and crevasses, whilst the huge brown volcanic cliffs loomed above, and the steep edges of the glacier calved into the sea below. The mountain guides took a few moments to demonstrate ice screw protection to the budding new mountaineers.



KAYAKING

Location: Hope Bay, Tabarin Peninsula

Our last kayaking session of the trip and what a cool place to explore. The Argentinean base claiming civil society on Antarctica. Schools, hospitals, a shop. Esperanza is home to 20 families. We first paddled along the coast of hope bay, the hill side covered in little black and white penguins and red with their poo. The colour highlighting all the nesting sites. They swam all around our kayaks, the water felt so alive with activity. We paddled around the point and in towards the village. A scattering of red houses with blue and white flag roofs. A few people walking around going about their daily tasks.

We continued along the coast, dashing between rocky islands. We found a small sheltered bay with several sleeping seals. One huge one asleep on the rock beside the water. We quietly snuck past. A small group of teens sat on the rocks in the sun and we waved as we passed. As the wind picked up it was time to head back to the ship.



Day 10 – 13th January

Deception and Half Moon Island

12:00 GPS Position: 62°37.3'S / 54° 43.5'W

Wind: E-2, **Sea State:** Smooth, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** 2°C, **Sea Temp:** 2°C

We had an eerie early wake-up call this morning, it was around 5 o'clock when the captain navigated the Plancius through Neptune Bellows into the caldera of Deception Island. After a quick bite which was prepared for us by the hotel crew in the lounge, we landed in Whalers's bay.



Here we observed the remnants of the Norwegian whaling station and the British base. We walked up to Neptune's Window to have a great overview of the caldera and the Bransfield strait. When getting back to the landing site it was time for the "no guts, no glory" moment of the trip: the Polar Plunge. The hard wind and snowy conditions made it an activity only suitable for the true daredevils under us. After a very refreshing dip in the polar waters we were immediately rushed back to

the ship for a well-deserved shower, and breakfast. After a little nap, Tom was giving a lecture about the geology of the Scotia sea and showed a mini documentary about Deception Island.

In the afternoon it was already time for the last expedition activity of the trip. We landed at Halfmoon island where we could visit a chinstrap penguin colony. The little guys were very busy running up and down the highway, and for very good reasons as high up the colony there were lots of thick fluffy chicks waiting for a fresh regurgitated meal of krill. Further on the beach we found a group of elephant seal hauled out.



These big juveniles were yawning and scratching and relaxing, a very nice scene to witness from close-by. When we arrived all back to the ship there was a sudden change of plans. The mountaineers had spotted an awkward penguin on their way back. After a scouting boat was sent out it was confirmed this was a juvenile emperor penguin, a very rare sight here in the Peninsula! The expedition team managed to get everybody back on shore for a close look and a fantastic end of the expedition program of the trip.



In the evening there was a recap of Pippa about the plans for tomorrow, George talked about the law of the sea followed by Koen who gave a recap about storytelling in photography and Steffi talking about the flight of the Albatross. After another great meal in the restaurant most of us were exhausted after such a long day and went to bed early.

Day 11– 14th January

At Sea – Drake Passage

12:00 GPS Position: 59°30.1'S / 62°47.2'W

Wind: E-3, **Sea State:** Slight, **Weather:** Part. Cloud, **Air Temp:** 2°C, **Sea Temp:** 4°C

Overnight, we left the waters of the South Shetlands and shortly after dinner we could feel the rolling and pitching of the ship among the deeper waters of the southern tip of the Drake Passage. The weather overnight was clear and during the night we could still see some nice icebergs in the distance. Weather remained favourable overnight with grey and cloudy skies. The ship rolled a bit more during the night due to the typical swell of the Drake, running from west to East. This made the night a bit uncomfortable for a few. We woke up into similar conditions and the rolling continued and sadly the movement of the ship in the Drake was a reminder to everybody on board that we were leaving behind the white continent.

Sharp at 08:00 in the morning our Hotel Manager did the wake up call. There was no wake up call today from our Expedition Leader because she wanted to let people sleep in a bit more. Shortly after the doors of the dining room opened and everybody joined the room for breakfast. At 09:30, we had our first activity on board, Pippa, our Expedition Leader gave an excellent presentation about the incredible life of the whales in the southern ocean. This presentation was followed by Eduardo who explained a bit of the science done in Antarctica. In his presentation he explained some of the most advanced experiments currently going in the white continent.

Lunch was offered shortly after noon and then we asked the passengers to return their rental gear as well as their boots. This was done swiftly and promptly by our Staff Team who cleaned and disinfected the boots afterwards.

Occasionally during the morning we saw a couple of Wandering Albatross flying around the ship and a few Black Browed Albatross as well.

Later in the afternoon we had two more lectures. Our first speaker in the afternoon was Koen, who spoke about how to touch up and refine digital images using the software “Lightroom”. This presentation was followed by George who spoke about Antarctic geopolitics and the Antarctic treaty system. Both presentations were professional and both speakers had lots of questions and comments from the public.

After George's presentation our bartenders Rachel and Indira organized a "Happy Hour" for everybody so all drinks were at half the price. People ordered some of their favourite cocktails and enjoyed the nice views of an ocean illuminated by the light of the low Sun above the horizon.

At 18:00 we had our last daily recap. For this one, Michael our hotel manager had a few announcements to make, mostly to prepare our guests for disembarkation and about the methods to pay their bills. This was followed by Pippa who presented the plans for our next day and the weather. We are being very lucky with the weather which seems to be cooperating, so far we have had a smooth Drake passage. Pippa's intervention was followed by Steffi who presented footage of the curious case of a penguin who devoted his life to crime stealing rocks from his neighbour. Finally George gave a very energetic recap presenting the interesting stories of the first babies born in Antarctica and how this has sparked controversy between Argentina, Chile and the other members of the Antarctic Treaty System. The controversy being the political message behind these actions.

