



Antarctica Basecamp

24th December 2023 - 5th January 2024



M/V Ortelius

Ortelius was built in 1989 and originally named Marina Svetaeva, serving as a special-purpose vessel for the Russian Academy of Science. She was rebuilt as a passenger vessel in 2019 and complies with all SOLAS (safety of life at sea) regulations. Ortelius is 90,95 meters long, 17.2 meters wide, and has a maximum draft of 5,4 meters. Her ice class is UL1 (equivalent to 1A), and her average cruising speed is 10,5 knots.

Captain Per Anderson

and his international crew

Chief Officer: **Mikael Svenberg**

2nd Officer: **Yaroslav Pyetukhov**

3rd Officer: **Anar Babaiev**

Chief Engineer: **Andrej Abakumov**

Hotel Manager: **Volodymyr Cherednychenko**

Assist. Hotel Manager: **Lilianna Van Meurs**

Head Chef: **Heinz Hacker**

Ships Doctor: **Véronique Verhoeven**

Expedition Leader: **Marcel Paul**

Assist. Expedition Leader: **Chloe Marechal**

Expedition Guide: **Lucia Romero**

Juan Berenstein

Galina Nosachenko

Zet Freiburghaus

Mal Haskins

Andy Perkins

Andrea Schwetz

Pierre Gallego

Paolo Bellezze

Day 1 – 24th December

Ushuaia - Embarkation Day

12:00 GPS Position: 54°48.561'S / 68 18.070'W

Wind: SW 6, **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Air t°:** 10°C, **Sea t°:** 10°C

Today the weather started with beautiful sunshine. This paralleled with the mood as we embarked on the beautiful M/V Ortelius. 110 guests boarded the ship at 4pm. We didn't know what to expect on this 12-day Antarctic Basecamp adventure, but we were welcomed by a very happy crew and staff. It was already off to a great start. We immediately had a mandatory ships safety briefing from Marcel and Mikael, which was shortly followed by us donning our bright orange life jackets for the practice abandon ship drill. The ship finally came away from the port at 19:00, and we were finally off!



The evening was beautiful and made the Beagle Channel look even more spectacular. The sky was bright pink, and a lot of people were out on deck enjoying the scenery. We had a buffet dinner followed by the last order of the day, a mandatory Zodiac briefing. We went to sleep early, but we were all excited for the next events of this voyage.

Day 2 – 25th December

At Sea towards Antarctica

12:00 GPS Position: 57°35.8'S / 66°06.8'W

Wind: SW 8, **Sea State:** Mod./Rough **Weather:** Overcast **Air t°:** 5°C, **Sea t°:** 6°C

Our first day at sea began with Marcel's wakeup call at 7:45. The sea state was not very bad, but for many people this was the first time they had experienced the Drake Passage. The number of people at breakfast was less than for dinner the night before. Sea sickness had begun!

Our first day at sea was rather busy – our muck boots were handed out, Mal and Andy briefed us on Mountaineering, and Juan gave a photography lecture. After Lunch, Zet, the fantastic Kayaking guide, briefed us on Kayaking, quickly followed by Andi and Paolo for camping. After the mandatory briefings for the activities had been completed, we had a short break before being called deck by deck to sign up for our Basecamp Activities. The seas eased slightly towards evening, and we finished the evening off with our first Recap of the voyage before dinner in the dining room. Most of us then retreated to our cabins to continue to ride out the sea state in hopes of feeling better for the following day.



Day 3 – 26th December

At Sea towards Antarctica

12:00 GPS Position: 61°14.3'S / 62°36'W

Wind: WSW 7/8, **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Overcast **Air t°:** 1°C, **Sea t°:** 3°C

After a night rolling in our beds, Marcel woke us up. After breakfast it was another mandatory briefing. This time it was IAATO and Zodiac briefings. Hopefully we all remember 1,2,3 down in the Zodiac, and feet towards the driver when getting out. As visitors to the Antarctic Continent, we learned that we must keep 5 meters from wildlife at all times, and if penguins walk up to us, we should slowly move away.

After a tasty lunch in the dining room, it was time for the next mandatory item. All outer layers needed to be cleaned and vacuumed so we did not bring anything to Antarctica. Most found the mesh in their backpacks the worst to clean. Marcel gave us information about the plans for tomorrow at the daily recap, and we all went excited down to the dining room and talked about our expectations.



Day 4 – 27th December

Melchior Islands and Orne Harbour

12:00 GPS Position: 64°30.45'S / 62°48.55'W

Wind: WSW 2/3, **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Part. Cloudy **Air t°:** 5°C, **Sea t°:** 1°C

The first morning in Antarctica, our expedition leader, Marcel woke us up at 6:45. Finally we made it! It was a lovely sunny day. We had blue skies, and some nice weather conditions, our first activity should be a Zodiac cruise at Melchior Islands.

After breakfast we gathered at the gangway to enter the Zodiacs for the first time. After a little briefing of the Zodiac drivers, we saw our first penguin on some rocks. It was a chinstrap. The beautiful islands were covered by a thick layer of ice and snow, and the ocean around them was full of spectacular icebergs.

We had a cruise, and we found many seals around on ice floes and on rocks. There were Weddell seals also. There were also a few birds sitting on ice or flying above our heads, like cape petrels and the Antarctic tern. We took some nice pictures in beautiful sunny light, and



we returned to Ortelius for lunch.

The ship repositioned itself for our next stop, which should be Orne Harbour, which was our first continental landing. We were brought to shore, where some of us put on snowshoes. Then we ascended a hill where on the top we found many chinstrap penguin colonies! They still were busy with hatching their eggs and building their nests out of pebbles. The view from the top was amazing.

After taking many pictures, we descended back to the landing side and went back to our ship Ortelius. We listened to our daily recap in the bar and after that went for the special

Christmas dinner. Then our first group of campers collected their sleeping bags and went to their camping site to spend the night outside in spectacular surroundings.

