



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Atlantic Odyssey

28th March – 1st May 2024

M/V Hondius



M/V Hondius was built in 2019, as the first-registered Polar Class 6 vessel in the world, meeting the latest and highest Lloyd's Register standards for ice-strengthened cruise ships. Surpassing the requirements of the Polar Code adopted by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Hondius represents the most flexible, advanced, innovative touring vessel in the polar regions, thoroughly optimized for exploratory voyages that provide you the utmost first-hand contact with the Arctic and Antarctica. Hondius complies with the latest SOLAS-regulations (Safety of Life at Sea). M/V Hondius is 107.6 m long, 15.3 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5.3 m, Polar Class 6 (equivalent 1A-Super), 15 knots average cruising speed and has 2 x ABC main engines; total 4,200 kw.

Captain Remmert-Jan Koster

and his international crew

Staff Captain:	Miia Holma	Finland
Chief Officer:	Jan Willem	Netherlands
2nd Officer:	Igor Nazarov	Russia
3rd Officer:	Solina Duguay	Canada
Chief Engineer:	Andrej Abakumov	Estonia
Hotel Manager:	Alex Lyebedyev	Ukrainian
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Rolando Garcia	Philippines
Head Chef:	Ralf Barthel	Germany
Ships Doctor:	Jacquelyn Martin	The Netherlands
Expedition Leader:	Hans Verdaat	The Netherlands
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Hazel Pittwood	UK
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Chloe Marechal	France
Expedition Guide:	William Kennedy	France
Expedition Guide:	Elizabeth Robinson	United States / UK
Expedition Guide:	Joshua Peck	Falklands
Expedition Guide:	Andrew Crowder	UK
Expedition Guide:	Marijke de Boer	The Netherlands
Expedition Guide:	Eduardo Herrera Rubio	Guatemala
Expedition Guide:	Martin Anstee	UK
Expedition Guide:	Leon Glass	Tristan da Cunha
Expedition Guide:	Robert Brown	UK
Expedition Guide:	Julian Robinson	United Kingdom
Expedition Guide:	Georgina Strange	Falkland Islands

Day 1 – Thursday 28th of March 2024

Embarkation – Ushuaia, Argentina

GPS 16:00 Position: 54° 48.63 'S / 068° 17.9'W

Wind: NNW 3 **Sea State:** Rippled **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Air Temp:** 7°C **Sea Temp:** 11°C

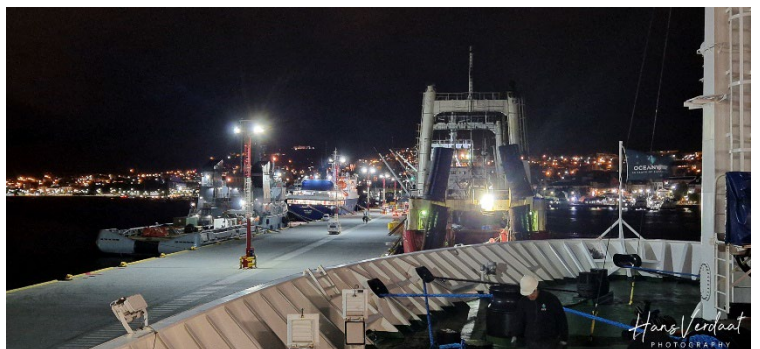
It is time, after much anticipation to board what will be our home for the next thirty days as we undertake an adventure of a lifetime, sailing the Atlantic Ocean from its southernmost point to Cape Verde. Over 25 nationalities make our contingent of travelers, coming from all four corners of the world as we gather in Ushuaia to board our new Home MV Hondius.



For once Ushuaia isn't too windy and also quite dry on our arrival day which let us enjoy its many beauties. The birders undoubtedly took a walk along the shore to see the rich bird life of the south american shores, while others took this last opportunity for an empanada or a local brewed beer.

In the afternoon was time for us to make our way down the slopes and onto our new home. Little by little we arrived at the jetty and were welcomed by a group of smiling crew members and Staff, braving the wind that had by now picked up, welcoming us and showing us the way.

On board our precious suitcases had been brought to our cabins and it was time to make ourselves comfortable in our new environment. After a mandatory safety briefing in case of an emergency we were treated to a drink by the Captain who told a few words about the ship, his crew, and the trip we were about to undertake. Hans our Expedition leader continued and introduced to us the Expedition Team, in charge of interpreting our voyage by being the link between us and what we see when we are outside. They are composed of many specialists from Geology to marine biologists, birders of course and historians.



It was time after this introduction to be introduced to our weight gain program in the restaurant. We were served a magical buffet which set the tone for the rest of the trip. We will meet here three times a day, twice for buffet in the mornings and evenings and we will enjoy a four course meal every evening.

The weather was not on our side on this day so a decision was made for us to spend the night in Ushuaia in order to avoid a "Purple Monster" which was causing havoc in the Drake. This will give us the rare opportunity to discover the Beagle channel in the morning.

Day 2 – Friday 29th of March 2024

At Sea – Beagle channel, Scotia Sea

GPS 12:00 Position: 55° 06.1 'S / 060° 31.6'W

Wind: W 5 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** 3°C **Sea Temp:** 11°C



The day we all expected arrived!

Sea conditions were good, and the weather was a bit rainy and cloudy. It was dark and the lights of the pier shone intensely. Activity in the port was as usual. Provisions were being delivered to various ships around, some passengers could be seen departing from their ships after their Antarctic adventures. A long line of buses collecting them as well as many service trucks around.

Next to us, opposite the pier was the ARA Almirante Irizar one of the biggest ice breaker ships of the South Americans, she lay there moored with her very distinctive bright orange and yellow livery.

We woke up all early to witness the manoeuvres of departure. Our officers closed the bridge as soon as the pilot was on board. In the bridge shortly after 07:00 our officers started to issue the first orders. The bow springer lines of the ship were casted away as well as the ones in the aft. Soon we were moving slowly away from the pier. We were underway. Our adventure started finally.

Our epic crossing of the Atlantic Ocean started!



As soon as we cleared the pier, we moved south, to gain the mouth of the Beagle Channel. As soon as we left Ushuaia, we turned east bounded for the east entrance of the Channel. The sun came and lit the atmosphere late, and with the light we were able to see the first features of the channel. There were the 'Dientes de Navarrino' (Navarrino's Teeth) to the south, the Chilean side, and the beautiful forest of the Isla Grande de Tierra del Fuego to the North.

We sailed along the Beagle for the next hours seeing various features as we moved eastwards. When breakfast finished, we had the town of Puerto Williams to our ship's starboard. This is the southernmost settlement in the world. An hour later, we came to the position of Bahia Moat where our pilot left the ship.

We had various activities that morning. Around 10:30 Martin our guide gave a nice introductory talk with the title 'Birds of the Drake'.

When this presentation ended, we left the Beagle Channel and the islands that mark its entrance were visible from the aft of the ship, namely Isla Nueva, Isla Lennox and Isla Picton. We're sailing the northern tip of the Drake Passage bounded for South Georgia.

For the afternoon we had two lectures, being the first one given by Marijke. She talked about the cetaceans we may encounter in the Drake Passage. Georgina was our second speaker of the afternoon. She presented an introduction to photography. Late in the afternoon we had our first recap of the trip.



Dinner was served at 19:00 and after it the bird enthusiasts and experts had their first meeting in the lecture room, to discuss the species seen during the day. Various sights of wandering and royal albatross were done throughout the day, as well as various types of prions, petrels and skuas by these bird enthusiasts.

The night came and we encountered a turbulent sea which made the ship to bounce and roll. The weather deteriorated a lot in that evening, and we had rain and low visibility. No stars were seen and in this dark night, our officers navigated with the aid of the radar.

We were going to need two more days to reach the first destination of our trip, the remote islands of the South Georgia archipelago.

Day 3 – Saturday 30th of March 2024

At Sea – Scotia Sea towards South Georgia

GPS 12:00 Position: 54° 43.6 'S / 058° 00.1'W

Wind: WSW 5 Sea State: Slight Weather: Cloudy Air Temp: 9°C Sea Temp: 8°C

We woke up on our second sea day to a slightly better sea state, which was to improve as the day went on. The weather was bright with occasional patches of blue sky. Outside, the boat was surrounded by huge albatrosses – mostly **Wandering Albatross**, with the occasional **Southern Royal** and **Grey-Headed Albatross**. The Wanderers were of various states of maturity, which enabled us to become more familiar with the associated plumage details. A probable **Brown Skua** was seen aggressively harassing **Wandering Albatrosses** (3-4 times its size!), to regurgitate their food – an amazing sight.

Inside we all attended the mandatory briefing on zodiac operations and biosecurity for South Georgia, following which we joined the expedition team on Deck 3, who issued us with our Muckboots for our off-ship activities. The team then invited the less experienced bird enthusiasts to join them on the stern to spot wildlife and help with identification. During this, it was noticed that a **Snowy Sheathbill** had 'stowed away' on Deck 8 and we took the opportunity to make ourselves familiar with this funny looking bird and capture a few photos.



After a good lunch, we were treated to fascinating lectures from Chloe on Squid and from Joss about the famous polar adventurer, Ernest Shackleton. Outside the wildlife was still 'hot' with large groups of **Prions** being seen; even the really experienced birders admit to finding this group difficult separate into the various species! Seemingly ever-present **Giant Petrels** were joined by beautiful **Kerguelen Petrels** and both **Southern Rockhopper** and **King Penguins** were sighted, swimming close to the ship. Quite a day for the birders, who rounded it off with the evening gathering to share images, opinions, etc.

A quiet drink in the bar or an early night for the rest of us.....ready for tomorrow!

Day 4 – Sunday 31st of March 2024

At Sea Scotia Sea towards South Georgia

GPS 12:00 Position: 54° 14.4 'S / 050° 02.3'W

Wind: NW 4 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Clear **Air Temp:** 3°C **Sea Temp:** 7.2°C

Today we spent our Easter Sunday at sea! We were welcomed with chocolate eggs and easter decorations in the dining room for breakfast.

In the morning, Julian taught us about the geology of South Georgia. The island's geology consists of folded metamorphosed slates, silts, and graywackes with occasional thin limestones. Additionally, Julian discussed igneous intrusions along the south and southeast coasts.



Our afternoon began with a mandatory biosecurity check. We were called by deck to have our outerwear, backpacks, muck boots, and tripods checked for seeds and dust. These biosecurity measures are in place to protect the fragile ecosystem of the South Georgia islands from invasive species. The officer of South Georgia is going to check us too in Grytviken.

Following the biosecurity check, Bob gave us a lecture about the differences between the Arctic and Antarctic regions. The Arctic is an ocean covered by a thin layer of perennial sea ice and surrounded by land. In contrast, Antarctica is a continent covered by a very thick ice cap and surrounded by a rim of sea ice and the Southern Ocean. Bob also explained the geographical and political distinctions between the two poles.



Throughout the day, we spotted wildlife around the ship. We were delighted to see hourglass dolphins, which are black on top and white on the belly with white patches on the sides. Whalers colloquially referred to them as "sea cows." We also observed a variety of albatrosses and other sea birds.

As another day at sea comes to an end, we eagerly anticipate reaching the magnificent island of South Georgia tomorrow.

Day 5 – Monday 1st April 2024

At sea towards South Georgia, Shags rocks

GPS 12:00 Position: 53° 41.9 'S / 042° 00.1'W

Wind: W 6 Sea State: slight Weather: Overcast Air Temp: 5°C Sea Temp: +6.3°C



On our fourth full day at sea, we were excited to learn that today we would come across the magnificent but rather bizarre feature of the Scotia Sea, Shag Rocks. Shag Rocks are an interesting geological feature of the Scotia Ridge – the tips of undersea mountains rising like daggers out of the ocean, like triangles of Toblerone in the Southern Ocean! Some miles from the island of South Georgia, we would still sail another half day and a night from here before reaching our first landing destination.



Our sailing today was pleasant, with sunshine and a stiff breeze causing the sea to be fairly choppy. Throughout the day we encountered many Prions, skimming the crests of the waves, their numbers increasing as we drew closer to the Rocks. The birds we saw today were mostly Fairy Prions, the smallest and daintiest of the Prions in this area. Wandering albatrosses also graced us with their presence, and we spotted several White-chinned petrels today, too. Aside from birds, we had many sightings of the second largest whale in our

oceans – the Fin whale! Our marine mammal expert-spotter, Marijke, estimated over sixty Fin whales were recorded during our day's sailing today. Shag Rocks is known to be a hot spot for these beautiful creatures – Krill is plentiful here and they come to feast. We were also very lucky to have the company of several pods of Hourglass dolphins, riding along the waves with Hondius.



As we approached Shag Rocks just before lunch time, the sea conditions picked up and the bow became less of a bird-watching spot and rather more of a 'second-shower-of-the-day' situation for some...! The photographers enjoyed great photo opportunities from deck three aft, as we took a closer look at Shag Rocks and all the feathered creatures calling this wild and remote spot home.

Lectures today were presented by Elizabeth about whaling, Georgina introducing photography and Bob

Another beautiful day at sea (and we escaped the day without any April Fools..... ☺).

Day 6 – Tuesday 2nd of April 2024

Fortuna bay, Leith harbour

GPS 12:00 Position: 54° 03.5 'S / 037° 18.3'W

Wind: W 3 **Sea State:** rippled **Weather:** Clear **Air Temp:** +4°C **Sea Temp:** +5°C

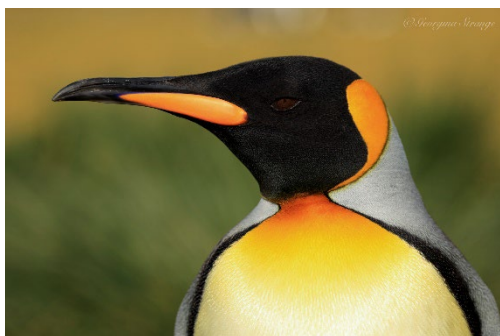


The morning of April 2nd was filled with long awaited excitement and the feeling of success. For some, this Oceanwide trip had been years in the making and the moment has finally arrived. Hondius left Ushuaia days prior finally reached South Georgia in time for a stunning sunrise over this beautiful island, providing guests onboard with their first breath-taking views. Views of snow-capped mountains, jagged peaks towering over the shorelines, giant seabirds soaring effortlessly on our leeward side, and marine life energetically leaping through the waves almost as if to welcome our arrival. Views, which some of us regard as our favourite place on earth.

We started our first South Georgia expedition day at Fortuna Bay. The name originating from one of the first whaling vessels Carl Larsen brought with him to the island to commence the bustling whaling industry. This sorrow past of South Georgia whaling would be discussed often in the days to come with plans to visit Grytviken, Leith, Stromness, and Husvik, all old whaling stations. However, this morning was not about the whales, it was about the penguins. For most, today was their first time ever seeing Southern Elephant seals, Antarctic Fur seals, and perhaps the most important, King penguins! Fortuna Bay is home to one of the largest King penguin colonies and it is a spectacle everyone must see.



We landed all guests in the morning with over three hours to walk amongst the wildlife. The King penguin colony is situated at the back of the wide glacial out washed plain, which houses beautifully braided streams lacing from the sea to Konig Glacier. Not only is the colony a sight for our eyes but also our ears! The sound of hundreds of king penguins of all ages could be thought as the symphony of South Georgia; spectacular! Fortuna is not only to be enjoyed from the land but also from the water.



We dropped zodiacs in the water and had a short cruise along Whistle Cove and the massive icebergs grounded in the bay. Above us towered the peaks of Breakwind Ridge, in front of us a plethora of species went about their daily lives, and below us kelp strongly hung onto the seabed floor while it swayed side to side with the constantly moving current. Although King penguins were the main attraction, other species we had the pleasure of seeing during the zodiac cruise included: Gentoo penguins, Light-mantled sooty albatross, Snowy sheathbill, Brown skua, Elephant seals and Fur

seals.

The next destination for our afternoon activity was not too far away, as we headed around the corner to a protected and sheltered place called Leith Harbor. Leith Harbor is another one of the old whaling stations in South Georgia, situated in a bay just next to two more stations, Stromness, and Husvik. We set out for an afternoon zodiac cruise to enjoy the wildlife on the shorelines and see the old whaling station buildings. What a fantastic first day in South Georgia!

When we returned back onboard we were welcomed to a surprise from our galley and hotel crew; an outside dinner! The grills were fired up and BBQ food sizzling away. We ended this day with a lovely dinner outside on deck admiring the scenery and getting excited for what was in store the next day.



Day 7 – Wednesday 3rd of April 2024

Grytviken, Godhul

GPS 12:00 Position: 54° 51.3 'S / 035° 56.6'W

Wind: NW 4 Sea State: Rippled Weather: Cloudy Air Temp: 4°C Sea Temp: 4°C

A light mist greeted our arrival into the eastern arm of Cumberland Bay, early in the morning. Soon it started to lift giving us wonderful views of the mountains around Grytviken, King Edward Point where the South Georgia Government is based, and the rusting remains of the whaling station.



Soon we were anchored just outside the point, and the Government biosecurity inspector with two folk from the Grytviken museum were on board – would our scrupulous cleaning efforts be adequate to the rigorous check? Happily, whilst our two museum representatives were explaining about the history of the site, and the various do's and don'ts of our visit, the inspector eventually declared himself satisfied with our efforts – we had a pass rate of 100%, nice after all that work extracting those pesky seeds from boot treads!

So then it was onto the zodiacs, and motoring ashore to land on the beach just beside two rusting old whaling vessels. Whilst much of the site was closed to us because of avian flu, we were able to visit the museum and post office and see much of the old life, whilst keeping our loved ones back home happy with postcards and souvenirs. All this was greatly enhanced by Josh giving a guided tour around as much of the site as possible, including the beautiful old church.



Because it wasn't possible to walk around the shore to the cemetery, we had a shuttle running across the bay, which offered a nice perspective on the whaling station and its grim, decaying atmosphere. Then on to the narrow beach and up the

path, past fur seals, to the little cemetery within a low fence. There Bob and Eduardo dispensed little tots of 'Shackleton' whisky to those who wished to toast the 'boss' (and juice for other folk) and everyone raised their glasses to the boss and his right hand man, Frank Worsley, and not forgetting the poor Felix Artuso, the only death of the war in South Georgia.

Back on board, we made a quick and easy passage to Godthul, a scenic little bay with a narrow beach. Whilst some of us made our way up to the gentoo colony a short climb from the shore, others remained below enjoying the views of the increasing number of gentoos swimming ashore, the fur seals and the odd moulting

elephant seal lurking in the tussock grass. Perhaps the most memorable aspect was the sight of many of these penguins trying to scale the slippery slopes of the various icebergs grounded a short way offshore. Happily some even succeeded and posed delightfully upon their new vantage points, despite various echoing rumbles as sections of ice collapsed.

Evening saw the completion of the day's species list, doubtless enhanced by the cocktail of the day, Tequila Sunrise!