Then, at 19:00 sharp, Michael our hotel manager make the call for dinner and everybody went to the dining room to enjoy sapper. As the sunset sat in the western horizon in the evening, our ship was still rocking among the waves making good speed towards Ushuaia. The evening sky was grey with distant patches of blue sky in the horizon.

Day 12– 15th January

At Sea – Drake Passage and Beagle Channel

12:00 GPS Position: 55°31.4'S / 66°03.6'W

Wind: W-6, **Sea State:** Moderate, **Weather:** Rain, **Air Temp:** 6°C, **Sea Temp:** 7°C

We awoke for our final day aboard Plancius to the rolling seas of the Southern Ocean. Three-meter swell and 25knotts of wind buffeted our port side, disturbing sleep for some, whilst rocking others into an even deeper slumber. Nevertheless, we arose to another day of lectures, food and wildlife aboard Plancius as we drew ever closer to Tierra del Fuego.

After another delicious breakfast from our galley team, Steffi offered her lecture exploring the amazing krill in Antarctica. Following Steffi, Pippa offered a lecture exploring her experience as a whale researcher. We learnt about the history of whaling in Antarctica, as well as the various species that call the Southern Ocean home. As Pippa talked, many of us kept a keen eye on the horizon, not only to ward off any sickness, but hoping to catch a glimpse of these majestic creatures of the deep as we sailed ever further north.

Then, after lunch our friend Eduardo introduced us to the unknown and mysterious world of the depth. The history of underwater exploration, some of the engineering challenges the first underwater explorers had to go through together with the latest findings and maps of the abyss.

Eventually the long marathon of lectures culminated with George's "Future history of Antarctica". He described the many challenges facing the Antarctic Treaty System, as well as some opportunities to improve ecological protection and strengthen collaborative governance across this great frozen continent.



Meanwhile M/V Plancius had reached the calm and protected waters of the Beagle channel, and she was lingering around waiting for the pilot to come aboard and finally escorting us to the port of Ushuaia. We gathered for a final time in the lounge for our Captains farewell. After a rousing speech, the captain offered a toast to this incredible voyage and Pippa thanked the team and crew for their efforts. The festivities finished with a beautiful slideshow – a fitting memory of a truly amazing Antarctic basecamp.

Day 13 – 16th January

Ushuaia - Disembarkation Day

09:00 GPS Position: 54° 48.6'S / 66° 54.0'W

Wind: SW-1, **Sea State:** Calm, **Weather:** Overcast, **Air Temp:** 6°C, **Sea Temp:** 9°C

We docked back at Ushuaia early in the morning, while many of us enjoyed our last sleep onboard Plancius. With our bags packed and left outside our doors for the staff to collect, we enjoyed our final hearty breakfast from the galley team. Following breakfast, we disembarked the ship and said goodbye to Pippa and all the team. Whilst many of us leave with some sadness, we are grateful to be back on solid ground and with our hearts full of fond memories and unforgettable experiences from our exploration Antarctica Peninsula.

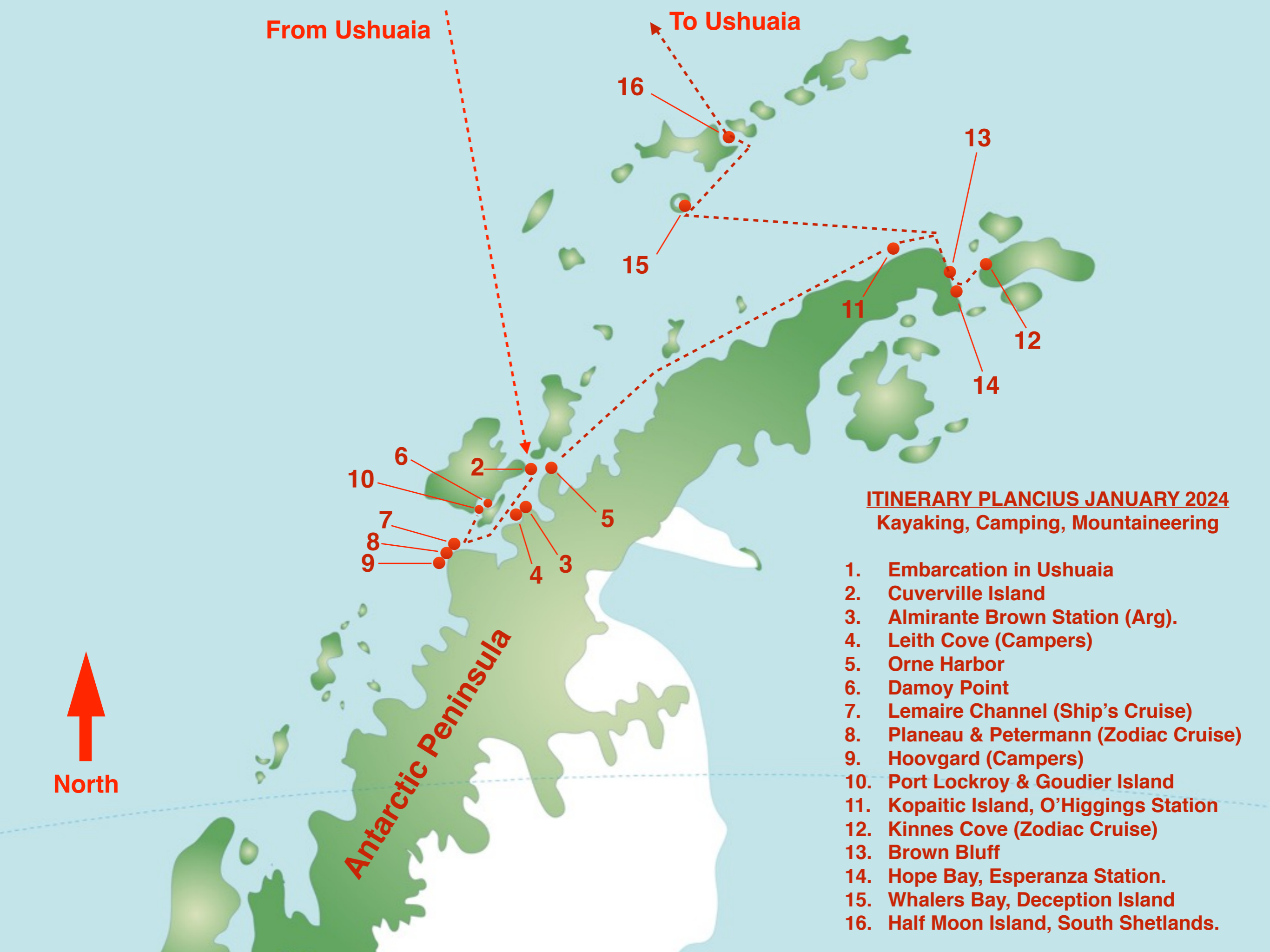
Thank you for your enthusiasm and support, but most of all for joining us on this adventurous Antarctica Basecamp voyage. We hope to see you again in the future, wherever that might be!