MOUNTAINEERING

After two days on the Drake Passage, it was great to get our feet on solid ground. We anchored up in the Melchior Islands and took a short Zodiac ride to Gamma Island, site of an Argentine base. Snow conditions were firm on the surface, perfect for snowshoeing. We roped up for glacier travel and set off up the hill. Our guides Mal and Andy pointed out huge crevasses nearby, and recent avalanche activity on nearby islands. The views from the summit were mindblowing, and we could see the Zodiacs cruising around the maze of islands a couple of hundred meters below.

Over lunch we transferred to Orne harbour. This beautiful cove is dominated by the pyramid of Spigot Peak. Conditions were soft porridge right from the landing spot, so we donned snowshoes and moved up past the chinstrap colony. It was incredible to see these penguins 150m (about 492.13 ft) above the sea. Just above the colony, we swapped snowshoes for crampons and zigzagged to the summit.



KAYAKING



CAMPING

We picked up our big black sleeping equipment bag from the helideck and went to the Zodiacs at the gangway. Our adventure started on the shore of Punta Vide a beach area close to the Argentinian Brown Station. We were welcomed by a hauled-out Weddell Seal and another one sleeping on the other side of the campsite. Paolo and Andi instructed us about the right shovel technique and designated area zones, then we searched for a good spot for the overnighting.



The landscape was magical, and the sun painted the white mountains into colors of rose, orange and pink. Happily exhausted, we put together our bivy bags and mats and sleeping bag. After taking beautiful photos, we cradled ourselves in our sleeping bags. During the night, some people saw some penguin visitors on shore and a humpback whale passing by! Sometimes there were also calving glaciers and avalanches, mostly audible rather than visible, which framed our unique moments. What an honour to be able to have an experience like this! In the morning at 6am we were picked up by the Zodiacs and brought back to our vessel Ortelius.

Day 5 – 28th December

Brown Station and Stoney Point

12:00 GPS Position: 64°54.45'S / 62°56.2'W

Wind: W 3/4, **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Overcast **Air t°:** 1°C, **Sea t°:** 1°C

Some passengers woke up today without the traditional “good morning, Ortelius” from Marcel, because it was camping near Brown station. We got up at the campsite at 5:30 in the morning. One after another, people began to wake up and get out of their warm sleeping bags into the fresh frosty air. The morning greeted us with good weather. Not far from the camp, a Weddell seal was sleeping. It stayed there for more than 8 hours. All night long it made funny noises from time to time.

After a delicious breakfast, we landed on the territory of the Argentinean scientific station, Brown Station, not far from the ship all night. A colony of gentoo penguins is here; they are the real owners of the station. Penguins continue to incubate eggs; this has been their main activity for more than a month. A Snowy Sheathbill was sneaking around, collecting everything that could be eaten between the nests of penguins.



After lunch, the ship moved a little from its morning mooring point. There was Zodiac cruising around the area. In search of wildlife, we examined the nearby shores, and suddenly one of the guides informed everyone by radio that they had discovered a leopard seal. All the Zodiacs rushed towards him. A leopard seal rested on an ice floe among a whole field of ice chips.

The leopard seal lay peacefully on the ice floe, at times raising its head, glancing at the people in the boats that surrounded the ice floe, yawning, and showing its huge mouth. Judging by the markings on its belly, it was a female. There were many birds flying around: Giant petrel, Wilson's storm petrel, Snow petrel. Then a humpback whale was spotted among the ice; its huge head appeared several times among the ice chips. All the attention of the Zodiacs was now directed to him. In open water, he disappeared, but a Minke whale with a calf was discovered very close to the boats.

MOUNTAINEERING

The target for our morning mountaineering was Canessa, an attractive dome of snow to the north of Brown Station in Paradise Harbour. The landing was quite complicated, with Mal and Andy needing to drop us off on a rocky shoreline and anchor the Zodiacs further away. We had a steady ascent on snow, passing close to some crevasses, and below us were humpback whales and gentoo penguins clearly visible in the clear waters. Views from the summit back towards Ortelius were breathtaking.

Retracing our steps to the landing spot, we found the Zodiacs aground on the falling tide. A team effort eventually got them afloat, and then it was a matter of weaving through a maze of brash ice. We were learning to expect the unexpected on this adventure. More surprises awaited us in the afternoon at nearby Point Sofia.

We landed on a rocky promontory, and EL Marcel left to join the other passengers for a Zodiac cruise. We donned snowshoes but then immediately found the exit from the promontory



blocked by a pair of nesting brown skuas. There was no way to circumvent them without disturbing them but fortunately for us it was low tide, and we could walk along this unique shoreline. Huge cliffs of ice towered above us, and at our feet were jellyfish, amphipods and starfish. Wandering around were gentoo penguins and a special treat of an Adelie penguin coming very close to us, seemingly unperturbed by our presence. A Weddell seal lounged on the ice just a little further on.

KAYAKING



CAMPING

On the night of the 28th of December, our second group of campers was preparing to overnigh in Antarctica. Also, for the second night, the weather looked promising. So everyone got geared up in the heli-hangar with the black bags and left Ortelius on Zodiacs to our chosen spot. It should be Kerr Point on Ronge island.

The ride to our location was stunning, with mirror-like waters and magnificent icebergs. On shore Andi was welcoming us and Paolo instructed us in the right shovelling technique. After we found our spot, we started to shovel our pits. The snow was soft, so it was quite easy to do so! The camping guides built a path to walk a little bit uphill so we could overlook the whole scenery. It was stunning.

We spotted a Minke whale surfacing a few times and stayed in the area for half an hour. Eventually we got tired and crawled into our warm sleeping bags. During the night, there were sounds of avalanches and glacier calvings in the area, giving us a special atmosphere combined with the pristine view. When we woke up around 5.30am, we started to fill in our pits, but this time the snow was frozen, so it took more power to do so. But it was a decent morning workout!



Day 6 – 29th December

Cuverville and Orne Islands

12:00 GPS Position: 60°40.3'S / 62°56.2'W

Wind: Light air, **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Sunny **Air t°:** 2°C, **Sea t°:** 1°C

The day began with a crisp Antarctic morning as we awoke aboard MV Ortelius. After a restful night, expedition members gathered in the ship's dining area for a hearty breakfast, fueling up for the exciting day ahead. The anticipation among the guests and crew was palpable as we prepared for our first landing of the day.

