



# Northeast Greenland – Scoresby Sund

on board  
**m/v Ortelius**  
11<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2024



M/V *Ortelius* was named after the Dutch cartographer Abraham Ortelius (1527-1598) who published the first modern world atlas, the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (Theatre of the World) in 1570. MV *Ortelius* was built in 1989 in Gdynia, Poland, as a research vessel for the Russian Academy of Science and was named *Marina Svetaeva*. In 2011 she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions. The vessel was re-flagged and renamed *Ortelius*. Now the ship sails as a 108-passenger vessel. *Ortelius* is 91 m long, 17.6 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5.80 m, with an ice strength rating of UL1/1A, top speed of 12 knots and one diesel engine generating 3200 kW.



# Captain Per Andersson

and his international crew.

Including:

Chief Officer:	<b>Sjoerd van Hoek</b>	[Netherlands]
Second Officer:	<b>Martin Hansson</b>	[Sweden]
Third Officer:	<b>Dirk Aits</b>	[Netherlands]
Chief Engineer:	<b>Andrej Abakumov</b>	[Ukraine]
Hotel Manager:	<b>Oleksandr Lyebyedyev</b>	[Ukraine]
Head Chef:	<b>Heinz Hacker</b>	[Austria]
Sous Chef:	<b>Norman Estrada</b>	[Philippines]
Sous Chef:	<b>Ivan Yuriychuk</b>	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	<b>Eva Maria Kifmann</b>	[Switzerland]
Bosun:	<b>Neil Apawan</b>	[Philippines]
Bosun:	<b>Lauren Malatag</b>	[Philippines]
Expedition Leader:	<b>Florence Kuijper</b>	[Netherlands]
Assistant Expedition Leader:	<b>Beth Hitchcock</b>	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Bitao Zhao (Jerry)</b>	[China]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Rao Xinpeng</b>	[China]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Charlotte Taplin</b>	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Gabi Kolodko</b>	[Poland]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Marco Rosso</b>	[Italy]
Expedition Guide:	<b>Martin Anstee</b>	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide	<b>Saskia van der Meij</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide	<b>Brian Veltrop</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide	<b>Tom van Hoof</b>	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide	<b>Regis Perdriat</b>	[France]
Expedition Guide	<b>Alexis Bellezze</b>	[Argentina]

**Welcome onboard!**

# Day 1: 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

## Akureyri, Iceland - Embarkation

GPS position at 1600: 66°03.0' N - 18°20.4' W

Wind: N-5 Sea State: Moderate Weather: Clear Sky Air Temp: 4°C Sea Temp: 8°C

Finally, the day of our embarkation had come at last. After a morning spent traveling across the beautiful landscape of Northwestern Iceland, we arrived in the early afternoon at the pier of Akureyri, the second biggest city in Iceland.

Warmly welcomed by the expedition team, who helped to carry our luggage on board; we waited at the pier and got acquainted with some other passengers and taken the first photos of our new 'home' for the next week. After a short time, during which some of us took a swift look around Akureyri, we made our way up the gangway.



We were warmly welcomed by all the crew and staff who assisted us in finding our cabins. With some time left, we explored the ship and get our bearings and grab a tea or coffee in the bar. Once everyone was onboard, it was time for the mandatory safety video, follow by the drill, during which we learned the process for finding our lifeboats and how to use our lifejackets.

Afterwards, we quickly headed back to the bar for the Captain's Cocktail and the kind welcoming words of Expedition Leader Florence and Assistant Hotel Manager Karolina. Whilst sailing away

from Akureyri's pier, it was time for our first evening meal, with a delicious buffet selection provided by Chef Heinz and his galley team served by our friendly dining room staff. After dinner, we gathered again for the mandatory AECO and Zodiac Operations briefing, even though a few of us were absent from the room due to the first effects of motion sickness.

Sooner or later we had to face the reality of the Denmark strait, this 250 nautical miles wide



natural channel that separates Iceland from Greenland, our long lasting destination for this incredible voyage. Despite the uneasy feeling of several guests, our destination would make every roll and pitch worthwhile!