Day 8 – Thursday 4th of April 2024

Drygalski Fjord cruise, Cooper Bay

GPS 12:00 Position: 54° 48.6 'S / 035° 50.7'W

Wind: SE 2 Sea State: Rippled Weather: P.Cloudy Air Temp: 14°C Sea Temp: 5°C

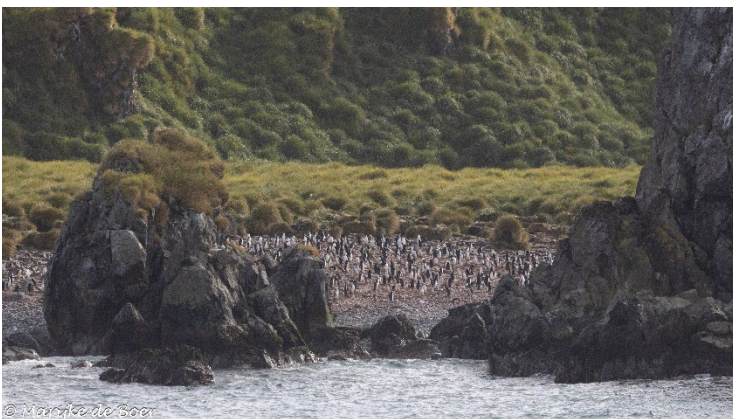
We spend the night at sea, sailing south-east, following the northern coast of South Georgia. Our objective was to be at the beginning of the morning at the entrance of the beautiful Fjord of Drygalski.

Wakeup call was early today, at 06:30 and as we came on decks we found ourselves facing the grandiose scenery of the mountains and steep cliffs that mark the entrance of this fjord. On this day, breakfast was served a bit earlier, at 07:30 so we would be well fed to enjoy the cruise along this long fjord.



As we entered the Fjord, we could see the entrance of other bays and the small harbour, all of them adjacent to the main one, the Drygalski. The first open entrance to the west, was the Larsen Harbour which opens clearly with a couple of beaches along the western side. Here we could see many fur seals as well as many elephant seals, all of them guarded by king and gentoo penguins.

As we came into the glacier, we had the chance to see more of these small harbours and coves. To the west we had the Brandt Cove which similarly to the Larsen Harbour, had a few beaches with visitors along the side, more fur and elephant seals. The landscape by this time turned into an amphitheatre of mountains, water and glaciers. We were surrounded by many mountains and glacier fronts. To the north east (starboard side of the ship as we were entering) we had the Trendall Cragg peak, rising up to 1000 meters above sea level and as we sailed into, we encountered the Dead End Glacier debouching into the Fjord.

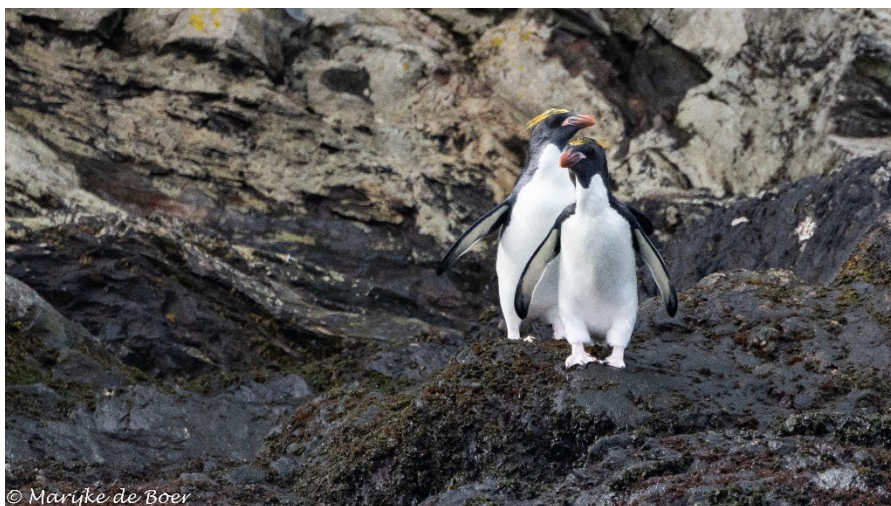


Higher peaks were visible beyond the end of the fjord and more glaciers fronts appeared in front of us. Soon as we were at the end of the Fjord, we had a good view of the Risting Glacier to the northwest as well as the Jenkins Glacier also, located directly towards the west on the other side. Both glaciers have been showing significant change over the last decades and they herald the times we are living in which glaciers are receding at great speeds everywhere, including the most distant places on Earth.

As we came into the Fjord we had the chance to see various birds flying around us, mostly Antarctic Terns, Giant Petrels, Cape Petrels, Skuas, Wilson's Storm Petrels, and a couple of prions among others. One remarkable sight was the one of a single South Georgia Pipit crossing the Fjord and flying in front of the ship as high as our bridge.

Sadly one of the residents of the Fjord was not visible, the Snow Petrel and as we turned the ship to egress the Fjord, we could not see it, leaving us with the nostalgia of missing a friend.

As we came out of the fjord we spotted some whales (right southern whales and a humpback whale) and we sailed out to reach the Cooper Sound located at the Southeast tip of the main island of South Georgia. There we organised a zodiac cruise along the Bay of the same name, a wonderful place where it is possible to sight the typical wildlife of South Georgia. Sea conditions were not ideal and therefore we had to use the gangway of our ship in order to access our zodiacs. Swell was between 1 - 2 meters high making the operation of embarking and disembarking from the zodiacs slow and a bit challenging.



Despite this, twelve zodiacs left the ship and had the opportunity to see and photograph Maccaroni Penguins, Chisnstrap and many elephant and fur seals present along the shores. One distinctive feature of these areas was also the sight of the kelp, most of the coastal regions were covered by this seaweed giving an alien-like impression to these desolated coasts constatly battered by the weaves and the wind.

This was our last activity in South Georgia, as we embarked the last zodiac on board, we prepared the ship for the next crossing, among the mist and fog coming from the west.



Because of our early start, today all the rest of our activities were done earlier than our normal plan, so we had an early recap, Marijke talking about the Weddel seals, Eduardo talking about the lesser known expeditions to South Georgia and Chloé talking about her favourite subject plankton, giving a live demonstration with one of our microscopes on board.

As we sailed bounded for the northeast of South Georgia, dinner time came also a bit earlier. After dinner our bird enthusiast and experts had their daily meeting to

discuss the trip's species list. This was followed of a Happy Hour and a wonderful ship's quiz organised by staff.

As the darkness enveloped the ambience, we crossed the waves of the South Atlantic bounded for our next destination: Gough Island in the Tristan da Cunha archipelago.

Day 9 – Friday 5th of April 2024

At sea towards Gough Island

GPS 12:00 Position: 51° 48.27 'S / 029° 50.6'W

Wind: SW 5 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** 2.2°C **Sea Temp:** 5°C

After enjoying the wonders of South Georgia for the past 3 days, we settled in for our first full day at sea travelling towards our next destination, Tristan Da Cunha.

Despite heading North, and potentially leaving the polar environment behind, we were surprised to find we were surrounded by ice throughout the day. Our Bridge team had the unenviable task of navigating through the ice, a job made especially difficult during the night with very low light and fog all around. We did get some great views of the passing icebergs during the day, but unfortunately the thick fog obscured most of our sightings.



As with previous sea days, we were all treated to a host of lectures throughout the day from our expedition guides.

Elizabeth gave us some brilliant insights into Right Whales, including her work in the North Atlantic and some of the geo-tagging that has helped to shed light on their migration across the oceans. Following on from Elizabeth, we moved down the food chain and

Chloe taught us about the wonderful world of Plankton. As keystone species these organisms form the foundations of our ocean ecosystems.



After another wonderful lunch – and another time change - we enjoyed an afternoon of history with our two Historians onboard: Josh and William. Josh shared some stories of his experiences working and living in South Georgia and gave an insight into what it is like to spend time on an isolated research base in the Southern Ocean. William followed shortly after with a breakdown of politics in the Antarctic region. Antarctic

Geopolitics is a complicated subject, but Will helped to answer many of our questions regarding ownership, claims and what the future holds for the region.

With another recap and delicious dinner behind us, most of us headed back up to the lounge to celebrate with a glass of bubbles our 100% pass score in our biosecurity checks in South Georgia. The champagne also helped to get us in the spirit for the South Georgia Heritage Trust (SGHT) Auction, which was brilliantly hosted by our auctioneer, William. With 14 items up for auction, we managed to raise over £2000 for SGHT and contribute nicely to the excellent work SGHT are doing in South Georgia.



Day 10 – Saturday 6th of April 2024

At Sea towards Gough Island

GPS 12:00 Position: 49° 08.4 'S / 024° 31.2'W

Wind: NNW 4 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Foggy **Air Temp:** 7°C **Sea Temp:** 9.1°C

This morning we woke to another wakeup call from Hans and news that the ship was still sailing through fog. However, our spirits were raised with news that we were travelling fast in a Northerly direction and that the sea temperature had risen.



After another delicious breakfast Eduardo gave a lecture entitled Alien Ocean, The Quest for Extraterrestrial Water and Life. The lecture was a fascinating insight into the importance of water in our search for life on other planets. Eduardo finished with a short, thought provoking, film about human behavior.

Following the lecture there was time for reflection, tea and coffee, some fresh air and wildlife watching before Leon gave his first lecture on the history of Tristan Da Cunha. He finished the lecture with the promise of more to come.

Lunch was another tasty array of treats and a look out the window suggested that the fog was beginning to lift, this was great news as we were close to a large cargo ship and in fact an hour later the ship loomed out of the mist and crossed our bow. It seemed to bring with it some new birds, one of the huge Wandering Albatross along with an impressive Great-winged Petrel and some Storm Petrels. To keep the mammal watchers happy, we were also joined by some Hourglass Dolphins.



Bob gave a very interesting lecture on the evolution of Penguins and in the meantime the visibility improved significantly over the course of the afternoon, so much so that Hazels lecture on pinnipeds was postponed until tomorrow.

Recap was as interesting as ever with plans for the coming days and discussion about our hugely exciting arrival at Tristan.

Dinner followed with Yorkshire Pudding, Beef and gravy! Or Salmon for those not wanting the red meat.

The evening began with the wildlife list discussion followed by a beautiful presentation from Georgina about her amazing life growing up on New Island in The Falkland Islands and the conservation work that her father, Ian Strange, had started.

It had been a day at sea but a very special day with lots of interesting information and some great wildlife.



Day 11 – Sunday 7th of April 2024

At sea towards Gough Island

GPS 12:00 Position: 45° 28.1 'S / 018° 25.7'W

Wind: WSW 4 Sea State: Smooth Weather: P.Cloudy Air Temp: 18°C Sea Temp: 14°C



The morning wake-up call announced good visibility and that the water temperature had jumped-up to 14 degrees, meaning we had properly crossed the convergence and should expect to see different bird species. And it proved to be a great day for the birders with a Shy Albatross, Spectacled Petrel, Subantarctic Shearwater, Broad-billed prions and Sooty Albatross amongst the early sightings.

Hazel kicked-off the morning lecture program, with an informative talk on Pinnipeds, explaining the features of seals, sea lions and walruses, and later Julian talked about the history and origins of the Tristan volcano, and showed a historic film documenting the 1961 eruption that occurred next to the settlement. Chloé also had the microscope out to show off the amazing plankton collected from Cooper Bay earlier in the voyage.



After stuffing us once again with his excellent food, Chef Ralf gave a talk and answered questions about the catering operation onboard *Hondius*, explaining how he uses mashed potatoes to make the food stick to the plate on the rough days at sea. Later in the afternoon, Leon packed the lecture room and provided

fascinating insights into life on one of the world's remotest islands with his talk about life on Tristan da Cunha.

The afternoon saw plenty of passengers out on the decks with their cameras enjoying the warm conditions as many Wandering/Tristan albatross arced gracefully around the ship.

At the evening recap, Chloé provided the perfect introduction to the Toothfish dinner by talking about the fish found in Antarctic waters, and the day was rounded out with our guest Kirk giving a talk about the differences and range of the various types of *Fregetta* Storm Petrels

Day 12 – Monday 8th of April 2024

At sea towards Gough Island

GPS 12:00 Position: 42°26.3 'S / 013° 24.3'W

Wind: E 7 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Rain **Air Temp:** 12°C **Sea Temp:** 16°C

We found ourselves yet another day at sea, but today with a noticeably stronger wind. This meant that all the woolly hats and gloves, which we had only put away yesterday, had to be brought outside again to keep us warm. After breakfast more people gathered on deck to enjoy being outside, stretching the legs but also keen to explore the wildlife around the vessel.



At first it was unusually quiet on the wildlife front. But by mid morning a new species of the trip was observed. A white-faced Storm-petrel. These rather long-legged storm-petrels nest on Tristan and can therefore be encountered in this part of the Atlantic and indeed it was a lovely surprise. We also started to see more Sub-Antarctic Fur Seals. Their pale colouration on the head and chest were clearly visibly, whilst they were speeding through the water and curiously inspecting our vessel.

Eduardo gave us a lecture on the impact of Einstein's work on modern society with a focus on Einstein's clock and GPS. After lunch there was a towel folding workshop and we could get all rather creative under close supervision (and a bit of help) from the lovely people in the hotel department team!

Several White-headed Petrels followed the Hondius for a little while. Strengthened after the delicious lunch, we soon started the vacuum session in the lounge. Vacuuming? Yes! We were again called deck by deck, and we had to bring our outer gear and bags. Our friends the vacuum-cleaners were waiting for us, to clean pockets and Velcro. We have to make sure, that no foreign plant material will be brought on land in the Tristan Archipelago.

In the late afternoon, Bob gave a lecture on the Atlantic Islands up to Gough! Aside from the rare treats today (White-headed Petrel and White-faced Storm-petrels), we also saw Sooty Albatross, Wandering Albatross, Black-browed Albatross, Little Shearwaters, Kerguelen, Atlantic and Grey Petrels. Also more prions were seen when the mist started to roll in. A huge blow of a large (but unidentified) baleen whale was seen towering from the mist. But the whale was not seen again.



We rounded off the day with an update from Hans about the plans for tomorrow when we arrive at Gough. Josh spoke about the mice situation on Gough Island and the feeding behaviour of the Black-browed Albatrosses. Fingers crossed the weather will settle tomorrow.

After a lovely dinner it was time for the Species Listing in the Lecture room followed by a Movie Night. Leon featured the documentary 'Step out of Time' which features Tristan Da Cunha and its inhabitants. Ofcourse there was plenty popcorn to go around too!



Day 13 – Tuesday 9th of April 2024

Gaugh Island

GPS 12:00 Position: 40° 21.0 'S / 009° 57.6'W

Wind: ENE 4 Sea State: Smooth Weather: Overcast Air Temp: 17°C Sea Temp: 18°C



We were awakened gently at 07.00 by Hans's dulcet tones announcing that we were some 10 miles off Gough Island, with a northeast wind of about 6-7 Beaufort, with a lively sea. So began a memorable day experiencing the drama and wildlife of this remote and (apart from a weather station) uninhabited island.

With the wind in this direction, it clearly made good sense to find more sheltered conditions on the south west facing coast of Gough, and this worked well. Initially it still looked very fresh but as *Hondius* neared the shores, off about a mile, it was very settled. So, out with the zodiacs, whilst Tristan albatross's and southern giant petrels circled around us, we boarded zodiacs to explore. Our explorations spread between Gaggins point and the appropriately named Saddle Island, a stretch of precipitous cliffs covered in tussock grasses, threaded by high waterfalls tumbling into the sea. Low clouds swirling around the peaks added to the feeling of drama and mystery.



© Marijke de Boer

There were hundreds if not thousands of sub-Antarctic fur seals howling around the boulders, their calls echoing off the cliffs. We also had the pleasure of seeing numerous northern rockhopper penguins in small colonies dotted up the lower slopes, whilst our birders managed to get good sightings of the endemic Gough bunting/finch. At one point a young dead seal was floating some way off the rocks, attended by numbers of



© Marijke de Boer

quarreling southern giant petrels dedicated to pulling it apart.

Those with underwater cameras obtained good photos of fish with the same intentions. Finally, after two hours of investigating all the corners and inlets below the cliffs, we made our way back to Hondius – a lively passage as the weather was freshening quite significantly, even in this sheltered spot.



© Marijke de Boer

Our afternoon was spent circling the southern point of Gough Island and working our way up the easter shores. Although by now the weather had deteriorated somewhat, we had excellent views of the main bird species, following and circling the ship, including storm petrels (fueling debates about the black-bellied versus white-bellied!) and great shearwaters. We also got good views of the numerous offshore rock outcrops rising precipitously above the waves, a truly heroic scenery. Then, as we cleared the northern point of the island, the course was

adjusted, and Hondius set her bow towards Nightingale Island, and Gough gradually disappeared into the clouds and mist far behind.

Day 14 – Wednesday 10th of April 2024

Nightingale I. Inaccessible I. and Tristan da Cunha

GPS 12:00 Position: 37°05.8 'S / 012° 22.9'W

Wind: NNW 5 Sea State: Agitated Weather: clear Air Temp: 20°C Sea Temp: 19°C



Again, we were at Sea, on the way from Gough Island to Nightingale Island in Tristan da Cunha waters. At 10.30am we arrived at Nightingale Island, Unfortunately and sea conditions were not favourable we did a ship cruise around Nightingale having the telescopes on hand to search for any nearby birds or mammals.

As conditions did not improve, we headed towards Inaccessible Island, not only to do a ship cruise there but to assess sea conditions

for the landing areas at Salt Beach and Waterfall Beach as we had been given rare permission to land at Inaccessible Island.

After a short ship cruise at Inaccessible Island, we headed towards the main Island of Tristan da Cunha, We had to clear the Ship with local immigration and customs before any landing in the Tristan Island group could be finalised. One of our Expedition Staff members Leon who lives on Tristan asked for permission to Stay ashore at his home on Tristan to spend some time with his Fiancé and Children. This was agreed and in preparation for Tomorrows attempted Landing at Inaccessible Island one of our Staff from Last years Atlantic Odyssey Expedition Conrad Glass agreed to come aboard Overnight to assist with any attempted landing. Conrad is also Leons Father.



With All official Clearance granted We then headed towards Inaccessible Island to anchor overnight ready for and early start in the morning, there were a plethora of sea birds returning to the island to nest which kept the very excited birding community on board very happy!

Day 15 – Thursday 11th of April 2024

Inaccessible I. and Tristan Da Cunha

GPS 12:00 Position: 37°03.5 'S / 012°18.4'W

Wind: E 3 Sea State: Smooth Weather: Overcast Air Temp: 20°C Sea Temp: 20°C



Before breakfast, we awoke in front of an inaccessible island. The staff team was prepared to assess conditions for a possible landing. The last landing with a passenger ship on this island occurred 8 years ago! Two Zodiacs were launched, but unfortunately, the swell at the beach was too strong to attempt a landing.