The ship anchored near Cuverville Island, and we disembarked for an unforgettable landing. The landscape was breathtaking, with snow-covered peaks surrounding us. The highlight of the visit was the colony of gentoo penguins, their charming antics captivating everyone. Some daring guests took part in the polar plunge, immersing themselves in the icy Antarctic waters for an exhilarating experience.



After an eventful morning, we returned to MV Ortelius for a delicious lunch prepared by the ship's talented culinary team. The dining area buzzed with conversations about the morning's adventures and excitement for the afternoon activities.

In the afternoon, we embarked on a split landing at the Orne Islands. The landing sites were teeming with wildlife, featuring both gentoo and chinstrap penguins. As we explored the islands, the Zodiac cruise provided an up-close encounter with a majestic leopard seal, gracefully sleeping on the ice. Cameras clicked away as guests marveled at the unique opportunity to witness such incredible creatures in their natural habitat.

As the sun dipped lower on the horizon, we returned to Ortelius for a delectable dinner. The atmosphere was filled with shared stories and laughter, creating a sense of camaraderie among the guests. The ship's crew provided a warm and welcoming environment, ensuring that the evening was not only a culinary delight but also an opportunity for bonding.

The day concluded with a breathtaking spectacle – a pod of orcas graced us with their presence. Against the backdrop of a stunning Antarctic sunset, these magnificent creatures glided effortlessly through the frigid waters, creating an awe-inspiring sight. Guests and crew gathered on deck, witnessing nature's grandeur unfold.



MOUNTAINEERING

The morning found us standing off Cuverville Island. Conditions were perfect for snowshoeing. Roped up to prevent any sliding on the firm upper layers of snow, we climbed to the summit plateau with great views down on the maze of icebergs through which we'd threaded our way on the approach. An efficient descent took us back to the beach where some of us topped off our ascent with a polar plunge.

In the afternoon, we landed at George's Point, just a short Zodiac ride from the ship. We roped up once we were above the colony of gentoo penguins and set off up the glacier in wet sloppy snow. These conditions meant the guides had to adapt the itinerary, and we eventually arrived at a snowy saddle via an exposed ridge. How to get down? Mal put in a trench by sliding down the slope, and we all followed in quick succession.



KAYAKING



Day 7 – 30th December

Lemaire Channel, Pleneau Is. and Peterman Is.

12:00 GPS Position: 65°08'S / 64°03.8'W

Wind: SSE 2/3, **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Air t°:** 3°C, **Sea t°:** 1°C

On the morning of the 30th December, we were woken up by Marcel a little bit earlier than usual. The crossing of the famous Lemaire Channel would wait for us. The narrow channel is one of the most scenic places in Antarctica, and we should all go out on decks to enjoy the beautiful views. It's a steep fjord with relatively calm seas and icebergs; we saw some humpback whales in the channel, and after the crossing we turned towards Pleneau Island.

As soon as we were done with our breakfast, we headed out to the gangway to go for a Zodiac cruise. We saw plenty of wildlife during our cruise, which included elephant seals, Weddell seals, Gentoo penguins, humpback whales, and many stunning iceberg formations. The weather was very nice, and the sun came out.

We headed back to Ortelius for lunch, and after a short break, our captain and Marcel decided to take us to Peterman Island, which should be our landing side for the afternoon. Nice sunshine and warm weather awaited us there. Peterman Island is known for its history explorer Charcot and his ship Pourquoi Pas where he had to overwinter back in the year...

We had enough time to visit the Adélie penguin colonies where we could observe a few hatched chicks, a week old or so. Also, many Gentoo colonies were around. We had a chance



to go all the way up to a viewpoint, where we had incredible views of the surrounding areas. It was a magnificent landing, enough space to stretch our legs in the best Antarctic summer weather conditions. When we eventually got back to the ship, we were all very happy about the beautiful day.



Photo Andy Perkins



MOUNTAINEERING

After a morning of Zodiac cruising at Pleneau, we sailed south to Peterman Island. Moving up through the gentoo colony on snowshoes, we roped up at the base of a steep snow slope and zigzagged up to reach the plateau overlooking the harbour, where Charcot overwintered in his ship the Pourquoi Pas. Mountain guide Andy gave a demonstration of how snow stakes are used in the sloppy afternoon snow, and we then walked to the highest point of the island for views across the ocean, the iceberg graveyard and the mountains towering above.



KAYAKING



Day 8 – 31st December

Wordie House and Yalour Islands

12:00 GPS Position: 65°13.4'S / 64°15.4'W

Wind: SW 3, **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Air t°:** 2°C, **Sea t°:** 1°C

We started our day with the traditional wakeup call half an hour later than usual, yes! And had a great breakfast in the dining room. Marcel warned us about being colder and windier than the previous days, because after all we have only had amazing calm blue-sky days. So we wrapped up and got ready for the adventure.

We were anchored right next to the Argentine Islands, and we could see on its shore the ship the Ukranian research station, Vernadsky. We got the chance to cruise around it, and see all their colorful buildings, where they carry out very important research, mainly meteorological, working there all year round. Apparently, the archipelago was still connected by sea ice, so we could only approach through a narrow and shallow channel. The main goal was to reach Wordie House, a hut built by the British in 1947 and currently a Historical site. We were able to make a landing there, only two Zodiacs at the time, and travel back in time as we entered the house. So many supplies and artefacts from 70 years ago are still preserved intact.



During the Zodiac cruise, we also could observe gentoo penguins, kelp gulls with their chicks (a face only a mother can love), and lots of Weddell seals on the ice. But as if this wasn't enough, we also had an amazing encounter with some humpback whales that were feeding in the surroundings of the ship, among the majestic icebergs.

In the afternoon we landed on Yalour Islands, another archipelago close by, where we saw a colony of Adelie penguins! They were sliding around the island on their bellies and incubating their eggs. We even saw chicks.