After a long day of travel for most of us, it was time for bed to get some rest. However, within few hours, we were awoken by the first Northern Lights sighting! A few nice strips of pale green lines in the sky added some last-minute

excitement to an already action-packed first day!

## **Day 2: 12<sup>th</sup> of September 2024**

### **At Sea in the Denmark Strait**

**GPS position at 1200: 68°53.8' N - 20°48.4' W**

**Wind: NW-5   Sea State: Light   Weather: Clear Sky   Air Temp: 1°C   Sea Temp: 4°C**

We woke this morning to a wake-up call from Florence, our Expedition Leader. She informed us that the weather was sunny and almost wind free. The temperature, however, was a mere 1.5 centigrade. There was a strong wind blowing in from the north, which at times made the deck feel very nice and fresh.



It was a beautiful start to our first full day on board *Ortelius*. Following a hearty breakfast over which discussion focused on either the Northern Lights from the previous night or the rolling of the ship, we had the chance to meet our expedition team.

Each member of the team introduced themselves. We had a real mixture of specialties and interests in our expedition team – no doubt their knowledge and enthusiasm would soon be put to the test.



Following these introductions, we had our last mandatory briefing, after which followed some shorter briefings about hiking and kayaking. In between, we had the opportunity to get out on deck for some fresh air and the chance to see the birds flying around the ship. Swooping and soaring alongside the ship were northern fulmar, kittiwakes, common guillemot and a few glaucous gulls.

Before we knew it, it was time for lunch, the first of many fantastic lunches on board.

After we finished eating, Marco, one of our guides, gave a fascinating introduction to Greenland. He really whetted our appetites for the trip ahead, focusing on the topography, the ice, the wildlife and the plants. As Marco finished, finally our first glimpse of land came into view, the beautiful snow-covered mountains of Greenland.

We were then presented with our muck boots for the trip and those kayaking tomorrow were given a further briefing and some of the equipment that we would need.

While all this was happening, the sun was still shining and we were getting ever closer to our destination, the beautiful Scoresby Sund in Greenland. Despite the blustery wind, many of us spent some time out on deck, watching as we approached Kap Brewster. Soon enough, the first icebergs flashed into view, and we passed close by several as we rounded Kap Brewster and entered the mouth of Scoresby Sund. We were truly in the Arctic now!

After another delicious meal, we had time to enjoy the sunset and waited for darkness to fall to see if the Northern Lights or Aurora Borealis would return.

Just after midnight, the Aurora did indeed grace us once again with its majestic presence and wowed the hardy ones that had decided to stay up, long after a beautiful sunset.



## **Day 3: 13<sup>th</sup> of September 2024**

### **Ikaasakjiip (Milne Land) & Bjørneøer**

**GPS position at 1200: 71°02.8' N - 25°39.8' W**

**Wind: Var-1   Sea State: Rippled   Weather: Overcast   Air Temp: 2°C   Sea Temp: 2°C**

Even though Florence hadn't given us a wake-up call yet, there were many of us on deck around 0645 when the sun rose at the eastern entrance to Øfjord. It lit up the spiky peaks of Renland and the mountains of the Bjørneøer (Bear Islands). This early morning Alpenglow created a beautiful pink glow on the few tiny clouds, which disappeared later and transformed the sky into a fantastic blue for the entire day. At 0730, we enjoyed our breakfast and the 'full day hikers' could make their own packed lunch, as they would be away from the ship for the entire day. At 0900, the full day hikers were ready at the gangway to be shuttled to shore first, where Marco, Brian and Saskia were waiting to take them out on an adventure in Milne Land.





After a briefing about the terrain, length, and altitude we took off in a leisurely pace for our first full day hike. Everybody was excited, but also curious as to what to expect, as it was our first landing here in beautiful Greenland.



Our hike presented us with amazing views over the Bjørneøer (Bear Islands) and the bay below with huge icebergs drifting silently. The views began where we started off from this morning at the northeast tip of Milne Land, and only got better as we climbed. It was challenging at some places and halfway the group split into two. One of them

reached the top at around 500 meters above sea-level with Marco and Saskia. We had amazing views over Øfjord, and the 1977-meter grand peak of granite called Grundtvigskirken, after the church in Copenhagen. The view into the fjord was spectacular, with a flotilla of icebergs appearing tiny against the immense peaks rising on each side. We even *spotted Rembrandt van Rijn* sailing far below – she looked like a child’s toy!