Plan B was quickly enacted, and we made our way as swiftly as possible to Tristan da Cunha, the most remote inhabited island on Earth! This island is also challenging to access, and we felt a mix of excitement and impatience. Would we be able to land?

The staff team launched the Zodiac again to assess the conditions. The gangway still seemed challenging due to the swell. But finally, we got the green light – we were going to land on Tristan!

Some of us, armed with binoculars and telescopes, hurried to the Potato Patches . There was no time to lose in the quest to find the Goof Moorhen and the Tristan Thrush! Others began the day with a guided walk to the Volcanic lava fields. Some also visited the local school to meet the island's children.

The birds were difficult to spot, requiring patience as we could hear them before seeing them. However, we finally made some well-deserved and satisfying observations of the Moorhen, and we even spotted some juveniles. The birds were roaming on the slopes, adding to the thrill of our experience.



We spent 7 hours on the beautiful island, which gave us time to have a local guided tour, visit the settlement, and explore the Potato Patches.

On our way back to the ship, the ride on the Zodiacs was challenging due to the increased swell and wind. Some of us got splashed by the waves, but it was all worth it. The day was a success. Birds were spotted, postcards were sent, and countless pictures were taken. What an extraordinary day it turned out to be!

Day 16 – Friday 12th of April 2024 28th

Inaccessible island

GPS 12:00 Position: 37° 19.4 'S / 012°40.1'W

Wind: NNE 5 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Cloudy **Air Temp:** 19°C **Sea Temp:** 19°C

The outlook for today was a bit more windy. In the early morning hours we transited to Inaccessible Island, and upon arrival there we soon found a sheltered area off its eastern end. It became clear that a zodiac excursion was feasible, although landing was out of the question because of the swell, allowing the island to live up again to its name.



But what a cruise it was! Close into the shores it was sheltered, and we were able to take time to marvel at the awesome scenery high above us. For the birders it was a special opportunity and soon they had spotted the endemic Inaccessible finch – small greenish birds flitting along the tussock grasses above the shore. Soon after, the Inaccessible thrush 'starchy' was spotted, showing a conspicuous yellowish-brown against the dark rocks.

For those who looked upwards there were sooty albatross chicks seen dotted around the place and also spectacled petrels circling about the peaks and their nesting colony. There were also a few moulting rock-hopper penguins seen on the rocks. We returned to the ship with our brains buzzing over what we had seen and reviewed it all over lunch.

In the meantime, the ship had transited towards Nightingale Island but fresh winds and low cloud drifted across, at times almost completely obscuring the slopes of the island. Regrettably, the conditions for zodiac operations were still hazardous, so we transited towards Tristan Island while following a deep canyon (with depths of 2 km) – a place where previously beaked whales had been seen. Birding continued to be also good – in particular numerous great shearwaters circling the ship, obviously enjoying the breezy conditions.



Finally, the Hondius approached Sandy Point beach, located on the South-eastern side of the island. It was here when a small group of beaked whales were seen which caused quite a bit of excitement on the decks. They could not be identified as the beaked whales in question were immature and not showing enough of the head or flank patterns which are needed to ID these elusive deep-diving whales.



From the anchorage place, systematic counts revealed that at least 15,000 petrels were returning to their nesting sites on the cliffs. What a spectacle! Amongst all this a group of at least 150 Pilot Whales turned up. They were socialising and quite surface active – making fluke slaps and breaching and were also seen spy-hopping to have a look around. Photographs of the length of the flippers indicated that these were Short-finned Pilot Whales

© Marijke de Boer

After a long day, Hondius once again heaved anchor and we said goodbye to Tristan Da Cunha for the last time as we set off in a North Easterly direction towards our next destination, St Helena.

Day 17 – Saturday 13th of April 2024

At sea towards St Helena

GPS 12:00 Position: 33° 46.7 'S / 011° 12.3'W

Wind: N4 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Rain **Air Temp:** 20°C **Sea Temp:** 22°C

Today we woke up into a blue-grey stormy sea. Conditions deteriorated overnight and visibility dropped significantly. A couple of lonely cargo ships passed a few miles north of our position overnight.

It is possible to say that everyone had an interruption over night due to the sea conditions; our ship pitched into the waves and bounced sometimes gently sometimes violently.



We are approaching the tropics and as we sail north the periods of darkness and light are more regular. Every day the Sun comes sharp around 07 and sets also punctual around 19 hours. Periods of 12 hours of light are followed by 12 hours of darkness. The sea seems also very empty today. During one of the bridge's watches, we saw only two

lonely birds flying into the distance, a couple of petrels. Our watchman saw also a few pieces of garbage floating around the ship. A long piece of rope, a white neon lightbulb, a piece of wood. The afternoon was also devoid of life and sea conditions worsened. Wind blew with a speed up to 40 knots and the waves smashed the ship creating lots of white foam that dissolves into the blue.

A few lectures were offered during the day, Eduardo opening the stage with a presentation about the resources to produce sky charts and how to make sense of what we see in the night sky. He mentioned the different movements of celestial bodies, the ones of the planets and the list of stars we have seen during the trip so far. A short lesson in practical astronomy.

Around 11, Georgina came also to the stage with a wonderful presentation about photography. With the

title 'The Secret of Beautiful Images', she gave various tips to improve the quality of the pictures that can be taken on board, either of wildlife or landscapes.



After lunch, we had a great excursion back in time led by Leon who presented a great film about life in Tristan da

Cunha. The movie was about the visit of a former Tristanian to the island and shows the great advantages and challenges of living in that remote location. The movie is very emotional and shows how hard is for its inhabitants to keep the bonds and ties with their families. The movie ends with the young mother saying goodbye and taking off in a helicopter that flew her to the ship that would bring her back to the UK.

The last activities we had in the late afternoon were yet another presentation and our daily recap. The last presentation of the day was given by Marijke and was devoted one for the fans of marine mammals. She spoke about Beaked Whales, describing some of the species we had the chance to see in Tristan a day before in the afternoon and showing some of the habitats, types and concerns regarding this beautiful marine mammals.



Our day ended with a wonderful sunset that despite the clouds, was visible for a few minutes. The sky was grey and from behind the clouds we could see many rays of light coming out of orange-yellow color clouds. Shortly after the sky was pitch dark and we went for a wonderful dinner prepared by the galley team under the lead of our chef Ralph.

After dinner we had our species list recap under the led of Andrew and Martin our bird specialists. This one was a special one in which the birding community shared

some of the great pictures they managed to capture of the unique birds of the islands we were visiting the days before.

At night the same conditions we had during the day prevailed and there was no sign of change in the weather forecast chart.

As we sailed the South Atlantic, our vessel Hondius plough into the weaves against the wind, and sailed into the darkness of the night.

Day 18 – Sunday 14th of April 2024

At sea towards St Helena

GPS 12:00 Position: 29° 31.1 'S / 009°51.3'W

Wind: WNW 6 **Sea State:** Rough **Weather:** Rain **Air Temp:** 20°C **Sea Temp:** 24°C

This morning was an unusual morning because of a late wakeup call from Hans. We had been told beforehand that we would be treated to a lie-in (for those who wanted it) and that breakfast would be replaced with a later brunch instead.

For some the temptation was too much and most were up early as usual to see what wildlife was about. The early morning highlight was a wonderful relaxing sound bath from our fellow guest Ann Bessudo, the relaxation and healing properties of this experience are immeasurable, such a treat!

Hans then made his wake-up call for those that had taken advantage of the extra time in bed.

A tasty brunch followed, the cheese and ham croissants were not to be missed. Josh then gave an interesting lecture on habitat restoration in some of the South Atlantic Islands. This included an insight into the problems of non-native species eradication.

We were then given the opportunity to return our muck boots, some of us had become quite attached to them over the previous few weeks but it was time to say goodbye as we would be wearing our own shoes/sandals or even flipflops on landings from now on!

At 4pm it was time for another of the hugely talented Bessudo family to entertain us, this time it was the turn of Sandra.

Sandra Bessudo is a force to be reckoned with, a champion of conservation, a world-renowned marine biologist, diver and the guardian of an island off the Colombian coast called Malpelo. She has formed The Malpelo Foundation and she is responsible for the change of law enabling the protection of a huge area of marine ecosystem. The laws are all very well, but someone needs to enforce that law. For a long time, Sandra did it herself but through years of hard work and perseverance she eventually was given the assistance of the Colombian Navy.

Sandra gave a presentation of her work and the Island which was followed by a fantastic National Geographic film of the Island and surrounding seas featuring of course Sandra herself, there was more than one expedition guide reduced to tears! It left many of us thinking about what we could do in some way to help our own home environment. A truly memorable, thought-provoking event.

Another delicious dinner followed and that in turn was followed by the wildlife listing meeting. Another highly interesting day at sea.

Day 19 – Monday 15th of April 2024

At sea towards St Helena

GPS 12:00 Position: 24° 33.2 'S / 008° 46.5'W

Wind: SW3 Sea State: Moderate Weather: Rain Air Temp: 23°C Sea Temp: 27°C



Today we continued our journey towards St Helena, sailing Northwards from our previous destination in Tristan da Cunha. The tropical weather continued to heat up, but unfortunately the sunshine did not appear throughout the day. Humidity was high, especially with the constant drizzle about the ship, luckily for us *Hondius* kept the temperatures comfortably inside.

With it being a day at sea, we were treated to another series of lectures from our Expedition team. First up after breakfast was Julian, who taught us about the formation of the Atlantic Ocean, detailing the mid-Atlantic ridge with all its regions of volcanism and differing ecosystems.

Following shortly after Julian in the main lounge, Andrew welcomed us to the strange world of birders. Andrew gave us all a brilliant, and humorous, insight into what it really means to be a birder, twitcher, stringer or, just an unpopular, dude. The lounge was full for the talk with lots of laughter throughout, and we all went to lunch finally understanding the finer details of birding.



After lunch Bob gave us the second instalment of his lecture series on the islands of the Atlantic. This time he focussed on the islands North of Tristan, including our next destination St Helena.

With recap fast approaching, we were all invited on deck as we crossed one of our first geographical landmarks – the Tropic of Capricorn. Despite the light drizzle, we

gathered at the bow to officially mark our transition into the tropics, which included a few blasts on the ship's horn.

Following another beautiful dinner, including a trio of Tristan potatoes, we all made our way back up to the lounge for an evening of entertainment at the Crew Show. With Josh hosting the event, we enjoyed a multitude of dance routines, songs and even a comedy sketch about birds. It was a brilliant evening, and a great chance for everyone to let their hair down with a dance afterwards. A great end to another fantastic day onboard *Hondius*.

Day 20 – Tuesday 16th of April 2024

At sea towards St Helena

GPS 12:00 Position: 19° 57.2 'S / 007° 48.6'W

Wind: N2 **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Clear **Air Temp:** 25°C **Sea Temp:** 27°C



By contrast with the previous two days, this started, and continued with wonderfully fine weather, an easy sea with a long, low swell from the south combined with a light northerly breeze. The horizon was knife-sharp, a welcome relief from the murky haze of yesterday.

The whole day was of course at sea, on passage to Saint Helena island, and so was largely spent in sea-watching, though there were relatively few sightings as usual in these waters, and on attending lectures. There was a great range of topics to listen to. Eduardo started with a lecture on Halley and his visit to the island – Edu explained how this pioneering astronomer and mathematician determined the size of the solar system from his observations, and how it is still possible to see the foundations of his observatory on this island.

He was followed by Hazel giving a fascinating talk on where were the most productive places in the world to watch whales and dolphins, particularly concentrating on hot spots where large numbers of both species and individuals may be seen.

After lunch, Marijke gave a lecture on flying fish, and their adaptations for flight and survival in the open ocean. This was very timely as we were seeing quite large numbers of these fish flying speedily away from our ship, some achieving flights of over 100m.

Finally, Chloe gave us a lecture on how animals perceive the world, and she described numerous examples,

recognising that their outlook can be very different to ours, and that we need to understand this.



There was a most glorious sunset, not only the from the sun itself, but also the dappled effect of the clouds reflecting a golden glow. Of course, everyone sought to see, and photograph the famed green flash, and some memorable photos were taken.

After dinner, Elizabeth showed a film about the fate of the right whale: 'The Right Whale: The Whale left behind' which she played a major role in producing – a salutary tale of nature conservation issues.



Day 21 – Wednesday 17th of April 2024

Arrival at St Helena

GPS 12:00 Position: 15° 41.8 'S / 006° 46.7'W

Wind: ESE 3 Sea State: Smooth Weather: P.Cloudy Air Temp: 26°C Sea Temp: 27°C



Our final morning at sea before reaching the long-awaited shores of St. Helena.

As we cruised closer and closer to the remote island, after two days of seeing only a handful of birds for those of us lucky enough to be at the right place at the right time, we were treated to a festival of feeding birds. They swarmed the horizon and skimmed the surface of the water to find a well-deserved snack.

Having something to look at and entertain us after days of respite was a welcome treat for the senses.

The birds weren't the only treat of this day. Bob delighted us with a lecture about the great Napoleon Bonaparte, inviting us into the complex and extraordinary life of the man both loved and hated, marked our history perhaps more than any other General in history. A great taste of what is to come during our visit of his home and grave on St. Helena.

After this history break, dolphins appeared in the distance, a large pod purposing their way effortlessly through the waves just a few meters from our ship. A good omen, some may say, and a great welcome to the tropical waters. Just a few minutes past when a dwarf sperm whale met us on our port side, a rare species that is seldom seen.

Finally came St. Helena in sight, this impressive piece of rock shooting out of the calm turquoise waters of the Atlantic Ocean like a gift for sailors needing a place to replenish and rest. We cruised the western coast before turning towards starboard for the last stretch of our five days at sea. St. Helena is made of a hundred colors, desert gives way to jungle, steep rocky slopes give way to lush rich pastures.

And there, stuck comfortably in a fresh valley, lays Jamestown, the capital and only town of the island where 4000 souls live. A colonial style town, where time seems to have stopped. There in front of us in its simple beauty, inviting us to join the few yachts moored in its bay for a few days in paradise.



© Georgina Strange



Day 22 – Thursday 18th of April 2024

St Helena

GPS 12:00 Position: 15° 41.8 'S / 006° 46.7'W

Wind: E 3 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Clear **Air Temp:** 26°C **Sea Temp:** 27°C

We awoke to a beautiful tropical morning, anchored just outside the port of Jamestown, St Helena; ahead of us, three full days of new and exciting experiences.

After breakfast, we started to go ashore by zodiac. The expedition team had established themselves at the landing site on the quay. Washed by Atlantic swell, we had to get our timing right to exit safely to the shore!



© Marijke de Boer

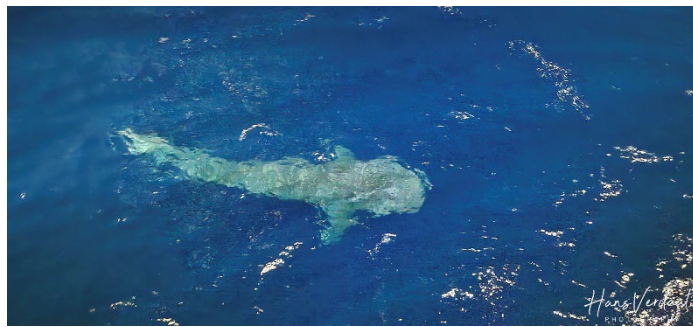
Then we split up: some went to wander the small streets of the capital – a very pretty little town nestled in



a tiny valley, spilling down to the sea. Others joined walking or bus tours to various places of interest around the island. The bus tour visited a number of different places, including Napoleon's tomb and residence. The tomb is set at the head of beautiful little valley, full of green trees and shrubs – surely a place of calm and tranquillity that anyone could wish to be laid to rest in, even if it no longer contains his body.

Following that it was announced that we would take a diversion from the normal

route to possibly locate a good view of the **St Helena Plover** ('Wire Bird') – yes, we were on an actual 'twitch' and instantly everyone was a twitcher!! We duly found this emblematic, endemic bird on the golf course to everyone's delight. Meanwhile others took the guided walk-through Jamestown to learn about its history and visit various sites, such as the beautiful church, before ending at the foot of the terrifyingly steep Jacob's Ladder.



But the action wasn't all ashore - an escorted snorkel was on offer for us. We went out in zodiacs to drop in over a wreck just off the sea front. There were masses of fish of all shapes, sizes and colour covering the well recognisable superstructure – such a sight for many of us having our first experience of tropical Atlantic waters. Finally, in the evening, we had the choice to eat onshore or return to the ship for another fabulous BBQ.



Day 23 – Friday 19th of April 2024

St Helena

GPS 12:00 Position: 15° 41.8 'S / 006° 46.7'W

Wind: W 2 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Clear **Air Temp:** 26°C **Sea Temp:** 29°C



It was strange to wake up and still be in the same place on this voyage after so many miles but here we were anchored off Jamestown and we had another full day ashore on the island. Many of us headed into town early for some further explorations of the town.

The land excursions for this morning involved a visit to the Plantation House which

is the Governor's Home. We also met up with Jonathon the famous (and very large), 180 year old tortoise who lives on the grounds. He has an enormous area to roam, has several tortoise friends to keep him company and also keeps the grass trimmed as an added benefit. He is the islands oldest resident a great addition to the grounds of Plantation house. Here, the Butcher and his wife who are buried in the grounds have interesting headstones.



Several snorkelling trips were also taking place today in the nearly crystal-clear waters. We were rewarded with abundant fish, some brilliant underwater landscapes and of course we enjoyed swimming in warm water of almost 27°C.

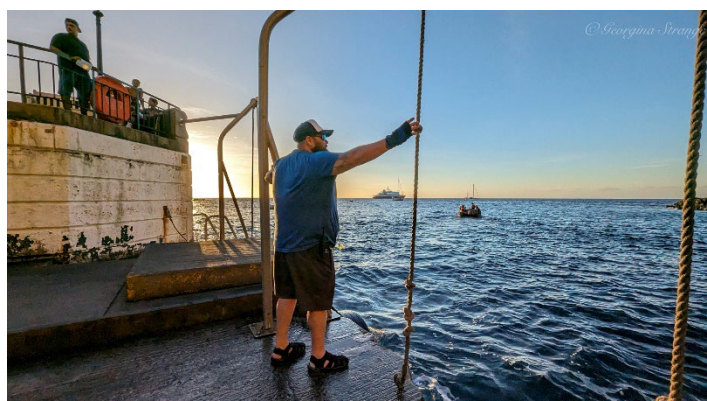


During lunch another, rather large surprise approached the Hondius... another whale shark swam right up to the gangway!