Total distance sailed: 1866 nautical miles

Farthest South: 65°10.6'S / 064°07.5'W

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Ernesto Barria, Expedition Leader Pippa Low and her team, Hotel Manager Michael Frauendorfer, and all the crew and staff of M/V Plancius, it has been a pleasure traveling with you!



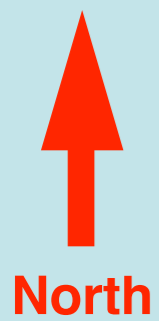
From Ushuaia

To Ushuaia

ITINERARY PLANCIUS JANUARY 2024

Kayaking, Camping, Mountaineering

1. Embarcation in Ushuaia
2. Cuverville Island
3. Almirante Brown Station (Arg).
4. Leith Cove (Campers)
5. Orne Harbor
6. Damoy Point
7. Lemaire Channel (Ship's Cruise)
8. Planeau & Petermann (Zodiac Cruise)
9. Hoovgard (Campers)
10. Port Lockroy & Goudier Island
11. Kopaitic Island, O'Higgins Station
12. Kinnes Cove (Zodiac Cruise)
13. Brown Bluff
14. Hope Bay, Esperanza Station.
15. Whalers Bay, Deception Island
16. Half Moon Island, South Shetlands.



Antarctic Peninsula

Species list: PLA25 Basecamp - 4th January - 16th January 2024

X																
English	Latin	4-jan	5-jan	6-jan	7-jan	8-jan	9-jan	10-jan	11-jan	12-jan	13-jan	14-jan	15-jan	Deutsch	Francais	Nederlans
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>										X			Kaiserpinguin	Manchot Empereur	Keizerpinguin
Adelie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adeliae</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X				Adeliepinguin	Manchot Adélie	Adélie-pinguin
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X				Eselspinguin	Manchot Papou	Ezelspinguin
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>				X	X			X	X	X			Zügelpinguin	Manchot à jugulaire	Kinbandpinguin
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>													Goldschopfpinguin	Gorfou doré	Macaroniepinguin
Southern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	X			X	X			X				X	Südlicher Riesensturmvogel	Pétrel géant	Zuidelijke reuzenstormvogel
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>		X								X	X	X	Kapsturmvogel	Damier du Cap	Kaapse duif
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>		X										X	Weißkinnsturmvogel		Witkin stormvogel
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>													Weißflügelsturmvogel	Pétrel Antarctique	Antarctische stormvogel
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>													Schneesturmvogel	Pétrel des neiges	Sneeuwstormvogel
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		Buntfußsturmschwalbe	Océanite de Wilson	Wilson stormvogeltje
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>													Blausturmvogel		Blauwe storm vogel
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>													Schwarzbauchmeerläufer	Océanite à ventre noir	Zwartbuikstormvogeltje
Antartic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>		X										X	Taubensturmvogel		
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>				X	X		X	X	X				Südlicher Eissturmvogel		zuidelijke ijsstormvogel
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>				X	X	X	X	X	X	X			Antarktikscharbe	Cormoran (impérial) antarctique	Blauwoogaalscholver
Pale-faced Sheatbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>				X		X	X	X	X	X			Weißgesicht-Scheidenschnabel	Chionis – Bec en fourreau	Poolkip
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	Dominikanermöwe	Goéland dominicain	Kelpmeeuw
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>				X	X	X		X	X	X			Antipodenseeschwalbe	Sterne couronnée	Zuidpoolstern
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>				X	X					X			Antarktiskua	Labbe de Mac Cormick	Zuidpooljager
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta antarctica</i>				X	X	X							Subantarktiskua	Labbe brun	Subantarktische Grote Jager
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>		X										X	Wanderalbatross	Albatros hurleur	Grote albatros
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>		X										X	Schwarzbrauenalbatross	Albatros à sourcils noirs	Wenkbrauwalbatros
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>													Graukopfalbatross	Albatros à tête grise	Grijskopalbatros
Light Mantled Sooty Albatross	<i>Phoebetria palpebrata</i>			X									X	Rußalbatross	Albatros fuligineux	Roetkopalbatros
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Procellaria griseus</i>		X											Dunkelsturmtacher		