Meanwhile, the rest of us enjoyed hikes in the same area as the full-day-hikers but stayed around the beach area or went up to the lower hills and slopes where the water in little ponds reflected

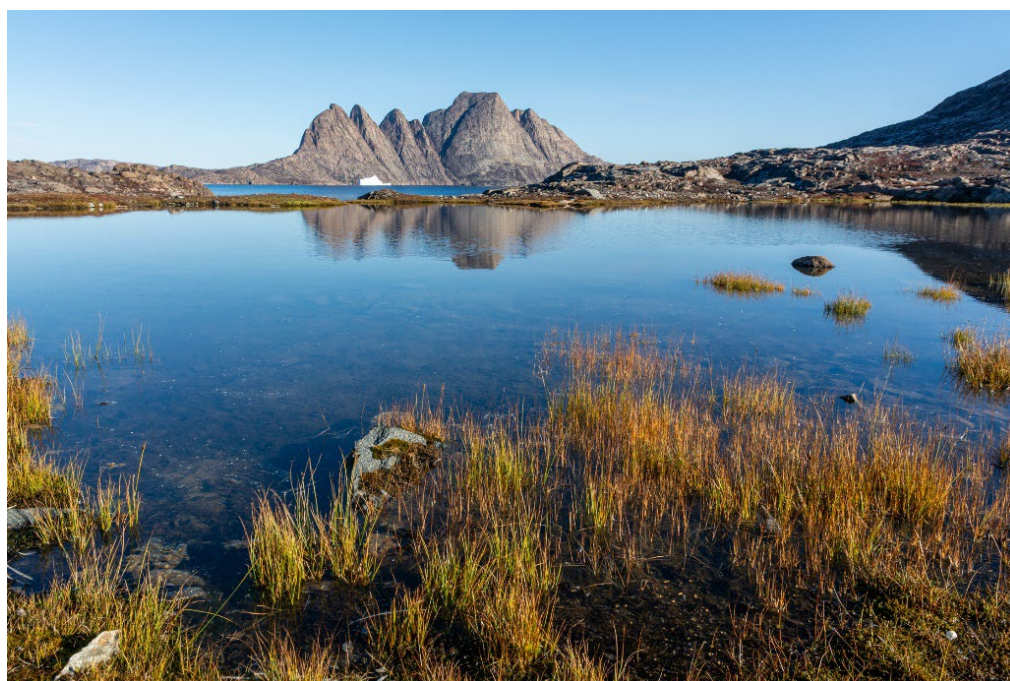


the peak of Grundstvigskirken beautifully. The last fluffy balls of Arctic cotton grass waving in the wind and the beautiful brown leaves of the dwarf birches and the bright red of the mountain bear berry added splashes of color and fantastic contrast to the rock, ice and snow around us. Just a stunning landing.

Over lunch, the ship was repositioned within the Bjørneøer (Bear Islands), or the Greenlandic name of Nannut Qeqertaat. This group of islands was named by Carl Ryder during his East Greenland Expedition in 1891–92. They shot a bear on 4 September 1891, while surveying the islands, which is where the name originates from. Many of the islands were not given a name, but in 1934 they were numbered I to XI following the first survey carried out by Eduard Wenk and Helge



Backlund. Members of the 1934 surveying group climbed parts of the spectacular ridges of islands VI and IX (Första Nålbrevet and Sista Nålbrevet).



In the afternoon we went out for several different hikes exploring the island called Taseertit. Some of us saw the cute white fluffy Arctic hares from up close and we were lucky enough to spot some Muskoxen from a distance. The sun was still with us which made it extremely pleasant to hike and enjoy the amazing views of this incredibly

picturesque area of Scoresby Sund. After another successful day we returned to the ship and went for a lovely dinner made by Chef Heinz and his kitchen team.