We did a Zodiac cruise around this area, where there were beautiful icebergs that looked like natural sculptures, a Weddell seal on ice, penguins on the icebergs, moss all over the rocks and beautiful scenery. We couldn't have had a better last day of 2023.



Once back on board, we joined the expedition team for the recap about the plans for tomorrow, and we got ready and dressed warmly to go outside and enjoy the most scenic barbecue of our lives on the helideck. We ate, we danced, we continued the party in the bar and shared the countdown with guests, staff, and crew.



Photo Andy Perkins

MOUNTAINEERING

The last day of 2023 was a real adventure, where the definition of adventure is an uncertain outcome. Mal and Andy were keen to check out Mount Damaria, a spire of rock and snow clearly visible from our anchorage. First climbed in 1979, very few parties visit this hill, and it was a first for Mal and Andy to land here. A long Zodiac ride took us across the sound, from where the guides checked out the profile of the ridge with binoculars, including what looked like a potentially tricky downclimb.

Landing at a chasm on the coastline, we anchored the Zodiacs and set off, carefully avoiding proximity to the gentoo penguin colony. Brown skuas hovered close by for the chance of stealing penguin eggs, and further up the slope of boulders and gravel, they in turn were mobbed by Arctic terns. Reaching the snow ridge, we donned crampons and roped up to snake our way along a lovely snow ridge.

Arriving at the potential downclimb, we could see that it was all a bit too much for us in terms of time and commitment. As Andy put it, “better to be down here wishing you were up there than the other way round”. We called this high point of 450m our summit, and then wended our way carefully back through the gentoos to the shore. A long Zodiac ride took us via Yalour Island back to the ship for welcome food and drink.



Photo Andy Perkins

Day 9 – 1st January

Lemaire Channel and Damoy Point

12:00 GPS Position: 64°48.4'S / 63°30.2'W

Wind: SSW 3, **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Overcast **Air t°:** 2°C, **Sea t°:** 1°C

Today we were woken up just before re-entering the Lemaire Channel on our way up North. The scenery was again spectacular, and we saw a couple of humpback whales during our transit. But exiting the Channel, we found our second group of orcas! This was again amazing, as the orcas were socialising. About 30 of them were slowly swimming in front of Ortelius, some of them tail slapping and spyhopping. We then continued our ship cruise during the morning towards Damoy Point, where we planned to do our afternoon landing.

After a hearty lunch, we started boarding our Zodiacs and landed in Damoy Point. We visited the small hut and walked around the different gentoo penguin colonies. It was our last landing in Antarctica before we headed to the South Shetland Islands the next day. Most of us took the opportunity to stretch our legs and walk the loop on the landing site several times before heading back to the ship for dinner.

After dinner we all went to the bar for drinks and were interrupted by Marcel announcing that there were humpback whales around the ship. This was quite an understatement. There were about 100 humpback whales all around, some of them bubblenet feeding in groups very close to the ship. What an incredible way to end the day!



Day 10 – 2nd January

Telefon Bay & Pendulum Cove, Deception Island

12:00 GPS Position: 62°56.6'S / 60°38.7'W

Wind: N 6, **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Overcast **Air t°:** 3°C, **Sea t°:** 5°C

This morning, perfectly timed after breakfast, we sailed into the volcanic Deception Island via the spectacular Neptune's bellows. As we sailed into Port Foster, the body of water filling this still active caldera, we sailed past the old Whaling station and continued to the western shore to Telefon Bay.

Here we landed and were able to enjoy a completely different Antarctic landscape. The ground, brown, black, red, and in many ochre colorations. It looks like a landscape from the moon. The expedition team set a hike up and around the rim of a volcanic crater, the views all around and very specially, from the high point, are other worldly. Green lagoons, black ground, white snowy slopes. Some of the guests take this opportunity to 'do laps' and make sure to stretch their muscles with even more than two laps to the set circuit. Impressive!



We then returned to the ship, and after the usually plentiful lunch, we landed near Pendulum Cove. This is the location where the former Chilean Base "Pedro Aguirre" was located, until 1967, when the volcanic eruption of Telefon Bay ended up burying the base and scientific

equipment in ashes, flying rocks and sand. The same eruption damaged Biscoe House in the Whaling station and both British and Chilean personnel had to be evacuated.

At Pendulum Cove we have our final hike up to the high point via a steep gravel slope that tested some guests' leg and core muscles. The view from the top was beautiful, overlooking the Base ruins, Port Foster, Neptune bellows, and the steamy beach down below. Geothermal



activity has heated up the shore waters in this area, and after descending from the viewpoint, most guests enjoyed an open-air hot bath in Antarctica.

Day 11 – 3rd January

Drake Passage

12:00 GPS Position: 60°27.1'S / 62°49.7'W

Wind: WNW 7/8, **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Cloudy **Air t°:** 4°C, **Sea t°:** 4°C

There was a feeling of regret as we left Deception Island to start our voyage home after so many amazing and contrasting days of adventure. We knew what was ahead of us – two days of sea passage on the Drake with potentially rough seas, but there were still plenty of lectures to keep us entertained and educated.

Juan kicked things off with his photo editing workshop, turning magical moments into works of art. Chloé with her passion for plankton followed with her huge knowledge and infectious enthusiasm for the drifting life in the Southern Ocean. In the afternoon, Pierre gave us an insight into humpback whales with pictures, audio and video to illustrate their remarkable nature. We've seen so many, so it was great to learn more about these gentle giants.

Later in the bar, the eighty plus entries to the photo competition were playing on a loop, with a wide range of subjects and interpretations of our experience over the last ten days. The winners were selected with the clapometer in the bar that evening as the sea state gradually built up to a moderate "Drake Shake"

Day 12 – 4th January

Drake Passage

12:00 GPS Position: 56°51.8'S / 65°19.6'W

Wind: W 5, **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Air t°:** 5°C, **Sea t°:** 4°C

We woke up after a rough night in the Drake. The waves were about 5m high, and we were rocked throughout the night. Most of us were woken up every half hour or so by a new large wave. But eventually we were woken up for breakfast, and for most of us our newly developed sea legs prevented us from getting seasick. It was then time to head to the bar to listen to the Captain answer our questions. This was very informative and funny at the same time.