Marine mammals																
		4-jan	5-jan	6-jan	7-jan	8-jan	9-jan	10-jan	11-jan	12-jan	13-jan	14-jan	15-jan	Deutsch	Francais	Nederlans
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				Buckelwal	Mégaptère (Baleine à bosse)	Bultrug; Bultrugwalvis
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>													Blauwal	Baleine bleue	Blauwe vinvis
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>				X									Finnwal	Rorqual commun	Gewone vinvis
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>													Seiwal	Rorqual boréal	Noordse vinvis
Southern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>													Südlicher Entenwal	Baleine à bec australe	Zuidelijke Butskop
Straptoothed Beaked Whale	<i>Mesoplodon layardii</i>													Layard-Wal	La baleine à bec de Layard	Layardspitssnuitdolfijn
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>		X											Grindwal	Globicéphale noir	Griend
Orcas	<i>Orcinus orca</i>					X	X							Orka	Orque (épaulard)	Orka
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>													Stundenglasdelfin	Lagénorhynque sablier	Zandloperdolfijn
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>													Peale-Delfin	Lagénorhynque à menton noir	Dolfijn van Peale
Commerson's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>													Commerson-Delfin	Dauphin de Commerson	Kortsnuitdolfijn
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>						X				X			Südlicher See-Elefant	Eléphant de mer austral	Zuidelijke zeeolifant
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>									X	X			Südliche Pelzrobbe		Zuidelijke pelt zeehond
Southern Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>													Mähnenrobbe	Lion de mer d'Amérique du Sud	Patagonische zeeleeuw
Leopard seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>				X		X	X						Seeleopard		Zee-luipaard
Weddel seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddellii</i>				X	X		X	X		X			Weddell-Robbe		Weddel zeehond
Crabeater seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophaga</i>				X		X	X						Krabbenfresserrobbe		Krabeter zeehond
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>												X	Dunkler Delfin		

Pippa Low – Expedition Leader



Pippa has worked as a marine guide and skipper for 15 years, primarily in Scotland, Australia, New Zealand and the polar regions. A marine scientist specialising in marine mammal research and conservation, she splits her time between the hemispheres, and loves showing the public the marine world and all it has to offer.

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

disciplines and going on to study Marine biology at university in Scotland, then later, Australia.

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

After working in the Ross Sea region of Antarctica as a research assistant, she fell in love with Antarctica. Pippa now works as a full-time guide and Expedition Leader in both the Arctic and Antarctica. In-between seasons, she still finds time to work on research projects – most recently completing a masters research degree specialising in Humpback Whale physiology.

George Kennedy – Assistant Expedition Leader



George is an Australian social scientist specialising in polar geopolitics. He completed a Masters in Anthropology at Monash University in 2016 and a Graduate Diploma in Antarctic Governance at the Australian Institute for Marine and Antarctic Science in 2021. Since completing his studies, George has worked within the policy office of the Australian Antarctic Division, collaborating with other Antarctic Treaty Parties to develop sustainable tourism practices, environmental protection frameworks and fisheries management strategies.

Prior to his political studies, George worked as an ALS Paramedic in Australia, as well as a community development coordinator for conservation organisations in Latin America. George has a passion for travel, boats, and motorcycles. Over a three-year period, he rode a motorcycle from Patagonia to Mexico, exploring Latin America on two wheels. It was during his time in Patagonia that his passion for the Polar Regions developed, working closely with conservation organisations in Tierra del Fuego and visiting Antarctica for the first time in 2017. George has been guiding in Antarctica and the Arctic since 2019, sharing stories of its incredible wildlife, landscapes and, of course, its unique politics!

David McKinley - Mountain Leader



Dave McKinley is an IFMGA Climbing and Ski Guide with 25 years of professional experience.

He lives in the small town of Twizel, just south of Aoraki/Mt Cook with his wife, 3 kids (when they're home) and 4 dogs and spends much of the year sharing adventures in the NZ Southern Alps with guests. Either mountaineering or Heliskiing/touring.

Dave has worked and climbed in NZ, Europe, Alaska, Nepal, Tibet and South America including ascents of Everest, Lhotse, Manaslu, Denali (which with his last name of McKinley originates his nickname of "Narly") and Aconcagua amongst many others. He is passionate about sharing his experience and joy in exploring the more remote parts of our world with people and, having a previous life as a chef, he has a belief that guiding is a part of the "hospitality" industry at its heart. Dave has also been involved in the Search and Rescue aspect of the outdoors environment, and in particular with the use and deployment of dogs in Avalanche and wilderness/Open Area searching. Dave is a guide with a strong skill-set and an even stronger desire to enable and assist others to engage and learn from our natural and wild spaces.

Dave Rudkin – Mountain guide



Dave is an avid, lifelong enthusiast of climbing, alpinism, and skiing. He loves nothing more than questing into the unknown, whether that's on remote expeditions around the globe or exploring the mountains in his back garden of Snowdonia. He's travelled the world and experienced some of the best climbing and skiing there is, and is still thirsty for more. Dave has spent the last 30 years having adventures, with trips and expeditions to Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Greenland, Alaska, USA, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia. He's also explored the mountains of Europe extensively, in particular France,

Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Norway, and Spain. He especially loves climbing on the sea cliffs of the British Isles, the granite big-walls of Yosemite and Arctic Greenland, and skiing fresh powder snow from summit to sea in Arctic Norway.

Dave's interest has grown deeply in the polar and mountain environment: the flora and fauna, and the geography and geology.

Dave is as psyched about guiding and teaching as he is about doing it himself, and he loves seeing people challenged, achieving their goals, visiting places they might not ordinarily go to, and having fun in wild places.

Dave has guided and instructed since completing his first qualification in the late 90's, and is now involved in the delivery of training of new Mountain Guides and Instructors.