Later in the evening, we sailed briefly into Skillgbugt, a small fjord close by. As we sailed into the fjord, facing the glacier several miles away, the light was fantastic, glinting off of the mountain peaks and fading into a perfect, chilly evening. Some of us stood on the foredeck as the ship made it's way deep into the fjord, breaking the rapidly freezing layer of ice on the water below.



Ahead, a single seal was spotted, before it vanished into the water. We spent an hour or so navigating this small fjord – for those of us who remained on deck, it was a magical experience.

Some of us were still up in the bar around 1030 when we heard Florence's voice crackle over the speaker. The Northern Lights were here again! And what a different spectacle again than last night. Purple, bluish, yellow, and off course the most seen color, green. We were so lucky to witness them again with its wavy streaks, carpeting the sky from horizon to horizon. The cherry on the cake of already a stunning day!



## KAYAK

Today we kayaked around this beautiful landscape. We had perfect weather conditions in the morning, and a refreshingly cold breeze in the afternoon on the islands.

We didn't experience any katabatic winds, this area is known by the Innuits as "İkaasakajik"(Bad Fjord) because of these fierce gusts that often thunder through Øfjord. The Bjørneøer archipelago (bear islands) guard the entrance to the magnificent Øfjord. The morning highlights were the massive icebergs grounded close to the shore line and the sun light warming up during our paddling session.

In the afternoon session, we had the chance to see from very close a group of four Muskoxen, eating vegetation and resting while digesting, peacefully. Something we will remember forever.

When we began to head back to the ship, we had another precious encounter with a beautiful Arctic fox, resplendent in its winter white fur. Amazing!





## Day 4: 14<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

### Rødefjord (Rødepynten) and Rypefjord (Rypenaes)

GPS position at 1200: 70° 48.4' N - 27° 52.2' W

Wind: Var-1    Sea State: Rippled    Weather: Part.Cloudy    Air Temp: 2°C    Sea Temp: 2°C



As the first light of dawn filtered through our cabin windows, we rose from our beds and gazed outside at the breathtaking sight before us: Rødepynten, the majestic red mountain, standing proudly above the fjord. The sun, still low on the horizon, sent luscious rays across the landscape, slowly illuminating the wilderness in hues of gold and crimson.

By 0800, the all-day hikers were already gathering on the ship's deck, eager for a day of exploration.

The chill in the air was invigorating, and the anticipation of what lay ahead buzzed between



them. Beth, Martin, Charlotte, and Marco, affectionately known as "the Italian Stallion," greeted them onshore.

The hikers began their ascent up the red mountain. The resilient and sparse tundra stretched wide beneath their boots. As they climbed higher, the landscape opened up before them, revealing a stunning plateau bathed in morning light. From there, the lakes below gleamed with electric blue intensity, their waters contrasting vividly with the rust-colored mountains that surrounded them.

Suddenly, a herd of musk oxen appeared in the distance, its thick fur rippling in the wind, its heavy form perfectly at home in this wild, untamed place. The hikers stood in awe, watching as these ancient creatures moved with quiet grace. Nearby, an Arctic hare, small and swift, darted across the tundra, disappearing into the rocky terrain.

Back on the ship, those who hadn't set out on foot were equally captivated by the beauty of Rødepynten. They embarked on a Zodiac cruise, weaving their way through the icebergs that dotted the fjord. The water was still, like a mirror, reflecting the towering icebergs and the mountains beyond in perfect clarity. They, too, caught glimpses of musk ox in the distance, a testament to the wild abundance of this frozen world.

The long hikers made their way across the neck of C. Hofmann Halve, traversing the beautiful tundra landscape covered in birch, willow, cottongrass, reindeer lichen, bearberries, and a plethora of other plants, mosses, and lichens. More musk oxen were spotted in the far distance, high on the rising slopes of the mountains before other small groups could be seen in the higher



areas. Throughout the hike, which lasted the entire day, the group spotted upwards of 60 musk oxen, getting some fantastic photographs of the beautiful landscapes and these majestic Arctic inhabitants. Arctic hares were also spotted, along with a number of small birds, feeding around one of the mirror-perfect lakes.