In the mid-afternoon the Photography Bird Tour started and we headed out to visit the seabird colonies. As we approached the small islands we found a juvenile red-billed tropicbird which had difficulty flying off from the water. We picked it up and brought it to one of the islands so it could dry its wings and hopefully resume

energy. We were also met by Saint Helena's many nesting seabirds – brown noddies, masked boobies, red-billed tropicbirds and band-rumped storm-petrels. Just a bit further offshore from the islands, we switched off our engines and simply drifted peacefully with the currents while we could photograph the many noddies and Saint Helena's Storm-petrels. A few sharks and masked boobies were attracted by the feeding flocks too.

In the evening some expedition members spent their time in town to enjoy the local Friday evening festivities. On board the chef had prepared a lovely dinner outside on deck for those that stayed aboard. Several whale sharks were seen and this time also two hammerhead sharks were seen slowly swimming passed the shell doors. By 23:00



hour the last shuttle zodiac came back to the *Hondius*.



Day 24 – Saturday 20th of April 2024

St Helena, and Goodbye

GPS 12:00 Position: 15° 41.8 'S / 006° 46.7'W

Wind: N2 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Clear **Air Temp:** 26°C **Sea Temp:** 28°C

After three weeks spent together and three wonderful days in St Helena was time for our *Hondius* temporary family to lose a third of its weight. 38 of us made the choice to make St Helena the end of their odyssey and give those who remain on board a sense of loss and heavy hearts. The Lounge felt empty, the air was filled with a new echo and the restaurant seemed lacking it's original bubbly energy.



Despite the separation our last day in St Helena was thoroughly enjoyed by all. I believe all of us felt the burgeoning blues growing in our belly, the dread of leaving such a perfect place. We will never forget it's charming architecture, colonial buildings and tightly knitted streets where the Saints sit and talk. Where a hello is warm and honestly directed towards you as you walk by.

The Saints are a kind, patient and generous people, always offering a smile an a few words of welcome and genuine interest in how your day is going. The hospitality shown in

the local bars and restaurants was outstanding, the kind school children offering smiles and laughter. It's a place we all felt at home in.

At four in the afternoon, it was time for the last zodiac to return to the Ship, under the beating sun but with the promise of more wonders ahead. I personally was the last to board the ship, and I must admit my belly felt tight and my eyes started watering and I looked back on what has been one of the best three days of my short life. I have no doubt many felt the same feeling of abandonment, and perhaps dreaming of the next time.



We set sail at five and the ship started doing a 180-degree turn! Did we forget someone?! We all wondered as we were listing to portside. No, we did not, it was Josh, who earlier in the trip won the "be the captain" experience up on the bridge. For the better part of half an hour he did his best to make those of us who hadn't felt the effects of sea sickness yet to finally appreciate its full potential. The evening was quiet, as one might expect. All of us exhausted from three days of relentless adventure and a head packed with memories and dreams. It was an introspective evening, one on one chats where stories we told, laughs were had, and tears felt.

Now on our way to Ascension!

Day 25 – Sunday 21st of April 2024

At sea towards Boatswain Bird Island

GPS 12:00 Position: 13° 23.5 'S / 008° 36.2'W

Wind: SE 4 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Partly Cloudy **Air Temp:** 28°C **Sea Temp:** 28°C



Most passengers took advantage of a Sunday lie in after the activities of St. Helena. Those that did manage to rise early were treated to views of Pilot Whales and Bottlenose Dolphins.

After the 10 o'clock brunch, Edu gave an entertaining lecture on the features of the day and night sky. Bird sightings were sparse throughout the day, the highlight being a few South Polar Skuas, which were flying a long way north of their usual range.

The crew tried to fill a swimming pool on the top deck, which would have made welcome relief from the tropical heat. The Atlantic swell had other ideas however, and swiftly tossed the water back to the ocean.

Josh kicked off the afternoon lecture programme with a talk on Fernão Lopes, St Helena's lesser-known exile and first known permanent inhabitant. After a welcome afternoon ice cream, Marijke talked on how to identify the tropical dolphins, which are often difficult to recognise within large multi-species groups.

Another superb evening meal rounded-up another day on the Atlantic.



Day 26 – Monday 22nd of April 2024

At sea Towards Ascension Island

GPS 12:00 Position: 10° 01.1 'S / 011° 52.7'W

Wind: N2 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Cloudy **Air Temp:** 31°C **Sea Temp:** 30°C

At sea again today, the weather remains very warm despite a moderate wind from the stern of the ship. At 5:11.26am this morning the GPS position was particularly interesting as the latitude and longitude were the same *011°00.002 South and 011°00.002 West*. Wildlife encounters still remain few. A small flying squid was spotted just before dawn. As the sun rose there were slightly more frequent encounters of flying fish, as well as a sighting of a distant frigate bird. During the early afternoon some white-faced storm petrels were spotted.



We celebrated Earth Day onboard with various members of the staff team joining forces to present joint lecture concerning wildlife preservation carbon footprints and plastics in the world's oceans. The Earth Day theme continued after lunch with an informational question and answer panel put on by staff to highlight wildlife preservation in their chosen fields and local areas.

During the early evening we changed course slightly to observe a flock of birds feeding on the water, this included frigate birds, sooty terns, white tern and two species of Storm-petrels: both Band-rumped and Leach's Storm-petrels were seen at quite close distances.

The evening continued after dinner with the species list and was followed by a karaoke night in celebration of Hazels Birthday!

Day 27 – Tuesday 23rd of April 2024

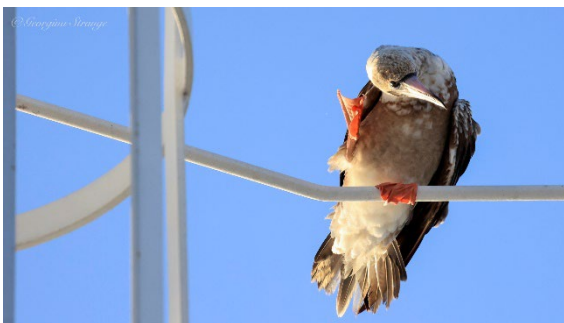
Boatswain and Ascension Island

GPS 12:00 Position: 07° 52.9 'S / 014° 16.6'W

Wind: ESE 3 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** P.Cloudy **Air Temp:** 31°C **Sea Temp:** 30°C

After a few days at sea, today ended the long anticipation of finally seeing land! We approached Ascension Island and luckily had a few hours in the pocket allowing us the ability to circumnavigate the island scouting for wildlife. It didn't take long before we found our first dolphins and what a spectacle it was! Over 600 bottlenose dolphins came towards the ship as if almost leading us towards the land. The beautiful dolphins were leaping, jumping, spinning and bow riding. All guests on the forward decks got a fantastic view for this special wildlife encounter. In the morning both Bottlenose dolphins and Rough Toothed dolphins were spotted; how exciting!

In the early morning, William gave a fascinating presentation about the harrowing story of the Medusa Raft. This tale is of a shipwrecked crew who confronted with the impossible, did the unthinkable. The crew survived for 15 days on a makeshift raft and of 150 men, only 15 survived. The survival was possible only due to the cannibalism that occurred. This tale has inspired the famous painting 'Le Radeau de Meduse' by Gericault Theodore in 1818; an allegory to the challenges faced by the post-revolutionary French nation.



As we circumnavigated Ascension Island, in the afternoon we did a ship's cruise at Boatswain Island. This island is quite small and located a few hundred meters off the East coast of Ascension Island. It is famous for being home to many bird species and is designated as an Important Bird Area. The main bird species we observed were Ascension Island frigate bird, white-tailed tropic bird, as well as various species of noddies and petrels. These birds call this island home because it is predator free compared to Ascension Island which has both

rats and cats that target the bird eggs. The designation for the Important Bird Area was of no mystery to all onboard! Hundreds of birds soared around the ship, with many taking advantage of Hondius creating

different wind patterns. As the birds effortlessly soared overhead, you could hear the sound of camera shutters clicking away and exclamations of jubilee onboard.

After a delicious dinner in the restaurant, we enjoyed a still night at anchor. The ship's light attracted dolphins and flying fish to the ship, continuing the wildlife spectacle for the day! Additionally, William and Josh serenaded guests with beautiful guitar music and songs to sing along to while enjoying the sunset and beautiful views of Ascension Island.



Day 28 – Wednesday 24th of April 2024

At sea towards Cape Verde

GPS 12:00 Position: 04° 35.8 'S / 015° 24.2'W

Wind: E 3 Sea State: Slight Weather: Cloudy Air Temp: 30°C Sea Temp: 30°C



We woke this morning at anchor off the coast of Ascension having been there all night. The ship was moving a little and there were clear signs that there was a little swell, even at the ship. A look across the water towards landing site and the town of Georgetown revealed that there was indeed a heavy swell. A little after 7 am a radio message confirmed our worst fears that we would not be able to land at Ascension, the message was clear and was followed by the message that the weather was

due to deteriorate during the day. There was nothing else for it. The anchor was raised and we set off north towards Cape Verde.

It wasn't all bad news however as most of us had good views of a turtle on the beach as it made its way back to the sea. It was a fantastic visual present from the Island.

This all happened before breakfast, so it was now time to enjoy another great breakfast and settle down a bit.

After the spectacular sights of all the birds the previous day our hopes were high for more groups of birds and we weren't disappointed, we saw several large groups of feeding birds including Frigate Birds, Black Noddies, Sooty Terns and Boobies to name a few.



We travelled north, the sea state was good, and we made good time towards The Equator. The sea temperature was getting ever warmer as was the air temperature. Both reaching 30 degrees and very humid.

Just after lunch we were treated to a great sighting of a Sperm Whale on the surface of the water. It surfaced a few times before disappearing and we carried on our way.

Everyone enjoyed the beautiful warm weather during the afternoon and before we knew it it was time for recap and dinner. Today was another delicious buffet meal.

Day 29 – Thursday 25th of April 2024

At sea towards Cape Verde

GPS 12:00 Position: 02° 48.4 'S / 016° 02.9'W

Wind: SSE 2 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** 31°C **Sea Temp:** 31°C#



It was another beautiful day out in the open ocean, as we fast approached the North Atlantic with the crossing of the equator scheduled for early tomorrow morning.

Prior to breakfast some of us were again treated to the sight of a Sperm Whale close to the ship, another great view of a Sperm Whale similar to the one many of us shared yesterday.



Shortly after another great breakfast feast, we were treated to two more lectures from our Expedition Staff – Bob and Hazel. First up was Bob who shared some tales of marine phenomena. From the mysterious and strange to the downright spooky, Bob again thrilled us with his nautical tales and seafaring stories. Following on from a quick coffee and tea interlude, we again gathered in the lecture room to enjoy Hazel's informative talk on Sperm Whales. After a couple of sightings of these magnificent cetaceans, it was brilliant insight into the secretive lives of the world's largest toothed predator.

With another lunch in the books, we were all looking forward to an early afternoon movie with *Happy Feet* on the bill. However, the wildlife had other ideas. We were soon all out on deck captivated by a huge pod of Clymene Dolphins approaching the ship. This super pod, estimated at approximately 600 individuals, spent a good amount of time nearby the ship and many of us were excitedly peering over the railings enjoying the bow riding and porpoising of many of the dolphins.



As the Dolphins began to disperse, so did many of us, and many of us went back inside to enjoy the Penguin Day celebration movie, *Happy Feet*.

As another delicious afternoon snack was served, we were again spoilt with another lecture treat. This time our Expedition Leader, Hans, discussed the fascinating work he has been involved in mapping the offshore wildlife of Mauritania. Detailing some of unique species they observed during their survey work, he also shone some light on a country many of us had little idea about.

Following on from another wonderful recap and dinner from the Galley team, we returned to the lounge for a Penguin-themed quiz. In honour of World Penguin Day, Hazel hosted the quiz, which included a number of puzzling questions relating to 1970s rock music and a Hollywood blockbuster.

After the conclusion of the quiz, and another action-packed sea day, many of us retired to our cabins eagerly awaiting the crossing of the equator line early tomorrow morning and the 'baptisms' to be performed in the afternoon!

Day 30 – Friday 26th of April 2024

Equator crossing, Deep sea swim

GPS 00:00 Position: 00° 00.0'S / 016° 56.6'W

Wind: E 3 Sea State: Smooth Weather: P.Cloudy Air Temp: 30°C Sea Temp: 31°C



Our day started very early with an important activity: at 04:01 hours we crossed one of the most significant major circles of Earth, the Equator. Given the time at which the crossing occurred, only a few guests and the bridge crew on watch witnessed the marking of the event through the GPS system of our bridge. Officially and for the records we crossed the equator at a longitude of 16° 56.583' west. This

event marked the rather abnormal program we planned for today.

Later in the morning we had our wake-up call, which happened at 07:00. Hans, our expedition leader conducted the wakeup call in his traditional way of doing it, calling for the time, the date and the conditions outside the ship. However, during his call, a mysterious envoy of King Neptune interrupted Hans's speech, menacing the ship's crew and passengers with actions to be taken, should they would not clean themselves today in a way that would be satisfactory for his royal highness King Neptune At this point is worth to mention that we all were warned since the day before, April the 25th with a proclamation that was received on board and dully published everywhere in the public areas around the ship.

In this proclamation, His Royal Highness Neptune, King of the Seven Seas, Tyrant of the Deep, Grand Duke of Atlantis, Protector of the Equator, etcetera, etcetera as well as his beautiful and faithful wife Salacia, Grand Lady of the Red Sea, Mistress of the Southern Oceans, Lover of the Northern Oceans, Protector of the Sperm Whales etcetera, etcetera, communicated his desire to give us the pleasure of his presence on this day. Of course, keeping the tradition, he did not state the exact time at which this encounter would occur,

limiting himself to mentioning that his presence as well as the one of his wives, would happen sometime in the afternoon.

Breakfast occurred early too, because we had a good way to celebrate our first day in the northern hemisphere; as soon as breakfast was done, we stopped the ship at 0° 38' North (that is about 38 nautical miles north of the Equator). Here at this location, we dropped a few zodiacs and organized a nice swimming session in the open sea. We brought our guests in two waves letting them swim for about 15 minutes per group. The feeling of swimming in such a place is awesome given that around us was only the vastness of the ocean. Hundreds of kilometers of water around us and more than 5 kilometers of water below.

Our swimming excursion was successful, and we were all back on board by 11 in the morning. We continued steaming towards Praia and yet another surprise came before lunch when Marijke found a big school of Clamine dolphins in the horizon. We had the privilege to see this majestic group swimming peacefully in the waters of the Atlantic and we did a few maneuvers to keep the animals in sight. After lunch Julian, our staff member expert in geology gave an interesting presentation about the volcanoes that form along the Mid Atlantic Ridge, specially giving special attention to the ones from Iceland. In his presentation he showed and described the latest activity of the volcanoes in Iceland showing impressive footage of the eruptions that happened up to March 2024. At the same time as his presentation, a group of pilot whales was spotted by Marijke. Consequently, his presentation was stopped and we had the chance to enjoy the big pod of whales swimming graciously along the ship.

By midafternoon it was announced that his Majesty King Neptune and his wife Salacia were found on board M/V Hondius and a small ceremony to clean the many pollywogs on board commenced. For this purpose, all the shellbacks on board prepared themselves with various costumes. We could clearly see King Neptune, Queen Salacia, queen copepod, a prosecutor, various nereids, a mischievous cook an astronomer, a few officers, and many others assisting to initiate and introduce all these landlubbers into the order of the deep. The ceremony went uneventful, and King Neptune and Queen Salacia were satisfied to see so many creatures receiving their cleaning. The whole ceremony lasted about an hour and a half and afterwards certificates were issued to complain about the modern bureaucratic requirements of Neptune's house so all these landlubbers could keep proof of their crossing.

Later we had our daily recap starting with Hans talking about the plans for the coming days, Andrew talking about Golgers Law on bird camouflage and finally Edu talking about the Inter-Tropical Convergence Zone, the region of the planet where we are sailing now.

The day ended with a BBQ served on deck. Lots of our guests and staff ended up dancing until well past 10 in the night. Given the clear night, Edu also gave his first stargazing session in the northern hemisphere. Around 21:30 a waning moon appeared in the east horizon close to Antares and illuminated the rest of the night as we sailed north.

Day 31 – Saturday 27th of April 2024

Back in the Northern Hemisphere towards Cape Verde

GPS 12:00 Position: 05° 07.7 'S / 019° 07.0'W

Wind: NEW 2 Sea State: Smooth Weather: Clear Air Temp: 28°C Sea Temp: 31°C

We awoke to another settled day, now well into the northern hemisphere, with overcast skies, and warm breezes, mostly from the northerly quarter. As the day progressed, the clouds gradually dispersed, and it became very hot on deck. This didn't deter the birders who were out there from dawn, although sightings were limited.

Events kicked off with a lecture by Edu on the explorations of Magellan, an experienced Portuguese soldier and sailor who, using five ships, organised the first expedition to circumnavigate the world on behalf of the king of Spain. Unfortunately, he died before the project completed, and it was left to just one surviving ship and a few crew to return to Spain.

Outside, a brief excitement was created by the arrival of a common swift (Will, I assume that's what it was?????? From Andrew – we don't know atm – suggest 'unknown swift species'??) over the stern. Whilst swifts are famous for their perpetual flight, this little fellow would have had a bleak time of it without insect food over the ocean.

Then Ohad Sherer, one of our guests, gave a lecture entitled 'Israel: the safest country in the Middle East (for birds)' He brilliantly analysed why the country is so important for bird life, especially migrating species moving between Africa and the northern Palaearctic.

After lunch we had the first of three showings of Atlantic: The Wildest Ocean on Earth with stunning photography of its marine life. Appropriately enough, we were soon accompanied by large numbers of Clymene dolphins, sporting around the ship, leaping and playing around the bow to everyone's delight. After this, as we were enjoying (rapidly melting) ice creams on the fore deck, an event of great significance took place. It had come to King Neptune's notice that not only had an earthling pollywog failed to identify himself for the ceremony yesterday but had *actually impersonated* the great King himself. Neptune was gravely displeased and at his orders Leon was arrested by the policeman and brought forward for 'baptism' by the prosecutor. The punishment duly took place, and he was subjected to an ordeal of immersion in something unspeakable!

The evening was notable by the galley staff producing a monumental dinner of Tristan lobster followed by Argentinian steaks. Those that were capable, after this feast, had a species list review, and then a trip to deck 8 where Edu pointed out the many features of the heavens on this wonderfully clear night. Perhaps most notable was the views of both the southern cross and the north polar star, the latter low on the horizon and just proving that we are in the limited latitudes where both can be seen at the one time.

Day 32 – Sunday 28th of April 2024

At sea towards Cape Verde

GPS 12:00 Position: 08° 47.1 'S / 020° 47.5'W

Wind: N 5 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** 27°C **Sea Temp:** 29°C

On our penultimate sea day, we woke up to a cloud of sand straight from the Sahara Desert. It rendered the air heavy and hazed the sun giving us milder temperatures after having very hot consecutive days.