He is qualified as a IFMGA Mountain and Ski Guide as well as a Summer and Winter Mountaineering Instructor (WMCI).

Erin Bastian - Kayak Guide



Erin is a UKCC level 3 Sea Kayak Coach and BCU 5* sea kayak leader.

Erin is a passionate sea kayaker with over 15 years experience leading expeditions around the world, from the icy fjords of Patagonia, Greenland, and Arctic Norway, to the warm waters of the Mediterranean, circumnavigating the islands of Sardinia, Corsica, and Menorca. In 2019 Erin crossed the Aegean sea by kayak, planning a route which linked 17 Greek islands and making 16 significant open water crossings.

Erin's keen sense for adventure and love for the ocean inspired her to row across the Atlantic ocean in 2021. Making the 3000 mile crossing from La Gomera to Antigua, as part of a team of 4 women, in 40 days.

Erin finds herself drawn to the colder waters of the poles, where exploring by kayak allows her to enjoy the incredible wildlife, navigate between enormous icebergs and watch glaciers calve into the ocean. Erin has a real love for introducing others to the sport of kayaking with its freedom to explore and ability to get people closer to nature.

Eduardo Rubio - Expedition Guide



I describe myself as an astronomer by profession with a passion for sharing nature's wonders. I aim to help to better understanding of what scientists do with the public. Born in Guatemala (1978), I live in Switzerland since 2017. I speak English, Spanish and German.

After studying physics, I got my PhD in Astronomy from the University of Amsterdam in 2010. After a postdoctoral position I became a lecturer of physics and Astronomy as well as a guide in expedition cruise ships. Since 2018 I have worked for Oceanwide Expeditions in various roles such as guide, assistant expedition leader and expedition leader in the Antarctic and in the Arctic. Today I enjoy these trips as well as teaching undergraduate/graduate students and doing science outreach at the Planetarium of the Museum of Transport in Switzerland.

My interests vary from the history of exploration to the intricacies of astronomy. During the trips I have undertaken, I offer lectures about polar explorers, the science carried out in Antarctica (astronomy in particular), about our Universe, and the mysteries of our ocean's depths, to mention some. At sea, besides being an engaged guide and lecturer, I love to show constellations to people, pointing out their names and their lore. In every trip I make, I always aim to raise the enthusiasm of guests towards science, and their awareness towards the unique and fragile planet where we live.

Koen Hoekemeijer – Photography Guide



Koen Hoekemeijer was born in 1974 in The Netherlands. When it comes to nature and wildlife Koen was quite a late bloomer as he had always been more into nightlife and sunny beaches. But that all changed when he discovered his passion for wildlife and photography in 2009 in Costa Rica. It was during this trip that Koen saw his first humpback whales and he fell in love with them instantly. Not only did it make him eager to see more and different types of whales in locations all over the world, but he also wanted to learn to take better photos of these amazing creatures. And with the love for whales

and photography, came a broader passion for all sorts of wildlife.

Since that memorable vacation in 2009, Koen has been travelling the planet to see and photograph the world's most beautiful places. Usually from boats, jeeps or simply face down in the mud, but since 2016 also underwater. Snorkeling in the presence of whales and orcas is bringing Koen pure happiness.

Among his favourite animals are whales, orcas, penguins, tigers and jaguars. But in between safaris, he also likes to do street photography and capture life and portraits of people all over the world.

Koen believes that travelling does not only enrich your life, it also makes you more humble, more appreciative and it provides new levels of perspective and understanding. Koen has won the prestigious WWF Frans Lanting Photo contest, and in 2020 he won the Ellen Fitzgibbon Memorial Photography competition. It's Koen's dream to one day have a Vizsla dog and own a small cabin somewhere in northern Norway surrounded by snow and trees ;).

Marco Rosso - Camping Guide



Marco was born in the country of Pasta & Pizza. He graduated in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Padua, his native city in Italy, and subsequently achieved a Master's degree in "Turbomachinery and Fluid Dynamics" at the Von Karman Institute in Brussels, Belgium.

After a few years working in the industry, he decided to embark himself on a quest. For two years he carried his tent and camping equipment; backpacking from the steamy jungle of Mexico and Central America, through the snowy peaks of the Peruvian Andes and the dry highlands of Bolivia. Rolling all the way down to the tip of South America.

The raw and powerful beauty of Patagonia convinced him to swap Mother Nature wonders for mankind artifacts. Fascinated by applied geophysics, he therefore decided to use his deep and broad knowledge in thermodynamics and fluid mechanics to satisfy his innate curiosity, thus self-teaching Earth Science natural processes such as geological volcanism, sea ice and glaciers formation and dynamics, wind patterns and oceanic currents.

During the last decade he has been living in Puerto Natales, Chile; leading groups as a trekking guide and tour leader in some of the most beautiful and rugged trails of Patagonia, such as Torres del Paine, Fitz Roy and Cerro Torre circuits as well as the southernmost trekking in the world, Dientes de Navarino.

One step further from Patagonia lies the Antarctic peninsula, where he is willing to share with you an incredible camping experience in this truly pristine and untouched environment.

Owain Jones – Expedition Guide



Owain is a fully certified IFMGA Mountain Guide and full member of the British Association of Mountain Guides.

Owain started climbing and mountaineering with his father at the age of nine and the passion continues to this day. He has led several mountaineering expeditions and glacial treks in the Indian and Nepalese Himalaya. On ski he has led remote first ascents in East Greenland.

His experience as a mountain guide in the European Alps, on foot and ski, spans many seasons and includes more than fifty successful summits of Mont Blanc with his clients.