It was then time for lunch in the restaurant. Thankfully, the sea was already improving. This made it quite easier for all of us to move around the buffet with our plates. At around 2pm we were invited to the bridge for an Ortelius World Record: 120 people on the bridge.



Day 13 – 5th January

Disembarkation Day - Ushuaia Port

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

Wind: SW6, **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** P. Cloudy **Air t°:** 7°C, **Sea t°:** 5°C

As we woke up on this fine day, we realised we were already docked in Ushuaia. We packed the last of our bags and put them outside the cabins for the staff to heave up the stairs. After breakfast we were called to disembark the ship and went to the gangway to say our final goodbyes. It was sad, but we hope to be back one day very soon!

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



Distance sailed: 1704 Nautical Miles
Farthest south: 65°13.4'S / 64°15.4'W

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Per Anderson, Expedition Leader Marcel Paul, Hotel Manager Volodymyr Cherednychenko, and all the crew and staff of Ortelius, it has been a pleasure travelling with you!

Marcel Paul - Expedition Leader



From his teens Marcel has been a keen traveller. After camping and trekking with friends, he led groups trekking to Austria, Switzerland, England, Wales, and Scotland.

His own travels over the last 30 years brought him to more than 65 countries on all 7 continents.

With his interest in history, ice, cartography, exploration, and as a keen hobby photographer, the Polar Regions have always been drawing his attention.

At his first arrival to Svalbard in 2011 and a second trip in 2013, he felt connected with the remoteness of the place and the dynamics of the polar nature. At that time the idea started to grow to become a polar guide and give up a job that was keeping him indoors most of the time.

When the Dutch organised a scientific polar expedition to Edgeøya it seemed the perfect opportunity to gain more knowledge about Spitsbergen, the uniqueness of the islands and their eco systems by working with the scientists.

He joined the expedition in 2015 as field assistant and participated in various fields of research. In 2016 he spent time in the summer at the Dutch polar station in Ny Ålesund, again as field assistant. From 2017 Marcel has been working as a polar guide in the Arctic followed by Antarctica in 2018.

Today he still spends about half the year onboard with Oceanwide whilst sailing around Spitsbergen, Greenland, Jan Mayen, Antarctica, Falklands, and South Georgia. The rest of the year is spent either at his homes in Holland and Slovakia or traveling with his wife and their dog.

Chloé Maréchal – Assistant Expedition Leader



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

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

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

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

Lucia Romero - Expedition Guide



Lucia is an extroverted and curious person always looking for new challenges and experiences worldwide.

Born and raised in Puerto Madryn, a small town of Argentinian Patagonia coast, she grew up surrounded by marine wildlife and outdoor lifestyle. This led her to choose her career, with a bachelor degree in hospitality and tourism and becoming a professional tour guide and kayak guide.

She loves sharing her passion for exploration, learning, discovering, conservation and wildlife.

With over 12 years of experience on leading groups around Patagonia, she is now focusing on the wonders and biodiversity of the polar environments.

Juan Berenstein – Expedition Guide



Juan is a professional photographer and drone pilot born in Ushuaia, Argentina. He is embarking on his first Antarctic Expedition Cruise with Oceanwide Expeditions.

He is a young and highly motivated person, who loves enjoying outdoors and on the mountains. His hobbies are trekking, camping, FPV drone flying and photography.

His passion for nature started at an early age with his family, who enjoyed the weekends camping at the end of the world and travelling around the country

on holidays. Nowadays he enjoys discovering new landscapes around the end of the Andes chain with his friends.

He studied photography in Buenos Aires and decided to return to his hometown to start his career and develop an independent way of life.

Juan has been working in tourism for more than 5 years in Ushuaia and has amazing skills related to guest management, being a sociable and talkative person. He speaks natively Spanish, English and some German as he did an exchange back in 2014 after finishing high school.

Going to Antarctica has been a lifetime dream of his, as being born at the southernmost city in the world and the nearest city to the white continent really set the path for the years to come. He plans on starting a Polar career learning from every aspect, from wildlife to history, and someday become an Expedition expert.

Galya Nosachenko - Expedition Guide



Galya was born and grew up in the Amur Region of the Russian Far East. In the same region, she studied and started my carrier.

In 2007, she graduated from Far East State Agricultural University with a degree in biology.

She worked in protected areas (in nature reserves) of Russia for 10 years as a biologist and guide in several places located in two different parts of Russia with different natural conditions: in the Far East of Russia and in the European part of Russia.

During her environmental career, Galya worked with captive birds, prepared materials on environmental education, led scientific research in this area, conducted environmental excursions and lectures for children and adults, and also worked as a caretaker with sled dogs.

She also participated in the environmental conservation programs of the non-governmental organizations of the US (EarthCorps) and Spain (Amigos de Gallocanta).

Galina has always been attracted to the Arctic region, as a result, she had the opportunity to fulfill her dream. Since 2018, she has worked in the Arctic as a guide in Svalbard for a Russian travel company, where she learned a lot about the history and nature of the Arctic.

Zet Freiburghaus - Expedition Guide



Zet is a former successful member of the Swedish national kayak team who after his active career has travelled around the world.

Just last year he hiked and rode a horse in the Tien Shen mountains of Kyrgyzstan and explored big parts of Ethiopia, where he saw the Ethiopian wolf and were standing on the rim on an active volcano.

His sharp eyes and great experience in nature implies he rarely misses an animal.

Zet has a Master of Science in Biology from Lund University.

Today he works as a guide with the whole world as his office. Zet is new to the Oceanwide crew and very excited to share his enthusiasm and energy on board our vessels this season.

Mal Haskins - Mountain Leader



I've been calling the mountains and high ranges of the world my home now for the last 20 years. I really enjoying sharing my passion and enjoyment being outdoors with others so guiding was a natural progression for me. I work in various parts of the world in both summer and winter conditions taking people mountaineering and skiing and call Wanaka, New Zealand my home.