A lighter day was planned as today was turned towards introspection on the voyage past and the perfect day to sit on deck and read a good book. To begin this laid-back day, we were treated to a later wakeup call and a ten o'clock brunch. One could feel the calm and composed habits we have all adopted by now. The safe comfort of home, quite simply.



Shortly after, as of habit, we were visited by a medium sized pod of Clymede dolphins, about 50 of them were bow riding for several minutes and gave us yet another show that no one gets tired of. Among the group were several young, so small and sweet, swimming close to their mothers and quite incredibly came up simultaneously to take their breath together.

The Dolphins were followed by Pilot whales in the distance and by several Arctic Terns, making their way north for the northern summer, very much like *Hondius*.

Inger Vandyke, one of our passengers was kind enough to share with us her photography work in Bangladesh through a impactful lecture.



It was then about time for some refreshments. We were therefor treated to a glass of ice coffee in the lounge along with freshly backed finger licking muffins.

This calm day was concluded with some drinks at the bar with the expedition team, as we get ready for the last dance, our last 24 hours at sea and our arrival to Cape Verde which marks the end of our Atlantic Odyssey.

Day 33 – Monday 29th of April 2024

At sea towards Cape Verde

GPS 12:00 Position: 11° 56.2 'S / 022° 31.5'W

Wind: NE 6 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** 25°C **Sea Temp:** 27°C



As “Goedemorgen” rings out once more over the speakers in our rooms and pulls us from our sleeping state we can feel a sensation we haven’t felt since perhaps leaving South Georgia. The winds had started blowing and the swell had been building itself up through the night which made the sea awake, in good time to remind us of who is in charge and that we have now left the idyllic calm waters of the Tropics.

At ten o’clock Elizabeth and Hazel stood before us and co presented a lecture about our relationship with whales and dolphins and What does it mean to be Endangered? This

along with an Introduction to Wildlife Conservation. A thought-provoking talk where our impact can be appreciated in clear numbers and the heart wrenching endless list of all the extinct species we will no longer see.

After our last lunch of this trip on board Hondius we had the pleasure of a refreshing ice cream in the lounge while a Red footed booby was hunting down the flying fish startled by Hondius and we sailed by.



This day full of introspection, quiet conversations and heavy hearted packing lead us to the unavoidable time of goodbyes.

At 6pm Hans gave us a few words about what this trip meant for him, it is true his efforts were immense at making this trip as successful as it has been, and we owe most of it to him. Next came the Captain with final words of farewell and a big thank you for trusting Oceanwide with our adventure. Alexander, our hotel manager followed up by calling in every department one by one. An occasion for us to give them a well

deserved round of applause and for them to see the fruit of their relentless efforts throughout these thirty four days together.



This was followed by Georgina's Slideshow of the trip. An amazing account of our voyage, bringing all those details in perfect sharpness for us to take home with us and inspire our families and friends. "Cheers" was hailed and all raised their glasses to a wonderful trip together.



On behalf of everyone on board we thank You for travelling with us and hope to see You again somewhere around the globe!

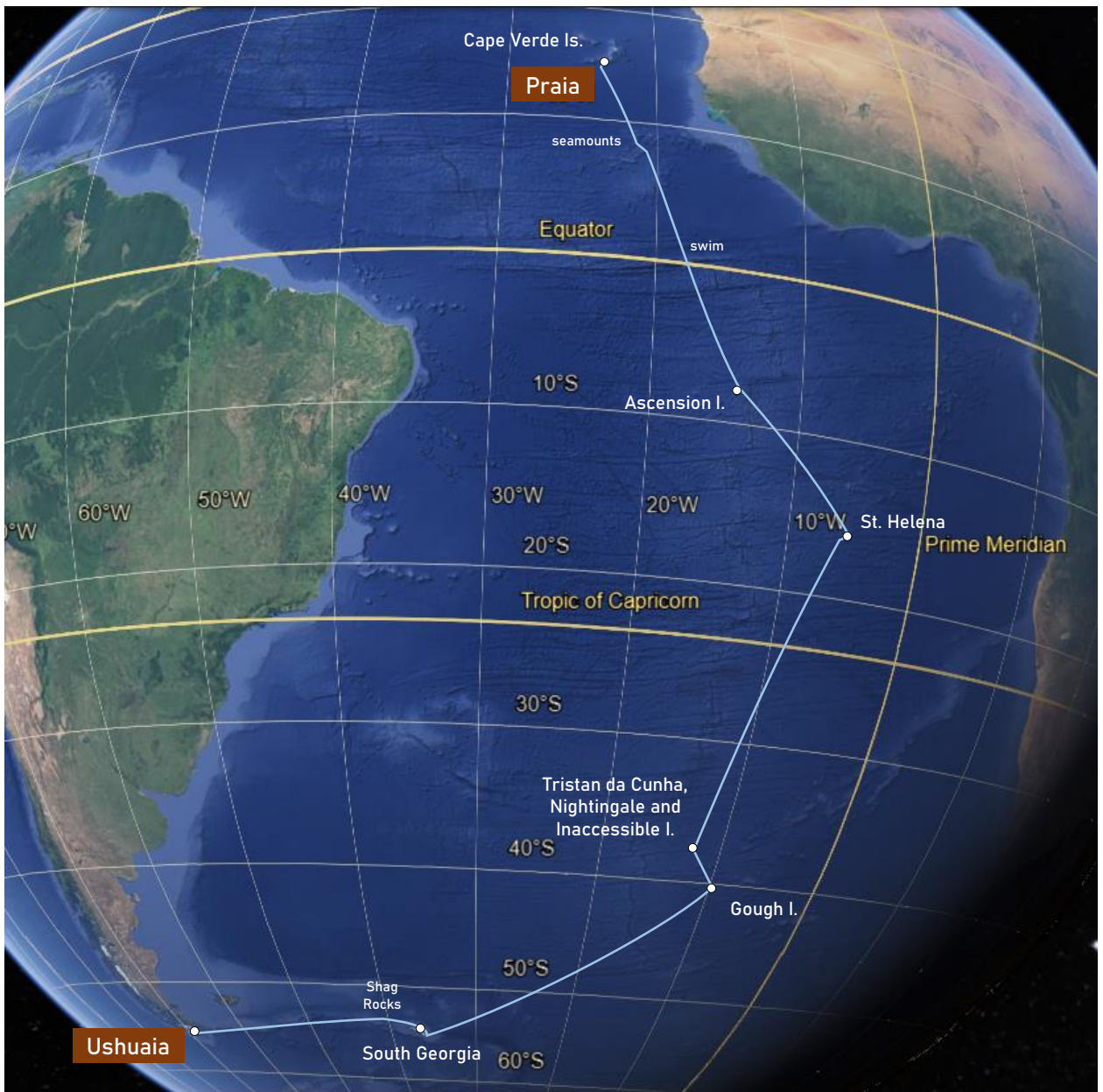
Total distance sailed on our voyage: 6835 Nautical Miles / 12658 km / 7865 miles.

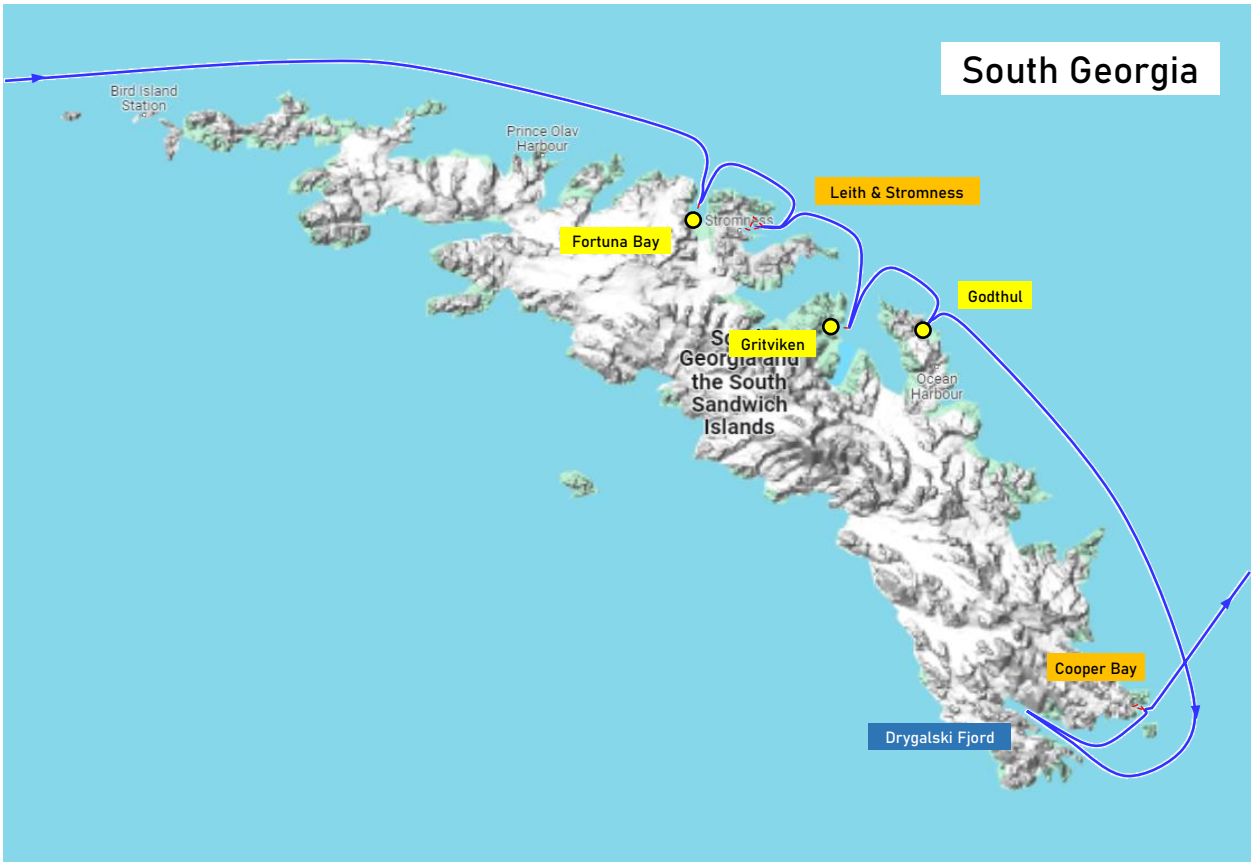


Atlantic Odyssey

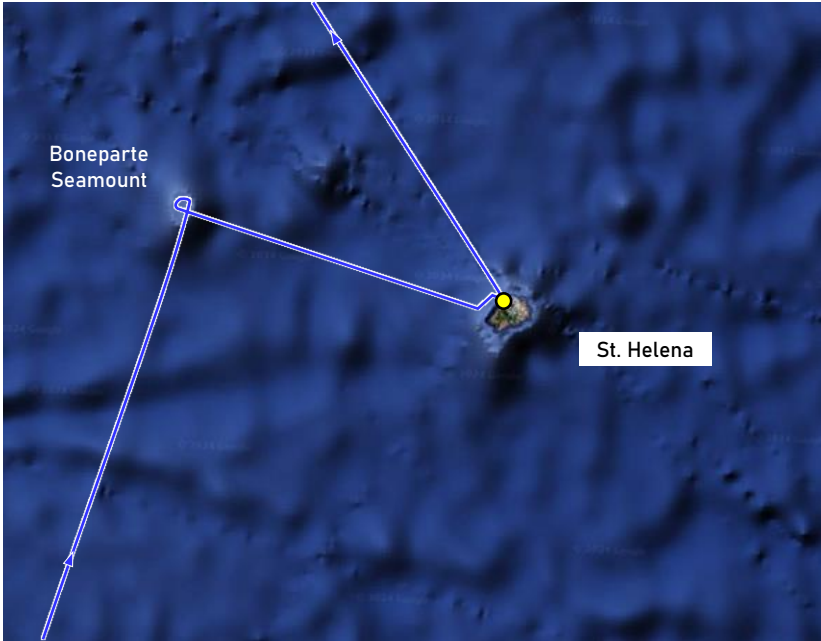
Ushuaia to Praia

28th March – 30th April 2024

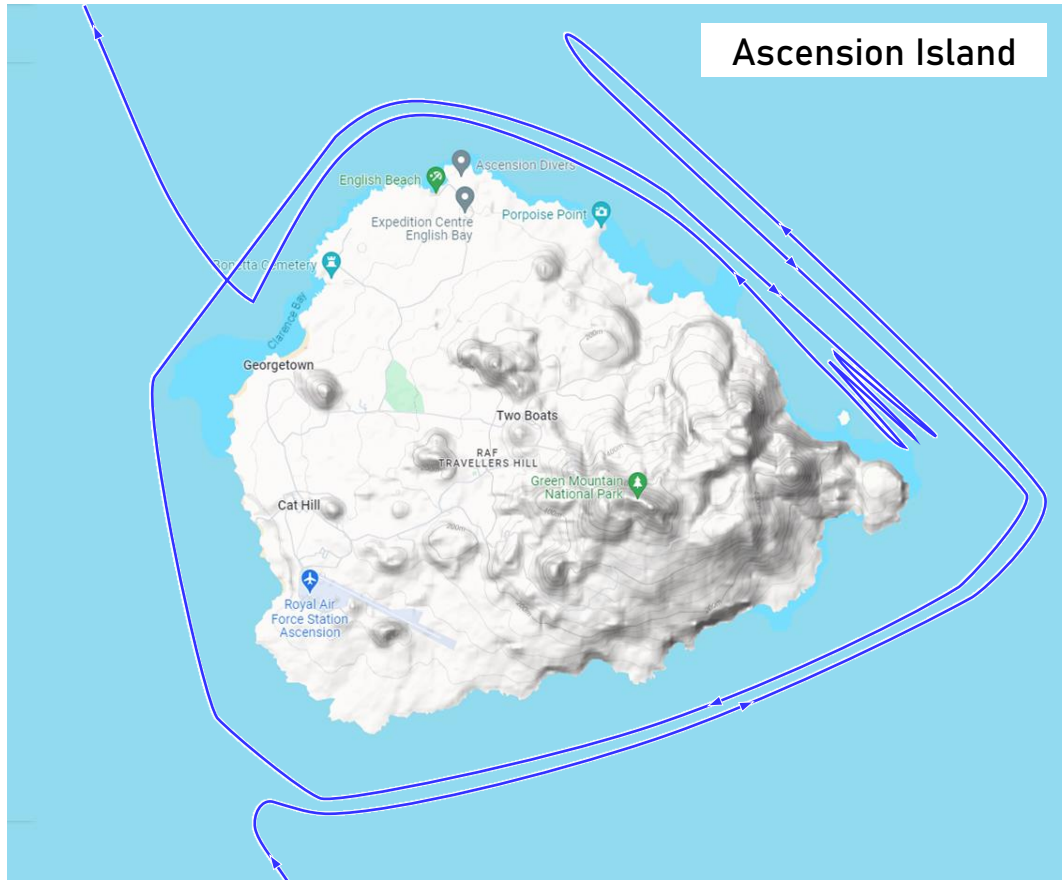












Hans Verdaat – Expedition Leader



Hans his fascination for nature and traveling has been present all his life. From a young age on he has been a birder and fascination with the polar regions caught him during one of his birding travels to the North of Norway.

After his study Coastal Zone Management, he started working on the Dutch island Texel as a field researcher for the marine research institute of

Wageningen University. In his research he specialises in seabirds and marine mammals.

Since 2004 he has participated in scientific research projects in the Antarctica, Caribbean, West-Africa, Spitsbergen and European waters. He has always been fascinated with the polar regions and has participated in several scientific expeditions both to the Arctic and Antarctic.

In 1999 he started working as a (birding) guide. The last years he has combined his research job with guiding & expedition leading for Oceanwide Expeditions.

In his free time Hans is a keen nature photographer and an active member of the team supporting the international development of the citizens science platform [Observation.org](https://www.observation.org)

Hans speaks: English, Dutch & German

Hazel Pittwood -Assistant Expedition Leader



Hazel grew up in the county of Dorset on the South coast of the UK. A childhood spent pond dipping, bug hunting and exploring the countryside and coast nurtured her love of the natural world.

She has worked in practical conservation and community engagement roles for a variety of habitats, including heathland and coastal nature reserves. Hazel also has experience surveying rare protected species and is a trained wildlife rescue volunteer and marine mammal medic.

Whilst she is broadly learned about the natural world, Hazel has specialised in marine mammals and seabirds since 2014. At that time, she began volunteering as a marine mammal and seabird surveyor, collecting sightings data regarding these animals for UK based conservation charities. In 2017 she worked on a passenger ship travelling between the UK and Spain across the Bay of Biscay for six months, delivering talks and leading wildlife watching sessions out on deck.

Hazel has been working as a guide and lecturer on cruise ships for over three years. This role has taken her to Norway and Svalbard, Iceland, Alaska, Canada, the Faroe Islands, the Canary Islands, the Caribbean and Central America. She is a World Cetacean Alliance certified responsible whale watching guide, championing the highest standards of wildlife experiences.

The polar regions host an incredible diversity of seabird and marine mammal species, and Hazel looks forward enhancing your encounters with these incredible animals with her knowledge, skills and enthusiasm.

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-undererrated world of plankton and the mysteries of unseen microbes. She's here to show that even the tiniest organisms can have big personalities!

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

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.

William Kennedy – Expedition Guide



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

Curiosity brought him all over Europe, working as a farmer in Iceland, building cabins in the Pyrenees, bartending in Scotland, carpentering in Norway and becoming a kitchen chef in Sweden. While living yet another adventure on the remote archipelago of Svalbard, he discovered the polar world and its famous adventurers.

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

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

Elizabeth Robinson – Expedition Guide



Elizabeth was born and raised in Minnesota, a state in the middle north of the United States. Minnesota is known for having over 10,000 lakes and nature around every corner; something she took full advantage of growing up. Before the age of eighteen, Elizabeth travelled to all fifty US states, and became a Junior Park Ranger at over thirty National Parks.

She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Mammalogy, accompanied by additional degrees in Psychology, English Writing and Environmental Studies. Her undergraduate research focused on African elephants and squirrels. Recently, she graduated from the University of Bristol (UK) with a Master of Science degree in Global Wildlife Health and Conservation. Her dissertation focused on cetacean conservation and understanding how policy is integrated within conservation efforts.

Elizabeth has lived and studied whales in many places such as Hawaii, British Columbia, Alaska, Norway, and the UK. She has previously worked as an orca kayak guide, a snorkel guide in Hawaii, a wildlife documentary co-producer, and a marine mammal researcher. She has spent the last eight years studying species such as orcas, humpback whales, right whales, porpoises, and pinnipeds. She is passionate about cetacean conservation, specifically endangered species. Elizabeth currently calls both the US and the UK home and is happiest at sea.

Joshua Peck – Expedition Guide



A native Falkland Islander, Josh has always been fascinated by the natural world and exploring new destinations.