As the afternoon waned, three more walks were

offered, each leading to yet another awe-inspiring view. Some of the hikers were fortunate enough to spot more musk Oxen grazing in the distance, while others marveled at the serenity of the landscape, untouched and timeless. By the end of the day, the ship was filled with contentment. The smell of freshly baked cookies drifted through the halls as Flo and the team gathered everyone to discuss the plans for tomorrow's adventures. But, before the day was out, we enjoyed a BBQ on the helideck! We toasted the day's adventures with some great food, company, and drinks, swapped stories, and created memories! Much later, the Northern Lights made yet another appearance, keeping many of us awake late into the night as the sky above Rypefjord shimmered beautifully.



We spent the day in the beautiful Rypefjord. The weather conditions were so great! There were no winds and no waves; we saw some beautiful icebergs in the area. Some of them rolled right in front of us, providing fantastic views of the white and blue coloration.

We saw a juvenile glaucous gull flying over us and a pack of Musk oxen lying on top of a quiet bay, and the shallow shoreline of the afternoon session provided a glimpse of some footprints covered by the water of the high tide.

Peaceful conditions. A great day for the kayakers!



# Day 5: 15<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

## Harefjord (Vindue Gletscher) and Øfjord

GPS position at 1200: 70° 57.3' N - 28° 18.9' W

Wind: Var-1    Sea State: Rippled    Weather: Part.Cloudy    Air Temp: 1°C    Sea Temp: 0°C

After an exhausting previous day and the fun of the BBQ the night before, Florence woke us up again for another beautiful day in our Arctic paradise. We landed in Harefjord, near a glacial front, and in several groups with varying speeds and distances, we hiked up the moraine for a fantastic view over the glacier. From this glacier it is only 20 km land inwards to the Greenlandic Inlandis, the majestic second largest icecap of the world, the Greenland Icecap. On our way up we saw Muskoxen again and some of us also saw some Rock Ptarmigan.

This was a brilliantly varied landscape, with the tundra's colors mixed with the rock's stark grey and red all around. Below, the ice-white of the glacier was mixed with dark stains of rock and debris scraped from the mountainside further up, while the moraine was full of colorful plant life and rock scattered across its grey expanse. Below, the water was crystal clear and blue, patrolled by icebergs of various sizes.



We all had a fantastic morning hiking,, enjoying the stunning landscape views of Harefjord. Once back at the landing site, it was time for a swim - the famous Polar Plunge! The sea was beginning to freeze over, and as we were close to the glacial front where the meltwater entered the sea, the water

was a bit chilly. We cheered the Polar Plungers as they dashed into the water and, for most, dashed quickly out again! We had a wonderful lunch after the brave swimmers returned to the ship.

In the afternoon, we ship-cruised Øfjord; the billion-year-old rock formations that surrounded the ship filled us with awe. The staff served hot chocolate with rum on deck, which made the afternoon even more pleasant. Throughout the rest of the day, the beauty of Øfjord was on full display, complete with huge icebergs and the colors of the setting sun on the jagged rock all around. Either side, glaciers spilled into the fjord, providing tantalizing glimpses into an icy world beyond what we could see.



During the recap and briefing, Florence explained the changed plans for tomorrow (polar bears!), Tom explained the geology that we could see as we sailed through Øfjord and the rest of Scoresby Sound. Saskia gave a marvelous presentation about our furry Muskox friends we had seen the past few days, and Brian introduced us to the world of tracking.

Before and after dinner, we enjoyed the fantastic views of Øfjord and the magical atmosphere the setting sun gave this special place. As we neared the mouth of Øfjord and turned out past the Bear Islands, the Northern Lights made yet another appearance!

A wonderful day with the best weather. Brash ice, moving around, two big groups of kayakers paddling immersed in a fantastic scenario.

## **Kayaking**

Today's kayakers had a fantastic day, with perfect weather for kayaking. Plenty of brash ice was on display, with lots of movement on the water! Two groups of kayakers were able to paddle up to the glacier front, getting a glimpse, from a safe distance, of the incredible scale of the ice in these regions.