Rock climbing and ice climbing are his foremost passions, and he has made several first ascents across these disciplines in the United Kingdom. Owain takes great pride in helping others fully experience the mountain environment; not just leading but using every available opportunity to share his knowledge and top tips!

In addition to his work as a Mountain Guide, Owain is a professionally qualified youth worker and safety consultant for outdoor educational activities with young people in the United Kingdom.

Stefanie Liller – Expedition Guide



Steffi Liller was born in Offenbach, Germany in 1978. After completing her apprenticeship as a biology lab technician at the Paul-Ehrlich Institute in Langen, Germany, she earned a degree in Biology and Meteorology at the Universities of Darmstadt and Freiburg in Germany. Alongside her studies and her love of nature, Stefanie developed an interest in and a passion for skydiving. This eventually changed from being a hobby to her profession. While working at drop-zones and indoor skydiving facilities throughout central Europe, Stefanie enjoyed sharing her passion for the sport with other people.

A large part of her career was spent as a coach. It was always very important to her to make her own skills available to people curious and interested, and to look after their safety and lasting enjoyment in the sport. Starting in 2011 she managed several indoor skydiving facilities in Germany and Austria. In addition to her professional career, Stefanie is an avid world-traveller by foot or public transport. While exploring various landscapes and communities on all seven continents, she enjoys sharing her experiences and unique moments with others. Since 2017 Stefanie has been working as an independent coach in skydiving and indoor skydiving and guide or lector on several vessels in remote areas. Stefanie has chosen Vienna, Austria as her home base, and lives there in between trips.

Tom van Hoof - Expedition Guide



Tom started his career in the polar regions at the University Centre of Svalbard in 2001. Tom received his PhD degree in Palaeoclimatology in 2005 from Utrecht University. Afterwards he worked for a short while as a postdoctoral research scientist at the University of Arizona. Upon returning to the Netherlands, he started working at the Dutch Geological Survey, where for more than thirteen years he had the role of researcher focusing on Arctic geology. During those years Tom carried out multiple fieldwork campaigns in the Arctic. In 2015 he came into contact with Oceanwide Expeditions

and in the following years started working as a part-time expedition guide. In 2021, Tom started to work for the Dutch Science Council NWO where he is part of the Netherlands Polar Program which finances and facilitates Dutch research and infrastructure in the polar regions.

Tom lives in the Netherlands with his wife and three daughters. He loves being outside, in his free time he likes to go camping and spend time with his two Leonberger dogs in the woods. He is a certified Survival instructor and fanatic outdoor chef.

Michiel Bongers – Ship Doctor



Dr. Michiel Bongers is our ship doctor with a diverse background in medicine and a passion for both healthcare and exploration. He completed his medical degree at Rijksuniversiteit Groningen, establishing a solid foundation for his career in healthcare. Eager to expand his horizons and deepen his expertise, Michiel pursued a PhD at Harvard Medical School in Boston, which added a layer to his medical acumen.

Beyond his academic achievements, Michiel is an avid traveler who embraces adventure and embraces the beauty of different cultures. His wanderlust has led him to remarkable places and introduced him to diverse medical challenges along the way.

Michiel has a history of service in disaster relief, particularly in addressing urgent energy needs during various natural disasters. His commitment to humanitarian efforts continued during the early stages of the conflict in Ukraine, where he played a role in guiding fuel distribution for the United Nations and numerous non-governmental organizations. Simultaneously, he served as an emergency doctor, providing crucial medical care to those affected by the conflict.

Currently, Michiel is dedicated to furthering his medical career through a residency in orthopedic surgery in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. He is both delighted and profoundly dedicated to serving as your ship's physician, with the primary goal of ensuring the health and safety of passengers and crew throughout their journeys.

Dr. Bongers is honored to be on board, ready to provide medical assistance and support to passengers and crew alike. Driven by his passion for medicine, a profound love for exploration, and an unwavering commitment to continuous learning, he aspires to provide you with a secure, healthy, and unforgettable experience during your time aboard.

WELCOME ABOARD!

Luggage will be delivered to your cabin. Please check to make sure you have received all your luggage. If you have any extra luggage in your cabin – please notify a crew member. Please also check your cabin for any rental gear and try it on to ensure it fits.

**** 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 will go to the MUSTER STATION which is the 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 3).

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 3).
- 0915 **Zodiac & IAATO Briefing** - Please join us in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our **mandatory** zodiac and IAATO briefings.
- 1100 **Mountaineering briefing** – Please join Gnarly and Dave in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a mountaineering introduction and briefing. If you plan on doing a mountaineering activity this briefing is mandatory.
*If you have brought mountaineering boots with you – **please bring one of your boots to this briefing.***
- 1200 **Muck Boots** - We will call you by colour group to collect your Muck boots from the boot room on **deck 3 forward**. ***Please listen for announcements.***
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 3).
- 1400 **Camping Briefing** – Campers please meet Tom & Marco in the **lounge** (deck 5) for your camping introduction and briefing. If you plan on camping, this briefing is mandatory.
- 1515 **Kayaking briefing**– Please join Erin in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a kayak introduction and briefing. If you plan on kayaking, this briefing is mandatory.
- 1630 **Photography** – Please meet Koen in the **lounge** (deck 5) for your first introductory lecture on polar photography.
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our first daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 3). *This will be plated so please arrive promptly.*

Please take care when moving around the ship – take your time, be careful with doors, and ensure your cabin items are secure.