Over the years I've had a number of very memorable expeditions and have had the opportunity to summit a few of our 8000m Peaks, Lhotse (8516m) and Manaslu (8156m).

I had the chance to come down to work and experience the Antarctic Peninsula a few years ago and have been coming down each season now for the past 3 years.

I find all mountain ranges around the world special but with Antarctica there is extra magic – the wildlife, amazing glaciers, weather and the people you meet on these journeys – it's an experience you can't match anywhere else in the world.

I'm looking forward to sharing my joy of the mountains with you in this special place.

Andy Perkins – Mountain Guide



Andy Perkins is an IFMGA mountain guide living in Chamonix at the foot of Mont Blanc, western Europe's highest mountain. He has been climbing and skiing since he was a teenager and has worked as a qualified mountain guide for over twenty years.

His "normal" work is as a guide in the European Alps. In the summer he guides climbing and mountaineering clients from all over the world. In winter he works with off piste skiers in and around lift-served ski resorts and by using ski touring equipment to access more remote spots. It's in that capacity

that he discovered the magical combination of mountains and ocean, initially through ski sail trips in Arctic Norway. He has pursued that fabulous formula with trips to Iceland and Greenland over recent years.

Here are three highlights from his mountain experience:

- 17 days on Cerro Kishtwar's north face in the Indian Himalaya . Intensity of experience is his goal in personal climbing, and this one had it in spades.
- 2 rescues on Denali, the second of which earned him the Denali Pro Award and an Award for Bravery from the US Department of the Interior.
- Skiing in Arctic Norway with his wife Lise, 60 years after his dad was pioneering there in the 1950's. Mountains run in the family!

He speaks fluent English and French and basic German and Italian.

His aim as a guide is to share his love of the wild places of the world and to maximise his clients' potential - to exceed their expectations of what they're capable of. This often means taking on new skills as well as sharpening existing ones. The big grins when someone finally "gets it", whether skiing or climbing, makes his job as a guide a real joy.

Andi Schwetz – Expedition Guide



Andi was born in Budapest and grew up in Germany. Andi has always been fascinated by animals and nature, especially marine mammals ever since she was a child. She wanted to be a whale researcher, became a whale expert, without studying at a university, but through passion. She initially graduated in sociology, but then ran her own cocktail bar for 10 years. However, her enthusiasm for sea creatures never left her and she began to travel the world to be close to these fascinating animals and to observe them.

As a scuba and freediver, she was able to get particularly close to many whale species and experience adventures. For example, she has already swum with orcas three times in arctic Norway. She came to Oceanwide because she wanted to share her passion with heart and enthusiasm. She was already able to gain experience as a trainee in Antarctica in the spring of 2023. The polar regions with their special fauna exert a very special attraction on her. She is also interested in landscape photography and has great tips for successful mobile phone photography. Another passion of hers is yoga, which she also practices as a yoga instructor. She speaks English, German, Hungarian, and a little bit of Spanish and French. Andi is looking forward to more great adventures as a team member of Oceanwide!

Pierre Gallego – Expedition Guide



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

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

whales off Ecuador and Mozambique.

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

Paolo Bellezze – Expedition Guide



Born in Argentina (Dec 80') and raised in Italy, Paolo finally moved to Scotland where he settled in 2006. Nowadays, when not at sea, he splits his time between Argentina and Scotland.

Before expedition cruises Paolo spent 12 years working shoreside in merchant shipping. He was a Product Manager for a Norwegian company developing Voyage Planning and Marine Weather Forecasting Systems for merchant ships.

He also started Paragliding at the age of 14 and has been very involved in the sport as a school owner instructing both beginners and advanced courses for over 20 years. When not paragliding, Paolo likes to sea kayak and he mixes Field Guide with Kayak Guide roles onboard.

In 2021 he started working full time in expedition cruises, since then he has guide in several expeditions such as Antarctica, South Georgia, Falklands, Greenland West coast, Greenland East coast, Iceland, Faroes Islands and British Isles.

Aside from sea kayaking and flying he is into hiking, motorbikes and spending time with friends. He is passionate about polar regions and sharing the experience with our guests.

“Happiness is only real when shared” (Chris McCandless)

Languages: English, Spanish, Italian.

Veronique Verhoeven – Ship's doctor



No one wants to get sick on the ship!!

....but if you do, you are in the good hands of ship's doctor Veronique.

When she was nine years old, her grandma gave her for Christmas a book on Christopher Columbus, which fascinated her so much that she decided she wanted to become an explorer too.

For years she fell asleep at night dreaming of future great adventures.

However, soon she found out that many of these explorers die young, poor and miserable, and she decided to change career.

That is how she ended up being an emergency doctor and a Professor in general practice at the University of Antwerp, Belgium.

Her first experience in the polar regions was a trekking expedition with scientists in Svalbard in 2005, where she acted, besides as the doctor, also as a cook and a watch keeper for polar bears at night. Since this wonderful experience, she has returned to the Arctic and the Antarctic every year, with Oceanwide Expeditions.

Among her hobbies are whitewater kayaking, kitesurfing and playing the oboe in an orchestra.



Antarctica Basecamp
Sunday 24th December 2023
Embarkation - Ushuaia



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 bar on deck 6 ****

Please listen to announcements

+/-1700 **Safety briefing** - Please join us in the **lecture room** (deck 3, forward) for a welcome to the voyage, followed by a **mandatory** safety briefing and lifeboat drill.

Lifeboat Drill

All guests will go to their **MUSTER STATION** which is either the Bar on Deck 6 or the Restaurant on Deck 4, please check your cabin room card to see which station you are assigned to. If you are assigned **Lifeboat 1** you will muster in the Bar and if you are assigned **Lifeboat 2** you will muster in the Restaurant

+/-1800 **Departure from Ushuaia.**
The bridge will be closed during these operations.

+/-1830 **Expedition Introduction & Captain's Welcome** – Please join us in **the bar (deck 6)** 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)**

2045 **Muck Boots** - We will call you by deck to collect your **Muck boots** from the **Lecture room (deck 3)**. Please bring your thick socks to make sure you have the perfect fit! Please listen for announcements.