Kayaking in the Arctic is truly an unforgettable experience!





# Day 6: 16<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

## Vikingebugt and Helgenæs

GPS position at 1200: 70° 21.9' N - 25° 03.3' W

Wind: SE-2   Sea State: Rippled   Weather: Clear   Air Temp: 1°C   Sea Temp: 1°C



What a day it has been! We woke up to the sunrise at Vikingebugt, a stunning bay in Greenland known for its rugged beauty, complete with a very active glacier that stretched impressively at the head of the fjord. As we enjoyed the morning, we spotted a polar bear

casually strolling along the beach, heading up the hill away from the majestic glacier front. The expedition team identified her as a female, and we gave her plenty of space, taking in the sight of this incredible creature from a safe distance. The call went out, and very quickly, even before breakfast, the deck and bridge were full of early risers keen to get a view of the polar bear!

Our luck held, and before long, we spotted another two polar bears, one emerging from the water at the shoreline and another further up on the mountainside. It was fantastic to see these giants of the Arctic in their natural habitat, waiting for the return of the sea ice.



After the bears disappeared from view, we enjoyed a hearty breakfast before heading out to explore the frozen sea by Zodiac. The



glacier's towering face was even more impressive up close, and the sea ice came alive with the sounds of popping as it shifted beneath us. We were fortunate enough to witness two icebergs rolling in the water, a reminder of nature's raw power in the brilliant morning sun.

Once we navigated out of the ice, we crossed the fjord to marvel at the basaltic columns that lined the shore. These formations are a testament to Greenland's ancient volcanic history, with their striking geometric shapes and rich geological significance. The basalt here was formed around 55 to 58 million years ago, adding to the dramatic landscape of Vikingebugt. The entire fjord was packed with icebergs, brash ice, growlers, and bergy bits. Some larger icebergs had drifted further out to sea, creating an impressive landscape of jumbled ice and water.

On our way back, we had another thrilling encounter: watching another polar bear navigate the cliffs with surprising agility. Polar bears are classified as marine mammals due to their excellent swimming skills, and seeing them in their natural habitat was a truly unforgettable experience.



After returning to the ship for lunch and a coffee break, we ventured out for an afternoon stroll at a headland called Helgenæs. With the expedition team setting up a perimeter for safety, we had the chance to explore the rocky terrain

of Greenland on our own. Some of us walked along the cliffs, others took in the silence, while a few lucky explorers spotted a Ptarmigan perched on the basalt columns. Even here, on a wild, exposed headland, tundra plants covered much of the landscape, and in several places, small boggy areas were carpeted in moss and small streams.

The day flew by; before we knew it, it was time for a plated dinner onboard. To cap off this extraordinary day, Ko de Korte, our resident biologist and retired Arctic explorer, shared his personal story of spending 13 months in Spitsbergen researching polar bears in 1968-69. His talk captivated guests, who, until this point, had not known that such an esteemed polar figure was in their midst. Hearing about his experiences in such a remote and harsh environment was the perfect end to an already incredible day. What an inspirational and fascinating story.

## Kayaking



Before setting out to kayak, we ventured by Zodiac to see a polar bear moving toward the glacier. After that, we moved away to a safe area to start our operation. We started close to a waterfall, a far distance from the ship and the glacier front. We quickly understood that the scale of this Fjord was much bigger than we thought.

It was a beautiful area, with high-rising cliffs dusted with snow and covered in tundra colors. The place was full of growlers and icebergs. We spent the first 15 minutes paddling around the safety Zodiac, and after that, we went through the ice to the waterfall. The freshwater came from the top





of the mountains, the view was spectacular, and we enjoyed staying close to the shoreline, listening to the water's noises. Paddling back and forth around the ice that was drifting around us. It was the best way to close the last kayak sessions of the season in one of the most beautiful places in the Scoresby Sund.