- 0745 **Wakeup Call** – Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 3).
- 0915 **Activities sign up** - We will call you by colour group to the **lounge**, (deck 5) to sign up for the activities you plan to do in Antarctica. These include Mountaineering, Kayaking and Camping. If you wish to Mountaineer, please sign up for this activity first. You can then sign up for camping and kayaking afterwards. ***Please bring a paper & pen and listen for announcements.***
- 1100 **An Introduction to the White Continent; The Antarctic Peninsula** - Please join Marco in the **lounge** (deck 5) to learn everything you need to know about Antarctica! Marco will provide a broad overview of the continent.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the **dining room** (deck 3).
- 1400 **Biosecurity:** We will call you by deck, to the **lounge** (deck 5) to complete our biosecurity cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, footwear/muckboots and tripods/walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. ***Please listen for announcements.***
- 1630 **Seabirds of the South** - Please join Steffi in the **lounge** (deck 5) for her lecture exploring the natural history and identification of the Seabirds of the Southern Ocean.
- 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 3) – *dinner will be plated, please make your way to the dining room promptly. Bon Appetite!*

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

0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**. **Mountaineers & Kayakers please go first.**

This morning we hope to offer a landing at Cuverville Island, one of the largest Gentoo Penguin rookeries on the peninsula. Surrounded by icebergs and beautiful Antarctic scenery.

+/-0730 **Kayakers** – Please come to the boot room (deck 3 forward) to collect your gear.

+/- 0730 **Mountaineers** please come to the boot room (deck 3 forward) to meet Gnarly & Dave **-dressed & ready to go.**

+/-0800 The **Red Group** and the **Blue Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Cuverville Island.

+/-0815 The **Green Group** and the **Yellow Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Cuverville Island.

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

This afternoon we hope to offer a landing and zodiac cruise at Brown Station and Paradise Bay. The landing is home to Gentoo Penguins, beautiful views, and an unoccupied Argentinian Station. The cruise will take you past icebergs, a huge glacial bay called Skontorp Cove and searching for wildlife. The first groups will go ashore, the second groups will go zodiac cruising – we will swap halfway through the afternoon.

+/-1400 **Mountaineers** please come to the boot room (deck 3 forward) to meet Gnarly & Dave **-dressed & ready to go.**

+/-1400 **Kayakers** please come to the boot room to collect your gear from Erin.

+/-1430 The **Green Group** and the **Blue Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing and zodiac cruise in Paradise Bay.

+/-1445 The **Red Group** and the **Yellow Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise and landing in Paradise Bay.

1900 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap.

1930 **Buffet Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.

+/-2115 **Campers** – We hope to be ready to take you ashore this evening – **please standby for announcements.**

Juice & Pastries will be available for campers in the lounge after they arrive back onboard.

- 0715 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
0730 **Breakfast** is served. **Mountaineers, please go first.**

This morning we hope to offer a landing at Orne Harbour – another continental landing with a steep hike to a Chinstrap Penguin rookery and beautiful Antarctic views.

- +/-0800 **Mountaineers** please come to the boot room to meet Gnarly & Dave - **dressed & ready to go.**
+/-0800 **Kayakers** please come to the boot room to collect your gear from Erin.
+/-0830 The **Red Group** and the **Blue Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Orne Harbour.
+/-0845 The **Green Group** and the **Yellow Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Orne Harbour.

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

This afternoon we hope to offer a landing at Damoy Point – home to Gentoo Penguins, nice hiking opportunities and a historic hut.

- +/-1445 **Mountaineers** please come to the boot room to meet Gnarly & Dave - **dressed & ready to go.**
+/-1445 **Kayakers** please come to the boot room to collect your gear from Erin.
+/-1515 The **Green Group** and the **Blue Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Damoy Point.
+/-1530 The **Red Group** and the **Yellow Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Damoy Point.

1900 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.
1930 **Dinner** served in the **dining room.** Bon Appetit!

0715 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

*At approximately **0715** this morning we hope to begin transiting through the spectacular Lemaire Channel.*

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**. **Kayakers please go first.**

This morning we hope to land at Petermann Island. Here we hope to visit an Adele Penguin rookery amongst beautiful Antarctic scenery.

+/-0830 **Kayaking group** - Please come to the boot room to collect your gear from Erin.

+/-0900 The **Blue Group** and the **Red Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at *Petermann Island*.

+/-0910 The **Yellow Group** and the **Green Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at *Petermann Island*.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**. **Mountaineers please go first.**

This afternoon hope to offer a zodiac cruise in Salpetriere Bay. This large, sheltered bay is an iceberg graveyard – with towering icebergs, and home to Gentoo penguins, whales & seals.

+/- 1315 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **boot room**.

+/- 1415 **Kayaking group** - Please come to the **boot room** to collect your gear.

+/- 1445 The **Red Group** and the **Green Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around *Salpetriere Bay*.

+/- 1455 The **Blue Group** and the **Yellow Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around *Salpetriere Bay*.

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

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

+/-2100 **Campers** please stand by for announcements – we hope to take you out camping at this time.

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

This morning we hope to offer a landing at Jougla Point – a Large Gentoo Penguin Rookery, and views of Goudier Island – home to Port Lockroy. The United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust Team will come onboard Plancius and run an onboard shop & Post office. They will only be able to take card payments. Half of you will go to Jougla first, the other will stay onboard for the shop, we will swap throughout the morning.

+/-0730 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **boot room**.
+/-0845 **UKAHT Presentation** - Please join the United Kingdom Antarctic Heritage Trust Team in the lounge for a presentation on life at Port Lockroy and the important work done by the UKAHT.
+/-0915 **Kayakers** – Please visit the shop in the dining room first. Then please go to the **boot room to collect your gear from Erin**.
+/-0915 The **Blue Group** and the **Green Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Jougla Point.
+/-0930 The **Red Group** and the **Yellow Group** – Please visit the shop in the dining room – **please listen for announcements**, allowing the kayakers to go first.

The **Yellow Group** and the **Red Group** - once you have completed your shopping, dress up and head to the gangway for a landing at Jougla Point and a cruise past Port Lockroy.