Growing up in the wildlife haven of the Falklands - with the polar regions on his doorstep - Josh has spent most of his life living alongside penguins, seals and whales, most recently in South Georgia where he was based for 4 months working for the Government of South Georgia.

Josh loves living and working in remote locations and on isolated islands, especially in his homeland of the Falklands, where he has been involved in conservation projects since an early age. Josh has also travelled and worked extensively around the world from the USA and Canada to Iceland, Zambia, Australia and Poland.

Following on from obtaining degrees in History and Politics in Bristol and London in the United Kingdom, Josh returned home to the Falkland Islands to pursue his passion for wildlife and wild places, co-founding a local tour company with two childhood friends in 2016. Focussing on nature and historical tours, Josh worked for the following four seasons guiding and sharing his love of his home with the many guests that visited.

An avid photographer and an international footballer for his home country (soccer), he is always looking for new experiences and places to visit to broaden his horizons, and is looking forward to more adventures with Oceanwide Expeditions this season.

Andrew Crowder – Expedition Guide



Andrew is an experienced naturalist with a life long history of observation, study and sheer enjoyment of wildlife. His interest in natural history started as a young boy watching birds and they remain his first passion. Focusing mainly on Western Palearctic species, he has travelled extensively and accrued a wealth of knowledge. As part of that journey of discovery, he has also developed self-taught skills in

wildlife photography.

Andrew has always been drawn to the sea and is a CMAS Class 2/BSAC qualified Advanced Scuba Diver; he has had the privilege of experiencing incredible marine life which few others get to see. Time spent exploring the underwater world helped spawn his other main interest: cetaceans. Andrew has over twenty years of experience with these amazing animals, undertaking scientific surveys and guiding on cruise ships in UK, European and Polar waters.

Andrew recognises the powerful emotional reaction in humans when they have amazing wildlife encounters. He uses his knowledge and enthusiasm to help more people share such inspirational experiences and thereby promote the conservation of our precious natural world.

Marijke Nita de Boer - Expedition Guide



Marijke grew up in the Netherlands, Switzerland and Germany. In the early-90s, she worked over a number of summers as a field biologist specialising in sea turtle conservation in Greece. This was a magnificent experience and formed the inspiration for switching her Academic career towards Marine Biology.

She is fascinated by cetaceans, and has worked with Minke whales, Killer whales, Blue whales, Belugas, Bottlenose whales in the Arctic Labrador Sea, Risso's dolphins and Sperm whales. She has also participated in various ocean-crossing surveys, namely the Davis Strait, Indian Ocean, South China Sea, Southern Ocean and Antarctica. These surveys formed the core foundation of her detailed in-depth experience with marine mammals.

She completed a MSc in Marine Ecology (University of Utrecht) and a PhD (Marine Mammal Ecology) at the University of Wageningen focusing on the abundance and distribution of cetaceans using (low-cost) seagoing vessels ('Platforms of Opportunity'). Nowadays her research focuses on marine fauna within the Wider Caribbean Region, West Africa and Cornwall (UK). Marijke has produced a wide selection of scientific publications.

Whilst she very much enjoys the academic side of her career, her first love is sharing her knowledge in the field. She has worked as a wildlife guide during multiple oceanic expeditions and is happy to 'escape the office'. She currently lives in the Netherlands and England and speaks Dutch, English and German. The ocean is very special to her – 'after more than 20 years of sailing the seven seas, it never fails to educate, surprise and enthrall me'.

Eduardo Rubio – Expedition Guide



Eduardo describes himself as an astronomer by profession with a passion for sharing nature with others.

After studying physics, he got his PhD in Astronomy from the University of Amsterdam in 2010. After a postdoctoral position he became a lecturer of physics and Astronomy as well as a guide in expedition cruise ships. In 2018 he decided to become a full-time guide for Oceanwide Expeditions in the Antarctic and in the Arctic.

His interests vary from history of exploration to the intricacies of astronomy. During the trips he has undertaken, he offers 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, he loves to show constellations to people, pointing out their names and their lore. In every trip he made, he always aims to raise the enthusiasm of guests towards science, and their awareness towards the unique and fragile planet where we live. Born in Guatemala (1978), he speaks English, Spanish and German.

Martin Anstee – Penguin Police Unit



Martin has been a keen naturalist and wildlife photographer since he hatched from his egg.

He is an active Bird Ringer since the year 2000 and particularly enjoys studying/ringing/cuddling and dress as a bird.

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

Martin has combined this with a career in the Birds Police Service, firstly in the UK where he proudly arrested the famous 'Twisted Tweets' brother. His last role in The Police was as a Chief Nest Inspector in the Falkland Island, ensuring all nests are up to standard for bird comfort and safety.

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

This is also where Martin started his career as Beak Polisher Extraordinaire who professionally keeps beaks of birds shiny and sharp.

Leon Glass - Expedition Guide



Born on Tristan the Cunha, Leon is the IT Administrator for the communications department. Leon is a key member of the Search & Rescue crew, for the Ridged Inflatable Rescue Boat. Leon is a certified coxswain for the RIB and the crew Navigator.

Leon was awarded a two-year scholarship at Denstone College in UK

1997 to 1999. On returning to Tristan, Leon became a Tourist Guide assisting cruise ships land passengers at Nightingale and Inaccessible. Leon has studied IT at colleges in UK and South Africa and spent a year on Falklands studying journalism.

2009 Leon worked for the UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office writing up a Disaster Evacuation Policy for Tristan. 2012 Leon was awarded the Queens Silver Jubilee Metal as a member of the emergency service. His interests in Conservation have led him to work as an expedition guide.

His most memorable conservation job was part of a crew who rescued a Humped Backed Whale, that was tangled in a fishing line, Leon successfully cut the fishing line from the tail of the whale, while the Whale made no attempt to move, until Leon cut the last piece of the fishing line, then it swam gently away.

Bob Brown - Expedition Guide



Bob Brown was brought up on England's Sussex coast, often ticked off by his Mum for getting soaked exploring for marine beasts and birds. Later, university in Belfast and a PhD on mollusc ecology and oystercatcher feeding, led to research in Sweden, before moving to Jamaica to develop oyster farming based on mangrove swamps, lecturing on invertebrates, helping with coastal management courses, rearing hawksbill turtles and discovering the diverse butterfly life.

Back in Northern Ireland, for about ten years he managed the National Trust's Strangford Lough Wildlife Scheme for its internationally important bird populations and rich marine life, writing a widely acclaimed book on them. In 1991 he became Director of RSPB's operations in N Ireland, working on the Province's most important birds and their habitats. For nine years he was on Northern Ireland's Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside, and later a member of the UK's Joint Nature Conservation Committee, chairing their Marine Protected Areas working group. Currently he is Chair of the National Trust in N Ireland and on the board of Ulster Wildlife, whilst also engaging with many other UK nature conservation bodies. He has written numerous articles on marine wildlife, and contributed to many TV and radio programmes.

When not sailing his own yacht, Bob travels widely, notably in the Arctic, Antarctic, and Patagonia as well as other parts of South America, where he has led natural history tours. He has been working with Oceanwide Expeditions since 2013, and loves to show folks the fascinating wildlife of the Polar Regions, as well as of the south Atlantic islands. His main interests are the rich bird life, whales and other sea mammals, and the other diverse marine life and different habitats to be found there. In 2004 he was awarded an OBE for services to nature conservation.

Julian Robinson – Expedition Guide



Originally from the SE of England, Julian has lived in Aberdeen, Scotland, since 2000.

He is a geologist and since studying geology for a BSc at Durham University and researching Structural geology at for a PhD at Cardiff University, Julian went on to have a successful career in oil and gas exploration and development. He worked on a variety of projects with exposure to many different geological settings across the world. At his current stage of life, he saw a great opportunity to combine geology with his lifelong passion for the outdoors and

began guiding with Oceanwide in 2024.

He is at home in the mountains of Scotland and enjoys several pursuits such as hiking, orienteering, climbing, biking and ski touring, although it is paragliding that he is most passionate about: he has visited many parts of the world seeking out some of the most interesting places to fly such as the Karakoram of Pakistan. It is, however, the rare crisp days soaring above the Scottish Highlands that he enjoys more than anywhere else. He also flies competitions and has represented his country several times in World and European championships.

Georgina Strange - Expedition Guide



Georgina is a professional nature photographer and general wildlife enthusiast from the Falkland Islands. Her rather unique upbringing on a very small and remote island nature reserve has instilled a deep passion for wild places, and you'll most likely find her out on a cliff edge in a storm, revelling in the gales of wind that frequent the Falklands!

Georgina studied in England for sixth-form college, followed by an adventure to Australia for her university degree in Photography.

After managing her family's conservation trust on New Island in the Falklands for many years, regularly working with the many visiting expedition ships shoreside, Georgina swapped a land-based life for an ocean-based one and started as expedition photographer to South Georgia and the Antarctic in 2017, and to the Arctic in 2019, often switching roles to work as the on-board ornithologist to share her love of the winged creatures of the world, too!

During her off-ship season, Georgina runs her own wildlife photography tours at home to fulfil her passion for making captivating images of nature. Whenever possible, she most enjoys balancing out the time spent guiding in cold and windy places for quality time in the hotter and sunnier climes of the world!

Georgina's photography has made it to Outdoor Photographer of the Year, Bird Photographer of the Year, Wild Art Photographer and the finals of the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year, as well as several well-known nature photography magazines and smaller competitions. Always happy to share knowledge and techniques, maybe you will go home with some competition-worthy images of your special trip, too!

Jaye Martin – Ships Doctor



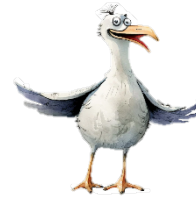
Jaye graduated from the University of Nottingham in the UK then worked as a junior doctor there for 5 years before emigrating to Western Australia, where she has been based ever since. She completed her specialist training in Perth and has worked as a Consultant Physician (Internist) since, both in the city teaching hospitals but predominantly in rural and remote parts of the state. For the past 18 years she has lived in the remote Kimberley (2500km from Perth) in the north west of the state, travelling by 4WD and light plane to provide clinics in small isolated towns and Aboriginal communities. She

also works in the region's hospitals, providing clinics and acute medical care.

Jaye has been travelling to the polar regions since 2003, when she visited East Antarctica as a tourist to view a total solar eclipse. Since then she has made numerous trips to Antarctica on expedition cruise ships, working sometimes as doctor and sometimes as Assistant Expedition Leader. She has visited the peninsula many times, including once by a 60 foot sail boat, has made 3 trips to the Ross Sea Region and visited many of the subantarctic islands around the continent. In the northern hemisphere she has travelled to Svalbard and crossed the NE passage in the Russian Arctic, a trip on which she gave history lectures as well as working as the doctor.

Back home in Australia Jaye has worked as Expedition Leader on Kimberley coastal cruises. When not working Jaye enjoys competitive yacht racing, 4WD treks and camping in remote outback Australia.

WELCOME ABOARD!



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

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

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

Lifeboat Drill

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



0700 **Departure** from Ushuaia.

0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!

In the morning we will be cruising the Beagle channel from approximately 0700am to 1100 am. Named after the HMS Beagle, the ship that carried Charles Darwin on his famous voyage, the channel is renowned for its rugged mountains, glaciers, and diverse wildlife.

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

1030 Please join **Martin** in the **lounge** (deck 5) for an introductory talk about the **birds of the Drake**.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 4).

1400 **Marijke** will be giving a lecture in the **lounge** (Deck 4) about **the cetaceans** we might encounter in the drake passage.

1600 **Georgina** is inviting you in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a lecture about introductory talk about **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 4) – *Tonight's dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*

20:45 +/- Please join the expedition team in the **Lecture Room** (deck 5) to have a look at the species we've seen today and fill in **the trip's species list**.



Sunrise: 0753

Sunset: 1922



- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Zodiac & South Georgia Briefing** - Please join us in the **lounge** for our **MANDATORY** zodiac and briefings.
- 1115 **Muck Boots** - We will **call you by deck** to collect your Muck boots from the boot room on **deck 3**. ***Please listen for announcements.***

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL MOVE THE CLOCKS FORWARD 1 HOURS AT 12 O'CLOCK.

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

*A cleaning station (vacuum, paper clip, water bucket and brushes) will be available all the afternoon at **the zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) to complete your biosecurity cleaning – Please make sure your pockets, Velcro, backpack, tripods, walking sticks and boots are clean before our biosecurity check tomorrow.*

- 1500 **Squids are not only a crucial food source for the albatross.** Join **Chloe** in the lounge to for an enthusiastic mini lecture about these fascinating soft-bodied molluscs.
- 1630 Join **Josh** in the **lounge** to learn about **Shackleton's legendary Trans-Antarctic Expedition**, renowned for its incredible tale of perseverance and survival despite its ultimate lack of success.
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 20:45+/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** to have a look at the species we've seen today and fill in **the trip's species list**.



Sunrise: 08:13
Sunset: 19:39



Moonrise: 21:09
Moonset: 14:44
Moon phase: 75%

Happy Easter!



- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Julian** invites you in the **lounge** for a geology lecture about the **Rock of South Georgia**.
- 1100 **Wildlife watch!** The whole **staff team** welcome everybody on the **outside deck** to spot as much wildlife as possible!
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1400 **Biosecurity:** We will call you by deck to deck 3 to complete our biosecurity check – and if needed; cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, muck boots and tripods/walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. *Please listen for announcements.*
- 1600 **Arctic - Antarctic; what's the difference?** **Bob** welcome you in the **lounge** to discuss the geography and politics of the two polar regions.
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 20:45+/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** to have a look at the species we've seen today and fill in the **trip's species list**.



Sunrise: 05:53
Sunset: 17:15



Moonrise: 20:48
Moonset: 14:55
Moon phase: 66%



- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Eduardo** invites you in the **lounge** for his fascinating lecture ‘**Eternal Darkness**’ about the **The Exploration of the Bottom of the Seas**.
- 1100 **Elizabeth** will give an interesting **mini lecture** about the **whaling history of South Georgia**.

*We hope to sail along **The Shag Rocks** sometime between **1130 and 1300**. The rocks are six small islets, as opposed to islands, in the westernmost extreme of South Georgia. Upwellings and currents around the rocks make the seas here rich in krill, toothfish and icefish, which make this a particularly lively feeding spot for seabirds and whales.*

- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1300+/- **The Shag Rocks** – *Timing is approximate: **listen for announcements**.*
- 1500 **Georgina** invites you to the **lecture room** for her introductory talk about **nature photography**.
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 20:45+/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** to have a look at the species we’ve seen today and fill in the **trip’s species list**.

	Sunrise: 07:37 Sunset: 18:54
	Moonrise: 22:10 Moonset: 16:16 Moon phase: 58%





0630 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*In the Morning we hope to **land at Fortuna Bay**. Located on the Northern shores of South Georgia, this bay is surrounded by rugged mountainous beauty and teeming wildlife. Fortuna Bay is home to thousands of king penguin along with Antarctic fur seal, Southern elephant seal, brown skua, Light-mantled albatross, giant petrel and Antarctic tern.*

0815 **South Georgia Pipit**: Please come to the zodiac boarding area for a landing at Fortuna Bay.
0825 **Light Mantled Albatross**: Please come to the zodiac boarding area for a landing at Fortuna Bay.
0835 **Photography Zodiac**: Please come to the zodiac boarding area for a zodiac cruise at Fortuna Bay (you will be able to land afterwards).
1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*In the afternoon we hope to go on a **zodiac cruise at Hercules Bay**. It was named by Norwegian whalers after a whale catcher vessel which had visited the area and offers the possibility to see macaroni penguin.*

1415 **Light Mantled Albatross**: Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a **cruise at Hercules Bay**.
1425 **South Georgia Pipit**: Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a **cruise at Hercules**.

#

BIOSECURITY: A cleaning station (vacuum, paper clip, water bucket and brushes) will be available at the zodiac boarding area to complete your biosecurity cleaning.

1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

PLEASE PUT ALL THE BLINDS IN YOUR CABINS DOWN BEFORE DINNER!

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.

20:45+/- **MANDATORY BIOSECURITY CHECK** We will call you by deck to deck 3 to complete our biosecurity check, please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, muck boots and tripods/walking sticks to be checked. *Please listen for announcements.*



Sunrise: 7:01
Sunset: 18:14



Moonrise: 22:50
Moonset: 16:21
Moon phase: Last Quarter



0630 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

This morning we hope to land at Grytviken. Here you can expect to see the old whaling station, church, cemetery (where the grave of Sir Ernest Shackleton and Frank Wild are located), visit the museum, shop & post office.
You can pay by credit card or cash (GBP, USD & EURO) in the shop/museum only.
In the post office you can only use GBP or card

**WE WILL BE INSPECTED ON DISEMBARKATION:
PLEASE ENSURE ALL YOUR EQUIPMENT IS CLEAN.**

0815 They will be a short **presentation** in the lounge by the **South Georgia Heritage Team** about their recent work and the rat eradication project.

0830 **The Pipit:** Please come to the zodiac boarding area for a landing at Grytviken.

0840 **The Albatross:** Please come to the zodiac boarding area for a landing at Grytviken.

1000 **Guided tour:** Expedition Guide **Josh** invites you to a guided tour of Grytviken; please meet him outside the post office at 10:00.

For those who wish to visit the cemetery, we will take you there when returning you to the ship. Expedition Staff will be there hosting a tribute to Sir Ernest Shackleton throughout the morning, including a dram of whiskey to toast 'The Boss' as he was called by his crew.

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

In the afternoon we hope to take you ashore at Godhul. This landing features a small shore area with a challenging hike up through tussock grass to a small freshwater lake.

1400 **The Albatross:** Please come to the zodiac boarding area for a landing at Godhul.

1415 **The Pipit:** Please come to the zodiac boarding area for a landing at Godhul.

1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.

20:45+/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** to have a look at the species we've seen today and fill in **the trip's species list**.



Sunrise: 6:58
Sunset: 18:06



Moonrise: 00:01
Moonset: 16:43
Moon phase: 32%



**Cocktail of the day:
Tequila Sunrise**

€5 Euros

- 0630 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0700 We will start our cruise into Drygalski Fjord.
- 0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

In the morning, we aim to offer a ship cruise into Drygalski Fjord, a stunning narrow fjord renowned as a breeding sanctuary for numerous seabirds, especially burrowing petrels.



- 1100 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- In the early afternoon, we plan to provide a brief zodiac cruise to observe the Macaroni Penguins at Cooper Bay.*

- 1200 **The Pipit:** Please come to the zodiac boarding area for a zodiac cruise at Cooper Bay.
1215 **The Albatross:** Please come to the zodiac boarding area for a zodiac cruise at Cooper Bay.

In the afternoon, we'll depart from South Georgia and set our course towards Gough Island.