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 and Merry Christmas!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1000 **Mountaineering Briefing** - Please join Mal and Andy in the **Bar** (deck 6) for the mountaineering introduction and briefing.
- 1100 **Photography Lecture** – Juan invites you to join him in the **Bar** (deck 6) for his lecture, “An introduction to Polar Photography”.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400 **Kayaking briefing**– Please join Zet in the **Bar** (deck 6) for a kayak introduction and briefing.
- 1500 **Camping Briefing** – Campers please meet Andi and Paolo in the **Bar** (deck 6) for your mandatory camping introduction and briefing.
- 1600 We will call you deck by deck to the **Bar** (deck 6) for the activity sign up. Everyone will get the same change to do all the activities so don't worry when your deck is called last.
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **Bar** (deck 6) for our first daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4) – *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*

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

- 0745 **Wakeup Call** – Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 0915 **Zodiac & IAATO Briefing** - Please join us in the **bar** (deck 6) for the **mandatory** zodiac and IAATO briefings.
- 1100 Please join **Andi** in **the Bar** (deck 6) for her lecture on the **Most common whales and dolphins from Ushuaia to the Antarctic Peninsula**.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400 **Biosecurity:** We will call you by deck to **deck 3** to complete our biosecurity cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, muck boots and tripods/walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. *Please listen for announcements.*
- 1600 Please join **Lucia** in **the bar** (Deck 6) for her lecture “**Penguins of the Antarctic Peninsula**”.
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition Team in **the Bar** (deck 6) for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4) – *Tonight’s dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*

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

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

Please listen to announcements

*This morning, our plan is to embark on a zodiac cruise around de **Melchior Islands**, a group of many low, ice-covered islands. They are also known as the “Venice of Antarctica” because of their many narrow canals and islands.*

- +/- 0820 **Mountaineers group 1** - Please join Andy and Mal (dressed & ready to go) to the Lecture Room (deck 3).
- +/- 0830 **Zodiac Cruise** - Please come to the **gangway** (deck 4) for a zodiac cruise around Melchior Island.
- +/- 0830 **Kayaker group 1** – Please join Zet in the **Heli hanger** (deck 6). Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- +/- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*In the afternoon we hope to offer a landing at **Orne Harbour** – a picturesque and sheltered bay located on the western side of the Antarctic Peninsula. This **continental landing** presents a great chance to observe **Chinstrap Penguins**.*

- +/- 1420 **Mountaineers group 2** - Please join Andy and Mal (dressed & ready to go) to the **Lecture Room** (deck 3).
- +/- 1430 **Landing** - Please come to the **gangway** (deck 4) for a landing at Orne harbour.
- +/- 1430 **Kayaking group 2** - Please join Zet in the **Heli hanger** (Deck 6). Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 1830 Please join the expedition team in the **Bar** (Deck 6) for our **daily recap**.
- 1900 Our delayed **Christmas dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!
- +/- 2115 **Camping** – We will confirm whether camping will proceed once we have assessed conditions. Standby for announcements.

- 0645 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- +/- 0745 **Mountaineers group 3** – Please join Andy and Mal (dressed & ready to go) to the **Lecture Room**.
- +/- 0830 **Landing** – Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at Brown station.
- +/- 0830 **Kayaking group 3** – Please join Zet in the **Heli hanger**. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- This afternoon, we aim to offer a **zodiac cruise** around **stony point**. We hope to encounter stunning landscapes, ice formations, seals and sea birds.*
- +/- 1345 **Mountaineers group 4** - Please join Andy and Mal (dressed & ready to go) to the Lecture Room.
- +/- 1415 **Zodiac cruise** - Please come to the gangway for a zodiac cruise at **stony point**.
- +/- 1415 **Kayaking group 4** - Please join Zet in the **Heli hanger**. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 1830 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!
- +/- 2115 **Camping** – This evening we hope to offer camping at Kerr point. We will confirm whether camping will proceed once we have assessed conditions. Please standby for announcements.

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



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

Please listen to announcements

*This morning, our plan is to embark on a landing at **Cuverville Islands**, Island – one of the largest Gentoo Penguin colonies on the Peninsula.*

*For the adventurous soul, we would like to offer a **polar plunge** at the end of your landing or activity, please wear your swimwear underneath your expedition clothing, we will provide the towels, please do not bring the ones from your cabin.*

+/- 0745 **Mountaineers group 5** - Please join Andy and Mal (dressed & ready to go) to the Lecture Room.

+/- 0830 **Landing-** Please come to the **gangway** for a zodiac cruise around Melchior Island.

+/- 0830 **Kayaker group 5** – Please join Zet in the **Heli hanger**. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.

+/- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*In the afternoon we hope to offer a landing at **Orne Island** – with beautiful Antarctic scenery and the chance of spotting Chinstrap Penguins.*

+/- 1345 **Mountaineers group 6** - Please join Andy and Mal (dressed & ready to go) to the Lecture Room.

+/- 1430 **Landing** - Please come to the **gangway** for a landing at **Orne Island**.

+/- 1430 **Kayaking group 6** - Please join Zet in the **Heli hanger**. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.

1830 Please join the expedition team in the **Bar** for our **daily recap**.

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

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

0615 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

0630 **Lemaire Chanel**



Early morning, we will ship cruise Lemaire Chanel, a famous passage along the Antarctic Peninsula which is nicknamed the 'Kodak Gap' for its spartan wilderness of snow and ice amid rugged peaks rising 1000 meters high.

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

This morning we aims to zodiac cruise around Pléneau island. One of Antarctica's most spectacular 'iceberg graveyards'.

0900 **Zodiac cruise-** Please come to the gangway for a cruise around **Pléneau Island**.

0900 **Kayaker group 7** – Please join Zet in the **Heli hanger**. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.

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

This afternoon we hope to offer a Landing at Port Charcot. A small bay at the north end of Booth Island. It was first mapped in 1904 when the French Antarctic expedition led by Jean-Baptiste Charcot over-wintered here.