The **Blue Group** and the **Green Group** – When you have finished enjoying Jougla Point Landing – we will take you for a cruise past Port Lockroy and then back to the ship for the shop – the shop will stay open throughout the morning.

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

1500 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.

In the afternoon we hope to take you for a landing at Danco Island – home to Gentoo Penguins and beautiful panoramic views of the Errera Channel.

1545 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **boot room**.
1545 **Kayakers - Kayakers** - Please come to the **boot room** to collect your gear.
1615 The **Red Group** and **Yellow Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Danco Island
1630 The **Green Group** and the **Blue Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Danco Island.
1930 **Dinner** is served in the Dining room.



Antarctica Basecamp
Thursday 11th January 2024
Kopiatic Island, Duroch Island
& Kinnes Cove, Antarctic Sound

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

This morning we hope to offer an exploratory landing at Kopiatic Island, part of the Duroch Island group – home to the three Antarctic Penguin species- Gentoo, Adelie & Chinstrap – and in the shadow of the Chilean Base General Bernado O’Higgins.

- 0750 **Kayakers** – Please come to the gangway – **dressed & ready to go**.
0800 The **Yellow Group** and the **Blue Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Kopiatic Island.
0815 The **Green Group** and the **Red Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Kopiatic Island.
1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

This Afternoon we hope to sail into the Antarctic Sound where we hope to find large Tabular icebergs floating in from the Weddel Sea making for beautiful scenic cruising. Later this afternoon we hope to offer a zodiac cruise at Kinnes Cove – home to thousands of Adelie Penguins, seals and incredible icebergs.

- 1500 **Kayakers** – Please come to the boot room to collect your gear from Erin.
1530 The **Green Group** and the **Yellow Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Kinnes Cove.
1515 The **Blue Group** and the **Red Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Kinnes Cove.
1830 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.
1900 **Dinner** served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!



Antarctica Basecamp
Friday 12th January 2024
Brown Bluff & Hope Bay

0715 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**. Mountaineers please go first.

This morning we hope to offer a landing at Brown Bluff – a continental landing, home to thousands of Adelie Penguins, as well as views over a stunning Antarctic glacier.

0800 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **boot room**.

0900 The **Green Group** and the **Blue Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Brown Bluff.

0915 The **Yellow Group** and the **Red Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Brown Bluff.

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

This Afternoon we hope to offer a zodiac cruise at Hope Bay – a beautiful glacial bay with Adelie Penguins and home to the Argentinian station Esperanza.

1430 **Kayakers** – Please come to the boot room to collect your gear from Erin.

1500 The **Red Group** and the **Yellow Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Hope Bay.

1510 The **Blue Group** and the **Green Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Hope Bay.

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

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

0530 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

*This morning we hope to sail through Neptune's Bellows – the entrance to Port Foster inside Deception Island – an active volcano!
Pastries, fruit & juice will be available in the lounge.*

*This morning we hope to offer a landing and polar plunge at Whaler's Bay. Whaler's Bay is the site of an old whaling station. The beaches here are geothermally heated and allow for a great 'polar' plunge! Wear your swimming clothes under your clothing – we will plunge at the end of the landing. **We will bring the towels – please do not bring the towels from your cabin.***

0600 The **Blue Group** and the **Red Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Whaler's Bay.

0610 The **Green Group** and the **Yellow Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Whaler's Bay.

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

1130 **Geology of the Scotia Arc** – Please join Thom in the lounge for his lecture offering an overview of the geology of Antarctica and the ocean surrounding the peninsula.

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

1400 The **Green Group** and the **Yellow Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Half Moon Island.

1410 The **Blue Group** and the **Red Group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Half Moon Island.

This afternoon we hope to offer a landing at Half Moon Island – home to thousands of Chinstrap Penguins and beautiful Antarctic scenery.

1800 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.

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

2030 **Rowing the Atlantic** – Please join Erin in the lounge for her presentation on her epic adventure rowing across the Atlantic Ocean.

This evening we will sail into the Drake Passage. Please ensure your cabins are secure and you prepare your seasick medication. Please be careful moving around the ship, pay attention to the closed deck signs, and keep one hand for the ship.

No wakeup call – Have a lovely morning!

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

0930 **Whales of the Southern Ocean** – Please join Pippa in the **lounge** for her lecture to learn more about the whales we have seen on our trip.

1100 **Science in Antarctica** – Please join Eduardo in the **lounge** for his lecture exploring the world of scientific research in Antarctica.

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

1330 **Boots, Bags & Rental gear** – Please bring your muck boots, waterproof bags & rental gear back to the boot room – please listen for announcements, we will call you by deck.

1500 **Photo Workshop** – Photo Post Processing – Please join Koen in the **lounge** to learn how you can touch up and refine the amazing images you have taken on this trip.

1630 **Antarctic Geopolitics** – Please join George in the **lounge** for his lecture exploring the wonderful world of the Antarctic Treaty system.

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

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

No wakeup call – Enjoy your morning!

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

0930 **Krill** – Please join Steffi in the Lounge for her lecture on the lynchpin species of the Southern Ocean.

1100 **Whaling to Research** – Please join Pippa in the Lounge to explore the history of human interactions with whales in Antarctica.

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

1430 **Exploration of the Bottom of the Ocean** – Please join Eduardo in the Lounge for his lecture on how we learn what lies beneath the waves.

1615 **A Future History of Antarctica** – Please join George in the Lounge for an explanation of the future challenges facing Antarctica's shared governance system.

1815 **Farewell Toast & Trip Slideshow** - Please join the captain and the expedition team in the **lounge** for a toast to our voyage to Antarctica and a slideshow of our expedition.

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

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

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 Plancius we thank you for a truly incredible expedition.

Safe travels home.