*As we are heading back out to sea, please remember to walk slowly on the ship, never rush. Keep at least one hand for the ship.
Shut all doors carefully and keep fingers away from door frames.
Don't forget to secure your belongings.*

- 1430 We leave South Georgia and head towards Gough.
- 1645 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1730 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 1900 Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** to have a look at the species we've seen today and fill in **the trip's species list**.
- 2000 **Happy Hour** – Please join us for half price drinks in the bar.
- 2030 **South Georgia Quiz!** Please join us at the lounge for a fun quiz about South Georgia.

	Sunrise: 6:52 Sunset: 17:59
	Moonrise: 00:06 Moonset: 16:41 Moon phase: 22%

	Cocktail of the day: Cosmopolitan €5 Euros
--	---





- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Elizabeth** invites you to the lecture room for her about **Right Whales: The whale left behind**
- 10:45 **Chloe** invites you in the **lecture room** for an enthusiastic lecture about **plankton** or the drifters of the Southern Ocean.

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL MOVE THE CLOCKS FORWARD 1 HOURS AT 12 O'CLOCK.

- 1200 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1430 Meet **Josh** in the **lecture room** to learn more about his time spent in Grytviken as a government officer in his talk **Southern Summer: Life in South Georgia**.
- 1630 **William** will talk in the lecture room about **Antarctic geopolitics**: who owns Antarctica and the challenges it faces.
- 1800 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 +/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** to have a look at the species we've seen today and fill in **the trip's species list**.
- 2100 Join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** to raise money for **South Georgia Heritage Trust** with our **charity auction!**

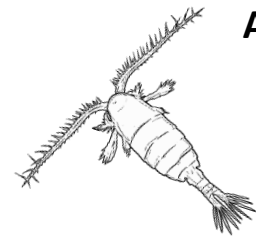
*If conditions allow it **Eduardo** will offer **star gazing** on deck 8.*

	Sunrise: 06:46 Sunset: 18:47
	Moonrise: 01:38 Moonset: 18:00 Moon phase: 14%





Cocktail of the day:
Campari / Aperol Spritz

€5 Euros

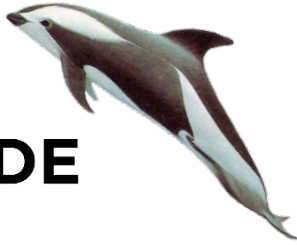


- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Alien Ocean, The quest of Extraterrestrial Water and Life.** Please join **Eduardo** in the **lecture room** for an intergalactic lecture.
- 1045 **MANDATORY St Helena Meeting.** We would like **ALL GUEST WHO ARE LEAVING US IN ST HELENA** to meet us in the lecture room.
Passengers staying until cape Verde do not need to join the meeting.
- 1100 **Explore the History of Tristan Island!** Leon welcomes you in the **lecture room** for a lecture about the rich history of the island he calls home.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1400 **Why penguin don't fly?** Join **Bob** in the **lecture room** for an intriguing discussion on the evolution of penguins.
- 1600 **Learn more about Southern Ocean Pinnipeds!** Join us in the **lecture room** where **Hazel** will provide insightful talk on these cute creatures.
- 1800 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 +/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** for short bird list as well as a **short slideshow of wildlife** photographs from **Georgina's island home in the Falkland** and a little presentation about her conservation background.

✦ *If conditions allow it **Eduardo** will offer **star gazing** on deck 8.*

	Sunrise: 06:46 Sunset: 17:47
	Moonrise: 01:38 Moonset: 17:00 Moon phase: 14%

	Cocktail of the day BLUE LAGOON €5 Euros
--	---



- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Hazel** welcomes you to the **lecture room** for her lecture about **Pinnipeds (seals)**.
- 1100 Join **Julian** in the **lecture room** to learn about the **volcanoes of Gough and Tristan**. His lecture will feature a **20-minute video** from the Royal Society film on the **Tristan eruption**.

PLEASE NOTE WE WILL MOVE THE CLOCKS FORWARD 1 HOURS AT 12 O'CLOCK.

- 1200 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1430 Curious about what's happening **behind the scenes** on Hondius? Meet **our chef, Ralf**, in the **lecture room**, and he will answer any questions you have.
- 1530 **Diver Meeting:** If you are a **certified diver** and interested about diving in **St Helena**, please meet us in the **Lecture Room**.
- 1600 Join **Leon** in the **lecture room** where he will talk about life on **Tristan da Cunha**.
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 +/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** for a brief **wildlife list** presentation, followed by a special guest **mini-lecture** from **Kirk Zufelt on fregetta (storm petrel family) recognition**.



*If conditions allow it **Eduardo** will offer **star gazing** on deck 8.*



Sunrise: 06:55
Sunset: 17:57



Moonrise: 04:58
Moonset: 17:32
Moon phase: 2%



Cocktail of the day
WHISKEY STONE SOUR

€5 Euros



- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Einstein clock and GPS. Eduardo** will guide us through an engaging lecture on the impact of Einstein's work on modern society. Meet him in **the lecture room**.
- 1030 Our guest **Ann** will be offering a sound bath experience in the **lecture room**. Join her for a relaxing experience.
- 1100 **The Atlantic Islands up to Gough**. Join **Bob** in the **lecture room** for the first part of his lecture series.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1400 Join **hotel department team** in **the lounge** for a towel folding **workshop!** Learn the art of towel folding and have fun with the team.
- 1500 **Biosecurity:** We will call you by deck to deck 3 to complete our biosecurity check – and if needed; cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, muck boots and tripods/walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. *Please listen for announcements.*
- 1630 Please join **Andrew** in the **lecture room** for a talk about **The Importance of Wildlife Photography**. You will learn how pictures YOU take can contribute to expand scientific knowledge.
- 1800 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 +/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** for **wildlife list**.
- 2130 **Movie night!** Join the team in the **lecture room** for the **documentary "Step out of Time"** featuring Tristan Da Cunha and its inhabitants. **Popcorn included!**



Sunrise: 07:32
Sunset: 17:57

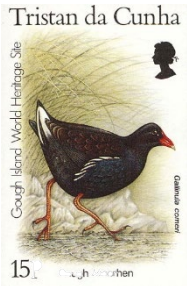


Moonrise: 07:02
Moonset: 18:31
Moon phase: New Moon



Cocktail of the day
RUM PUNCH

€5 Euros



Atlantic Odyssey
Tuesday 9th April 2024
Gough Island

- 0700 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.



At approximately 8:00am we will arrive at Gough Island, one of the most remote islands in the world. While the central part of the island is a plateau, the western part has a highland with the peaks and cliffs rising over 350 metres. Gough Island is roughly rectangular with a length of 13 km (8.1 mi) and a width of 7 km (4.3 mi). It has an area of 91 km² (35 sq mi) and rises to a highest point over 900 m (3,000 ft) above sea level. It is one of the most important seabird colonies in the world.

TBA We hope to offer you a **zodiac cruise** at **Gough Island**. Please listen for announcements for timing and please do not come to the zodiac boarding area until requested to do so – Thank you.

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

As we leave Gough Island we plan to ship cruise along the east side of the island before departing towards Tristan de Cunha.

- 1600 Please join **Andrew** in the **lecture room** for his talk about **The Importance of Wildlife Photography** and learn how pictures YOU take can contribute to citizen science!
- 1800 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 +/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** for **wildlife list**.

	Sunrise: 07:03 Sunset: 18:18
	Moonrise: 07:51 Moonset: 18:39 Moon phase: 1%

	Cocktail of the day GIN/VODKA FIZZ
	€5 Euros



- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 Please join **Leon** in the **lecture room** for his talk about **shipwrecks around Tristan da Cunha**.



*At approximately **10:30 am** we are due to arrive in the vicinity of **Nightingale Island**. Nightingale Island is an active volcanic island, 3 square kilometres (1.2 sq mi) in area, with two peaks on its north end. One is 337 metres (1,106 ft) high while the other is 293 metres (961 ft) high. Over a million birds are estimated to breed on the island.*

THE EXPEDITION TEAM WILL ASSESS CONDITIONS. PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- 1200 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- TBA *Expedition afternoon:* We hope to offer you a **zodiac cruise** at **Nightingale or Inaccessible Island**. Please listen for announcements.

Inaccessible Island is a volcanic island located 31 km (19 mi) south-west of Tristan da Cunha. Its highest point, Swale's Fell, reaches 581 m (1,906 ft), and the island is 12.65 km² (4.88 sq mi) in area. The volcano was last active six million years ago and is currently extinct.

- 1830 **Recap:** Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 +/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** for **wildlife list**.

	Sunrise: 07:04 Sunset: 18:16
	Moonrise: 09:10 Moonset: 19:11 Moon phase: 5%

	Cocktail of the day TEQUILA SUNRISE
	€5 Euros



0600 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
0615 Morning snacks in Lounge

*Before breakfast, we would like to attempt to land or cruise on inaccessible island!
Please take as little as possible in the zodiac (No Tripods, Camera ok but you will need a waterproof bag as the landing can be (very) wet).
Please listens for announcement.*

0700 **South Georgia Pipit:** Please come to the zodiac boarding area.
0715 **Albatross:** Please come to the zodiac boarding.

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
SANDWICH BAR in the dining room: Please make your own sandwich for lunch.

*Today we hope to spend the day at Tristan da Cunha, the most remote inhabited island in the world! It is home to around 250 people, who earn their living from fishing for gourmet-quality lobster exported to Australasia, the USA and Europe: farming, handicrafts, conservation work and the sale to collectors of postage stamps and souvenir coins.
You can pay by cash only in Pound, Dollars, and Euros.*

1000 **Albatross:** Please come to the zodiac boarding area to land on Tristan Da Cunha.
1015 **South Georgia Pipit:** Please come to the zodiac boarding on Tristan Da Cunha.

1100 Walking tour to **volcano Group 1**, with Andre Repetto as local guide. Please meet your guide at the harbour, you will start by the volcano then go to the Traditional Thatched Museum.

1110 Walking tour to **volcano Group 2**, with Jerry Green as a local guide, Please meet your guide at the harbour. You will start by the Traditional Thatched House Museum and then walk to the Volcano.

1100 **School visit** (Meet at the Post office & visitor Centre).



1500 **Walking tour to the settlement**, Please meet the guide at the Post Office & Visitor Centre.

1330 **Fish factory tour.** Please meet the guide at the Post Office & Visitor Centre.

TBA **Taxi tour.**

TBA **Golf.**

1830 **Recap:** Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap.
1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.

	Sunrise: 07:05 Sunset: 18:15
	Moonrise: 10:28 Moonset: 19:48 Moon phase: 11%

	Cocktail of the day Cosmopolitan
	€5 Euros

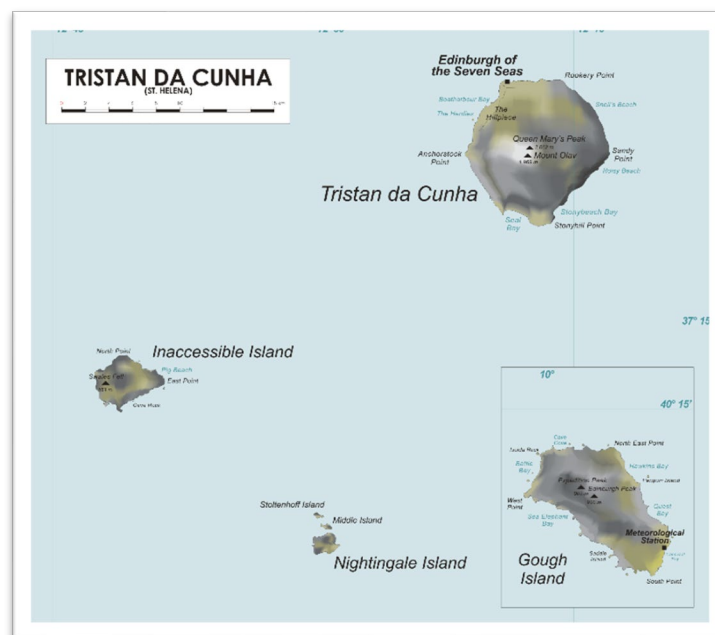


Atlantic Odyssey
Friday 12th April 2024
Expedition Day at Tristan Da Cunha



- 0730 **Wakeup call - Good Morning!**
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

Today is an expedition day around Inaccessible Island, Nightingale Island, and Tristan Da Cunha! We'll make every effort to get you out of the ship and offer zodiac cruises, weather permitting. Let's embark on this exploration together!

PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS.



- 1830 **Recap:** Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.



	Sunrise: 07:06 Sunset: 18:13
	Moonrise: 11:42 Moonset: 20:33 Moon phase: 19%



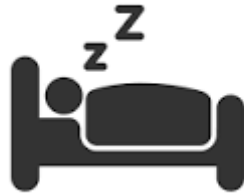
Cocktail of the day
Aperol Spritz

€5 Euros



- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 **Eduardo** will give a workshop regarding **Sky Charts** and other aids to watch and enjoy the night sky: please join him in the **Lecture Room**.
- 1100 **Georgina** will give you the **Secrets of Beautiful Images**. Join her in the **Lecture Room** for this insightful talk about composition and depth of field in wildlife photography.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1400 We would like to invite you in the **lecture room** for another video about **Tristan Da Cunha! The forgotten island** is a 50 min long movie featuring the life of Conrad Glass on the island.
- 1600 Please join **Marijke** in the **Lecture Room** for her talk about **Beaked Whales**: how to identify these elusive, deep diving whale species and why recording them is so important.
- 1815 **Recap**: Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 +/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** for a **wildlife list** presentation.

	Sunrise: 07:10 Sunset: 18:25
	Moonrise: 12:16 Moonset: 22:07 Moon phase: 29%

	Cocktail of the day Blue Lagoon €5 Euros
--	---



- 0900 **Sound bath:** our sound therapist guest **Ann Bessudo** will give another relaxing experience with her **Tibetan bowls** in the **Lecture Room**. Floor mats will be available.
Breakfast snacks will be available in the Observation Lounge for early risers.
- 1000 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
Enjoy some extra time in bed or a quiet morning without announcements!
- 1030 **Brunch** will be served in the **Dining Room**
- 1200 Join **Josh** in the Lecture Room for his talk on **Habitat Restoration in the South Atlantic Islands**
- 1330 **Boot & Orange Bag return:** please bring your boots & bag to the expedition staff on deck 3. **Please make sure boots are clean before returning them!** We will call you by deck.
- 1500 Snacks will be available in the bar
- 1600 Guest **Sandra Bessudo** is a prominent marine biologist, conservationist, diver and researcher: join her in the **Lecture Room** at this time for her presentation about her work as founder/director of the **Malpelo Foundation**.
- 1800 **Recap:** Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap.
- 1830 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 +/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** for a **wildlife list** presentation.

	Sunrise: 07:05 Sunset: 18:23
	Moonrise: 13:18 Moonset: 23:03 Moon phase: 39%



Cocktail of the day
Whiskey Stone Sour

€5 Euros



- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0930 Join **Julian** in the **Lecture Room** for his talk about **the formation of the Atlantic Ocean**: The opening of the Atlantic, mid Atlantic ridge volcanism and ecosystem
- 1100 **Andrew** will give his humorous talk entitled '**The Strange World of Birders**': join him in the **Lounge** for a genuine laugh (*or expect to wake up to a dead penguin if you don't attend.....!!!*).
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1400 **Bob** will be in the **Lecture Room** giving the next instalment of his series of lectures on **Islands of the Atlantic**.

*At approximately 17:00pm we are scheduled to cross the **Tropic of Capricorn!**
We will celebrate crossing **23°23' South** and officially being in the Tropics:
Please listen for announcements for exact timing!*

- 1800 **Recap**: Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap.
- 1830 **Plated Dinner** is served in the **dining room**: **please attend promptly!**
- 2030 **Happy Hour** in the **Observation Lounge!** Come and enjoy a drink in the bar prior to our Crew Talent Show
- 2100 +/- We welcome all guests to the **Observation Lounge** for our **Crew Talent Show! Let us entertain you!**
All departments of our crew and staff will take part:
please come and support us 😊



Sunrise: 06:54
Sunset: 18:19



Moonrise: 13:47
Moonset: 00:09
Moon phase: First quarter





Cocktail of the day
Rum Punch

€5 Euros



- 0730 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 Join **Eduardo** in the **Lecture Room** for his talk about **Edmund Halley in St Helena** and learn about the time spent by the English Astronomer on this Atlantic Island.
- 1100 **Where in the World to Watch Whales and Dolphins**: please join **Hazel** in the **Lecture Room** for this talk based on the best places to see these enigmatic animals, including anecdotes from her own whale watching travels.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1400 **Marijke** invites you in the **lecture room** for talk about the intriguing **Flying Fish**.
- 1600 **Umwelt or how the animals might perceive the world**. Join Chloe in the lecture room for a discussion on animal senses.
- 1815 **Recap**: Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** for our daily recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 +/- Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** for a **wildlife list** presentation.
- 21:00 **Right Whale: The Whale Left behind**. **Elizabeth** will present a one-hour documentary in the **lecture room**. Popo Corn provided!

	Sunrise: 06:46 Sunset: 18:18
	Moonrise: 14:12 Moonset: 00:30 Moon phase: 59%



Cocktail of the day
GIN/VODKA FIZZ

€5 Euros





- 0730 **Wake up call.** Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0915 Please join **Bob** in the **Lecture Room** for his talk about **Napoleon on St Helena: a potted history**
- 1100 Please join **Hazel** in the **Observation Lounge** for a talk about **Oceanwide Expedition's other destinations and itineraries**.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

In the afternoon, we expect to arrive at St. Helena and be in our anchorage position by around 5:00 PM. Along the way, we will pass underwater seamounts known for good whale watching. We encourage you to be on deck to enjoy the sights.

- 1800 **Please join the expedition team** in the **Observation Lounge** for the daily recap, including some final information about our upcoming days in St Helena.
- 1830 We invite **all passengers disembarking in St. Helena** to join the staff team in the Lecture Room for a **farewell captain's cocktail** and a **slideshow presentation**. *This event is exclusively for passengers disembarking in St Helena; those remaining on board will have their own farewell at the end of the voyage!*
- 1930 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.
- 2000
- 2300 **Zodiac shuttle service** will be available to take you ashore/back to the ship.

**The final shuttle back to Hondius will be at 11pm.
Please do not be late!**

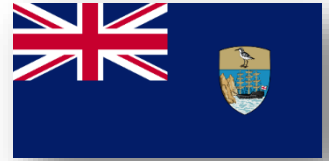
*"Courage isn't having the strength to go on - it is going on when you don't have strength."
— Napoleon Bonaparte*

	Sunrise: 06:38 Sunset: 18:15
	Moonrise: 14:39 Moonset: 01:14 Moon phase: 68%



Cocktail of the day
Tequila Sunrise

€5 Euros





- 07:00 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 07:30 **Buffet breakfast** will be served in the **dinning rom**.
SANDWICH BAR in the dining room: Please make your own sandwich for lunch.
Please do not take any vegetables, fruit, or honey ashore.
- If you wish to have lunch on board, please sign up at reception before leaving the ship this morning.*
- 08:15 **Zodiac cruise:** Please come to the zodiac boarding area for a zodiac cruise in St Helena.
- 0830 We will start our **shuttling** operation if you wish to go ashore.
- 09:00 **Snorkelling:** Please come to **the zodiac boarding** area to go snorkelling.
- 09:00 **Town Tour:** Please meet at **the pier side**.
- 1200 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** - for those who pre-requested it only.
- 1300 **St Helena Island Highlights Tour:** Please meet at **the pier side**.
- 19:00 **BBQ dinner.**

✦ *If conditions allow it Eduardo will offer star gazing on deck 8.* ✦

Zodiacs will run between the Landing Pier and Hondius at the following times:

- In the **morning: between 0830 until 1130.**
- In the **afternoon: between 1230 until 1830.**
- In the **evening: between 2100 until 2300.**

The last shuttle back to the ship is 23:00pm: please do not be late!