1345 **Mountaineers group 7** - Please join Andy and Mal (dressed & ready to go) to the **Lecture Room**.

1400 **Landing** - Please come to the gangway for a Landing at **Port Charcot**.

1400 **Kayaker group 8** – Please join Zet in the **Heli hanger**. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.

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

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



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

Antarctica Basecamp
Sunday 31th December 2023

Winter Island, Wordie House & Yalour Island

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

0730-0830 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

This morning we aim to zodiac cruise around winter Island and hope to do a landing and visit to Wordie House which was built in 1947 on the site of the earlier 1936 British Graham land Expedition hut. It will also be the southernmost point of our voyage.

0845 **Mountaineers group 8** - Please join Andy and Mal (dressed & ready to go) to the **Lecture Room**.

0915 **Zodiac cruise**- Please come to the gangway for a cruise around winter Island and a visit to Wordie House.

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

This afternoon we hope to offer a Landing Yalour Island. It is in a small archipelago surrounded by mountainous scenery with a Adélie penguin colony and one of the southernmost recorded gentoo penguin colonies.

1400 **Landing** - Please come to the gangway for a Landing at **Yalour Island**.

1845 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.

1930 Please join us outside for a special **New Years Eve dinner**. Dress up warm and bring your dancing shoes. We are hoping to make this last evening of 2023 a truly special one.

When we get tired of dancing outside, we will continue the party inside.

23.45 Please join us in the Bar for a countdown to 2024!





Antarctica Basecamp
Monday 1st January 2024
Ships cruise & Damoy Point

Happy new year to you all, best wishes for 2024 from all crew at Ortelius

There will be no wakeup call 😊

0800-0900 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

This morning we will enjoy a ships cruise back via Lemaire channel followed by the Butler Passage where we can see a huge tubular iceberg. Then depending on the wind, we will continue via Peltier channel to Damoy Point.

0900 Lemaire channel

1100 Please meet the expedition team and your fellow passengers on the helicopter deck for a mid-morning warm up!

1230-1330 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

This afternoon we are planning to offer a Landing at Damoy Point. Here we hope to enjoy gentoo penguins, a long walk and stunning Antarctic scenery. You will also be able to see the famous Penguin Post office which is unfortunately closed at the moment.

1430 **Landing** - Please come to the gangway for a Landing at **Damoy Point**. There is the possibility for a longer walk but there will be a shuttle back to Ortelius available at any moment.

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

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

*“For last year’s words belong to last year’s language
and next year’s words await another voice.
T.S. Eliot*

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

0730-0830 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

0830 We will sail into Deception Island

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

0915 We hope to take you ashore at Telefon Bay in Deception Island. Dress for a hike across this volcanic landscape.

1230-1330 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

1400 **Landing** - Please come to the gangway for a Landing at **Pendulum Cove** There is the possibility for a good walk but there will be a shuttle back to Ortelius available at any moment.

1600 For those who want to experience a swim in an active volcano we offer a second polar plunge!

1730 We will sail back out through Neptune's Bellows so be out on deck for our second transit through this extremely narrow passageway.

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

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

2030 Meet the expedition team in the bar for an **Antarctic quiz**. To celebrate the end of our active days the hotel team is organising Happy hour. Enjoy 50% of on selected drinks and special Antarctic cocktails.



No wakeup call – Have a lovely morning!

- 0800-0900 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Workshop** – Juan invites you into the bar for a photo editing workshop.
- 1100 **Lecture** – Chloe invites you to her lecture about **the drifting life of the Southern Ocean**. We all know by now of her passion and enthusiasm for Plankton, so please come and join her in **the bar** for this talk.
- 1230-1330 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1330 **Muck Boot & Rental Gear Collection** – We will call you by deck to return your muck boots and any rental gear to the **lecture room on deck 3**.
- 1400 Juan will be in the bar to collect your submissions for the Ortelius **photo competition**.
- 1500 **Lecture** – We have been very lucky to see many Humpback whales this trips so if you want to learn more about these fascinating species, please come to see Pierre's lecture on **Humpback whales in the Bar**.
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the bar** for our daily recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!
- 2030 Please join us in **the bar** for the photo competition finale!

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

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

No wakeup call – Have a lovely morning!

0800-0900 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

0930 **Lecture** – Passenger Peter Stuttard was part of a Joint Services Expedition to Brabant Island in 1984 together with Adrien de Gerlache de Gomerys' grandson Francois. He would like to invite you into the bar to give a talk about that trip and the island.

1100 Lecture – Lucia invites you into the bar for her lecture on **Argentina**, a bit of history for a better understanding of the Argentinians.

1230-1330 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

1500+/- Please all come up to the Bridge at deck 7 to try and help Captain Per beat the **word record** for most people on the bridge of Ortelius. Current record is 108 but if we all come up to the bridge, we can break that!

1600 An audience with Captain Per, please meet the captain of your voyage in the bar to answer some of the questions you submitted in the question box and to ask him anything else you want to know about the ship, live at sea, navigating in polar regions or anything else you can think about.

1815 **Recap** – Please join the captain and the expedition team in **the lounge** for our final re-cap, Captains farewell cocktails and the slideshow of our amazing trip.

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

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

We will still be at sea for most of the day so please walk slowly on the ship, never rush. Keep one hand for yourself but at least one hand for the ship. Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames.

0715 **Wake up call.** Your final Good morning, Good morning Good morning from Ortelius for this trip.

0730-0830 **Breakfast** is 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.*

0900 +/- We will make an announcement if the ship is cleared for disembarkation. Please do not wait at reception till we have made the announcement.

For those guests going straight to the airport; Please identify your luggage on the pier (**Orange tags**) and ensure it is placed in the bus with you going to the airport.

For those guests wanting their luggage taken to the depot; Please identify your luggage (**Blue tags**) and place it in the luggage truck, you do need to pick up your luggage before 14:00!

For all others, please identify your luggage (**No tags**) and take it with you.

On behalf of all at Oceanwide Expeditions and all on board Ortelius, we thank you for a truly incredible expedition. Safe travels home or onwards, and we hope to see you again onboard in the future!