	Sunrise: 06:31 Sunset: 18:13
	Moonrise: 15:07 Moonset: 02:06 Moon phase: 76%





0700 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

0730 **Buffet breakfast** will be served in the **dinning rom**.
SANDWICH BAR in the dining room: Please make your own sandwich for lunch.
Please do not take any vegetables, fruit, or honey ashore.

*If you wish to have **lunch on board**, please **sign up at reception** before leaving the ship this morning.*

*If you wish to **NOT** have **dinner onboard tonight**, please **cross** your name at the **reception**.*

0830 We will start our **shuttling** operation if you wish to go ashore.

0930 **Snorkelling:** Please come to **the zodiac boarding** area to go snorkelling.

0900 **Plantation house tour 1:** Please meet at **the pier side**.

1130 **Plantation house tour 2:** Please meet at **the pier side**.

1200 **Lunch** - *for those who pre-requested it only.*

1330 **Snorkelling:** Please come to **the zodiac boarding** area to go snorkelling

1530 **Photography bird tour:** Please meet at **the pier side**.

19:00 **Dinner**

Zodiacs will run between the Landing Pier and Hondius at the following times:

- In the **morning: between 0830 until 1130.**
- In the **afternoon: between 1230 until 1830.**
- In the **evening: between 2100 until 2300.**

The last shuttle back to the ship is 23:00pm: please do not be late!



Sunrise: 06:32
Sunset: 18:12



Moonrise: 15:41
Moonset: 02:55
Moon phase: 84%





Atlantic Odyssey
Saturday 20th April 2024
St Helena

0700 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

FOR PASSENGERS DISEMBARKING:

Please place your large/check-in luggage outside your cabin BEFORE breakfast no later than 0730.

0730 **Buffet breakfast** will be served in the **dinning rom**.
SANDWICH BAR in the dining room: Please make your own sandwich for lunch.
Please do not take any vegetables, fruit, or honey ashore.

If you wish to have lunch on board, please sign up at reception before leaving the ship this morning.

0745 Divers: Please come to the **zodiac boarding** area.

0830 We will start our **shuttling** operation if you wish to go ashore.

09:00 **DISEMBARKATION** – Please make your way to the gangway to disembark Hondius.

0930 **Snorkelling:** Please come to **the zodiac boarding** area.

1200 **Lunch** - for those who pre-requested it only.

1530 PLEASE BE BACK ONBOARD.

1600 **Departure from St Helene.**

19:00 **Dinner** – Please make your way in the **dining room**.

Zodiacs will run between the Landing Pier and Hondius at the following times:

- In the **morning: between 0830 until 1130.**
- In the **afternoon: between 1230 until 1530.**

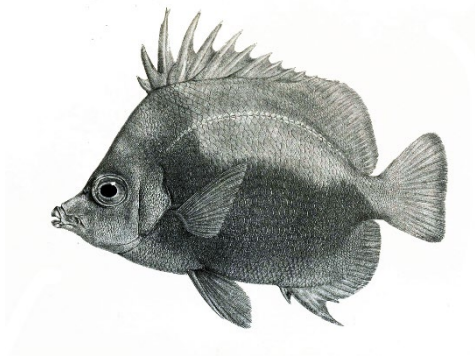
The last shuttle back to the ship is 1530pm: please do not be late!



Sunrise: 06:32
Sunset: 18:11



Moonrise: 16:14
Moonset: 03:41
Moon phase: 90%



Morning snacks will be available in the Observation Lounge for early risers.

0930 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

1000 **Brunch** will be served in the **Dining Room**.

1130 Join **Eduardo** in the **Lecture Room** for his talk '**Looking Up at the Sky**' about phenomena that can be seen

1400 **Josh** will present his talk entitled '**St Helena: an Island of Exiles**' in the **Lecture Room**

Cake will be available in the Observation Lounge

1600 Please come to the **Lecture Room** to learn about how to **spot and identify Tropical Dolphins** with **Marijke**, including sound and video clips

Snacks will be available in the Observation Lounge

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

2030 Join the **Expedition Team** in the **Lecture Room** for the **daily wildlife round up**



Sunrise: 06:34
Sunset: 18:17



Moonrise: 16:51
Moonset: 04:32
Moon phase: 95%

- 0730** **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 0800** **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 0930** Please join **Elizabeth** in the **Lecture Room** to kick off our **Earth Day celebrations!** She will introduce what Earth Day is and following, **Elizabeth** and **Hazel** will present about how these issues are affecting cetaceans globally.
- 1100** **Earth Day Talks 2!** **Marijke** will present her talk about Cetacean Bycatch in Western Africa, **Eduardo** will speak about the Anthropocene and **Bob** will provide a short presentation about UN Policy. This will occur in the **Lecture Room**.
- 1230** **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 1400** **Earth Day Talks 3!** Please come to the **Observation Lounge** to join our **Expedition Team** for an Earth Day panel discussion. Ask questions, listen to answers, and engage with the conversation!
- 1600** **Earth Day Talks 4!** In the **Lecture Room**, please come join our second mini-series with **Chloe** introducing plastic and its alternatives, Martin discussing intensive farming consequences for wildlife as well as light pollution, and **Julien** will provide information about climate change impacts in polar regions.
- To conclude Earth Day, Eduardo will present a short video providing us with a lovely take-home message. An attempt for us to better understand our roles in this wonderful world and how we can help protect Mother Earth for ourselves and future generations.
- 1830** **Recap:** Please join the **Expedition Team** in the lounge for our **daily recap**.
- 1900** **Dinner** will be served in the dining room.
- 2100** **HAPPY BIRTHDAY HAZEL!** Join us in celebrating Hazel's birthday with a fun evening in the lounge including.... Drum roll please.... **Karaoke!** (Attendance is mandatory)
ABBA? Elvis? Bruce? Whitney? Which song will you sing??



Cocktail of the day
Rum Punch
€5 Euros



- 0730 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining Room.**
- 0915 Come and listen to the harrowing story of **The Medusa Raft**; a tale of a shipwrecked crew who, confronted with the impossible, did the unthinkable. Learn the true story that inspired the famous painting *'Le Radeau de Meduse'* by Géricault Théodore. Join **Will** in the **Lecture Room.**





*At approximately 10:30 we are due to arrive in the vicinity of Ascension Island.
We will ship cruise the island – join the expedition team outside to look for wildlife!*

- 1200 **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining Room.**

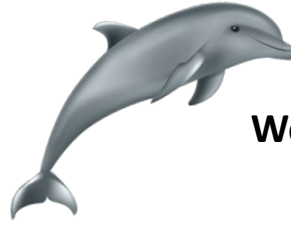
*This afternoon we hope to visit Boatswain Bird Island.
We will be looking out for Ascension frigate bird, tropic birds and other wildlife.
Please listen for announcements regarding timing and further details.*

- 1830 **Recap:** Please join the **Expedition Team** in the lounge for our **daily recap.**
- 1900 **Dinner** will be served in the dining room.
- 2030 **Wildlife Listing** and discussion will take place in the **Lecture Room.**
- 2100 **The Library Sessions:** Please join **Will** in the **Library** for a musical set with guitar and vocals



	Sunrise: 07:00 Sunset: 18:52
	Moonrise: 18:37 Moonset: 06:29 Moon phase: Full Moon



Cocktail of the day
Gin/Vodka Fizz
€5 Euros

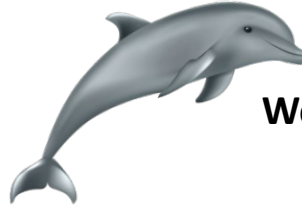


- 0600 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 0630 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 1000 **Umwelt or how animals may perceive the world.** Meet **Chloe** in the **lecture room** for a talk about animal senses.
- 1200 **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 1400 Please meet **Marijke** in the **lecture room** to learn about **turtle identification**.
- 1500 **Ice Coffee!** Please meet the expedition team on **the bow** to enjoy a refreshment.
- 1600 **Andrew** will discuss **Whale and Dolphin intelligence** in the **lecture room**.
- 1830 **Recap:** Please join the **Expedition Team** in the lounge for our **daily recap**.
- 1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 **View from the International Space Station.** Embark on a 12-minute journey through the eyes of astronaut Andre Kuipers as we experience the breathtaking views of Earth. **Eduardo** will present the documentary in the **lecture room**.

	Sunrise: 0700 Sunset: 18:52
	Moonrise: 19:18 Moonset: 07:15 Moon phase: 99%



Cocktail of the day
Tequila Sunrise
€5 Euros



0600 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

0630 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining Room**.

Please make your own packed lunch to take ashore

Today we hope to go ashore at Ascension Island. If conditions permit, all passengers will have the opportunity to go ashore in the morning. Group A will commence with a bus tour first, while Group B will enjoy free time in Georgetown. We will eat our packed lunches at the Two Boats Club.

Group A will be taken to Two Boats Club at the end of their tour;

Group B will be shuttled there from the pier at 12:30/12:45.

Following lunch, Group B will go on the bus tour while group A enjoy free time in Georgetown.

There is a swimming pool at the Two Boat Club, feel free to bring your swimwear

PLEASE READ THE TOUR PROGRAM POSTED ON THE WALLS

0720 **Group A: Ascension Frigatebird (Blue):** Please come at the **zodiac boarding area** to Go ashore for a bus tour.



0740 **Group B: Brown Booby (Red):** Please come at the **zodiac boarding area** to go **Georgetown**.

You must return to the pier head by 1230 to be collected by bus and transported to the two boats club, our location for lunch and the start of your bust tour

1230 We will eat our packed lunches at the **Two Boats Club**.

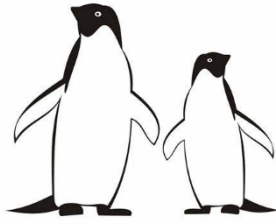
1800 **All passengers back on-board M/V Hondius.**

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

	Sunrise: 0700 Sunset: 18:52
	Moonrise: 19:18 Moonset: 07:15 Moon phase: 99%





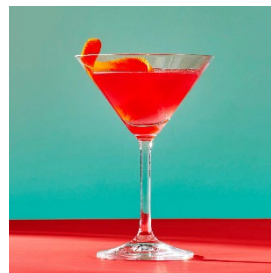
Cocktail of the day
Tequila Sunrise
€5 Euros



Happy World Penguin Day!

- 0730 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 0915 Please join **Bob** in the **Lecture Room** for his talk called **'Strange Sights: things invisible to see'** for tales of marine phenomena
- 1100 **Sperm Whale: The Living Submarine**
Join **Hazel** in the **Lecture Room** for her talk about the world's largest toothed predator
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 1400 **Afternoon movie: Happy Feet 1** will be shown in the **Lecture Room**
- 1600 Please join **Hans** in the **Lecture Room** for his talk about **expeditions mapping offshore wildlife in Mauritania**
- 1830 **Recap:** Please join the **Expedition Team** in the lounge for our **daily recap**.
- 1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 **Quiz Time!** Put your bird-brains to the test and join us in the **Observation Lounge** for our **Penguin themed quiz** in celebration of **World Penguin Day!**

	Sunrise: 07:03 Sunset: 19:06
	Moonrise: 20:22 Moonset: 08:04 Moon phase: 97%



Cocktail of the day
Cosmopolitan
€5 Euros



We will **cross the equator** between approximately **3:30am and 4am**; there will be **no wake up call**, please set your own alarm if you wish to be up for this. The bridge will be open.

0700 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

0730 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining Room**.

0900 *A surprise awaits ye salty sea dogs;
Listen for announcements!*

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining Room**.

1400 Join **Julian** in the **Lecture Room** for his talk about the volcanoes of Iceland and how they help us to understand the volcanic islands we have visited on this trip

1600 *Neptune and his court awaits those of you who dared to cross the equator without his permission! This cannot go unpunished...*

Come to decks 5 & 6 forward to witness the crew and staff be baptised first, then, dear guests, it will be your turn...

Mwah ha ha ha ha!

1930 **Dinner** will be served outdoors on deck 5 aft – celebrate crossing the equator!



Sunrise: 07:04
Sunset: 19:05



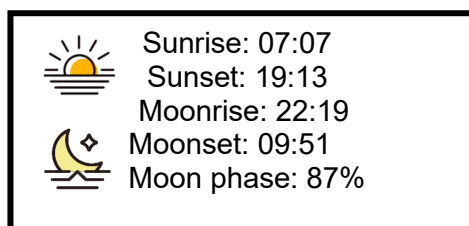
Moonrise: 21:12
Moonset: 08:57
Moon phase: 93%

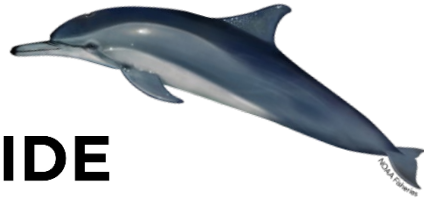


Cocktail of the day
Campari / Aperol Spritz
€5 Euros

Snacks will be available for early risers in the Observation Lounge

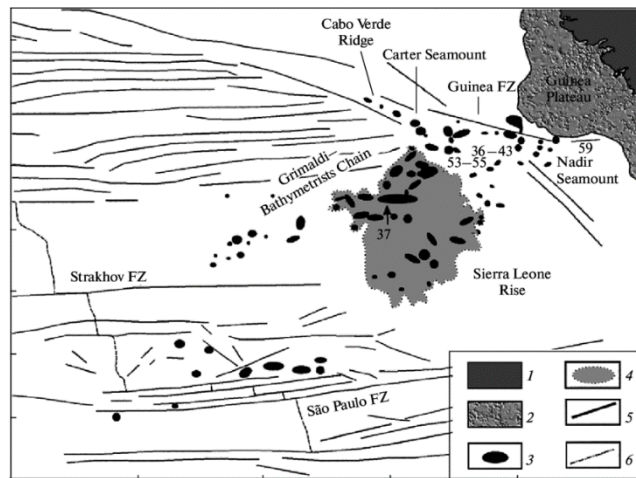
- 0730 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 0915 **Eduardo** will give his talk regarding **Ferdinand Magellan's** first circumnavigation of the world
- 1130 **Ohad Sherer**, one of our guests, will give a lecture entitled '**Israel: the safest country in the Middle East (for birds)**'. A short talk about why Israel is so important for birds, birders and nature conservation. Please join him in the **Lecture Room**.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 1400 **Atlantic: The Wildest Ocean on Earth – part one**
The first of this three part documentary series will be shown in the **Lecture Room**
(*Episodes two and three will follow over the coming days*)
- 1530 Please come **out onto the bow** for an **ice cream!**
- 1600 **Martin** will give his talk on **bird ringing** in the **Lecture Room**
- 1830 **Recap:** Please join the **Expedition Team** in the lounge for our **daily recap**.
- 1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 **Wildlife round up:** please join members of the expedition team in the **Lecture Room** to look back at the wildlife sightings of the past few days







PLEASE NOTE WE WILL MOVE THE CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR AT MIDNIGHT.

In the morning from 0800, we'll be passing by the Sierra Leone Rise which forms a discontinuous chain of seamounts as shallow as 2km. We encourage everyone to join us outside on the deck, in the expedition lounge, or on the bridge. Sea mounts offer excellent opportunities to observe the diverse marine life that inhabit this area.



- 0930 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 1000 **Brunch** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 1330 Please meet our Guest lecturer **Inger Vandyke** in the **lecture room** for a presentation of her **photography work in Bangladesh**.
- 1530 **Atlantic: The Wildest Ocean on Earth – Part two**
The second of this three-part documentary series will be shown in the **Lecture Room**.
- 1830 **Recap:** Please join the **Expedition Team** in the lounge for our **daily recap**.
- 1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 2030 Please join the Expedition Team in the **Lecture Room** to have a look at the **Wildlife list**.



	Sunrise: 07:08 Sunset: 19:19
	Moonrise: 23:25 Moonset: 10:47 Moon phase: 79%



Cocktail of the day
Whiskey Stone Sour
€5 Euros



- 0730 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 1000 **Humans and Cetaceans: our relationship with whales and dolphins** and **What does it mean to be Endangered? An Introduction to Wildlife Conservation.** Hazel and Elizabeth welcome you in the **lecture room** for two short lectures about their favourite animals.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining Room**.
- 1400 **Atlantic: The Wildest Ocean on Earth – Part Three.**
The third of this three-part documentary series will be shown in the **Lecture Room**.
- 1530 Please join the team at **the bow** for some **Ice cream!**
- 1600 **On a wing and a prayer.** Join **Bob** in the lecture room for a talk about the **biology of seabirds**.
- 1800 **Farewell Toast & Trip Slideshow** - Please join the captain and the expedition team in the lounge for a toast to our Atlantic Odyssey and a **slideshow** of our expedition.
- 1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.

	Sunrise: 06:12 Sunset: 18:34
	Moonrise: 22:46 Moonset: 10:43 Moon phase: 69%





Atlantic Odyssey
Tuesday 30th April 2024
Praia, Cape Verde

In the morning we will have a wildlife watch on our approach to Praia.

0730 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

0800-0930 **Breakfast** will be served in the **dinning rom.**

SANDWICH BAR in the **dining room** - **Please make your own sandwich for lunch.**

Please place your large/check-in luggage outside your cabin no later than 0945

*Shortly after 0945 we will collect your luggage and carry them on the pier or at the reception according of the labelling on your bag. Luggage with **blue tag** will be **carry off the ship on the pier**. Luggage with a **red and dark blue (teal) tag** will be at the **reception until 1730.***

1000 We will arrive in **Praia** and received the **customs onboard.**

1130 **Disembarkation** – Please make your way to the gangway to disembark Hondius. They will be taxi at the harbour gate.

1200 **City History Tour** and **Island Valley Tour.** Locals Guides will receive you at the pier once you disembark. The tour will last until approximately 1630.

1730 **Disembarkation** – Please, we ask the last passengers onboard to make their way to the gangway to disembark Hondius. They will be taxi at the harbour gate.

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions and all on board Hondius, we wish you safe onward travel, and thank you for sharing this incredible voyage with us. We look forward to sailing with you again in the future.