## Day 7: 17<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

### Jameson Land (Flakkerhuk) and Ittoqqortoormiit

GPS position at 1200: 70° 25.9' N - 22° 53.1' W

Wind: Var-2   Sea State: Slight   Weather: Overcast   Air Temp: 0°C   Sea Temp: 1°C



The day began with a shift in weather. The wind picked up, and the once-clear sky turned cloudy, casting a more dramatic, Arctic atmosphere over our journey. It felt like the Arctic had shown us its true face, colder and more mysterious than before. Our morning

destination was Flakkerhuk, and despite the conditions, excitement buzzed through the group.

For the most courageous among us, the challenge was a long hike along the coast of Flakkerhuk, stretching to the southern tip of Jameson Land. The landscape was unlike anything we had seen so far—much flatter, with expansive beaches that seemed to stretch on forever. It starkly contrasted to the steep cliffs and jagged icebergs of the past days, but no less captivating, with great sightings of Arctic hares, foxes, and musk oxen. The wide, open spaces gave a sense of isolation, a reminder of the vastness of Greenland's wilderness. On the opposite side of the fjord, the mountains of Volquart Boon Kyst loomed up, icy, snow-laden, and capped by cloud and swirling mists. It was a fantastic contrast to the landscape we were traversing, with a low river valley set behind a steep bank leading up from the beach.

Along the way, we spotted many musk ox skulls and the evidence of hunting both by the local Inuit and the local fauna. This was a stark environment, yet many areas were full of beauty. Along the beach, rocks, stones, and pebbles of every color were laid out, washed smooth by the water, while swathes of cottongrass and tundra plants added bursts of color against the drab sky. Ko de

Korte had spent several seasons in this area, studying skuas. He explained his time here to several of us as we walked, describing how the local Inuit aided him in his isolation.



Unfortunately, the weather forced us to cancel the shorter hike planned around the lagoon, where the long hikers had planned to meet up with the ship, and a shore walk was planned. We had also hoped to spot some wildlife. Instead, those of us who remained onboard were treated to a fascinating morning of lectures. Regis talked about his fieldwork in Greenland National Park, sharing stories and research from one of Earth's most remote and untouched ecosystems. Meanwhile, Rao gave a detailed lecture on sea ice,

explaining its crucial role in the Arctic environment and how it influences global climate patterns. The talks offered a deeper understanding of the incredible landscapes we traveled through, filling the time with knowledge as the wind howled outside. Our thoughts went out to the long hikers, who, we thought, would be blown back to the ship!

In the afternoon, we arrived in Ittoqqortoormiit, the main town in Scoresby Sund. As we neared the settlement, the first snow of the trip began to fall, a delicate but unmistakable sign that summer had ended and the Arctic winter was approaching. Ittoqqortoormiit, with its brightly painted homes nestled against the stark, rocky landscape, seemed both vibrant and isolated in this remote corner of Greenland. Home to around 350 people, Ittoqqortoormiit is one of the most remote settlements on Earth, where hunting and fishing are central to daily life. It's also one of the few places where polar bear and musk ox hunting is still practiced, continuing a way of life that has persisted for generations.

Walking through the town snowflakes gently swirling around us, we felt the quiet transition of seasons. The town was founded in 1925 by Danish explorers and Inuit settlers, and today, it stands as a testament to the resilience and adaptability required to live in the Arctic. The light snow added a magical touch to the visit, emphasizing the isolation and beauty of this far-flung outpost. Some of us visited the church, where we learned more about the settlement's history, and tried musk ox. Out in the bay, a small sailing ship was anchored, creating a great contrast between the robust and magnificent *Ortelius* and a glimpse of the past in such a remote place.

After our visit, we returned to the ship, stretching our legs before departing Greenland and setting sail for Iceland, our final destination. As the ship pulled away, the snow continued to fall softly, a reminder of the Arctic's relentless grip. Though we were leaving, the experience of walking through Greenland's wild landscapes, encountering its wildlife, and visiting its remote communities would stay with us long after the journey ended. Despite the cold weather that night, many of us remained on deck for a final glimpse of Greenland, watching as Kap Brewster faded into the mist, snow, and fog, and the last of the icebergs merged into whiteness.



## Day 8: 18<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

### Sea day at Denmark Strait

GPS position at 1200: 67° 08.8' N - 18° 41.2' W

Wind: NNE-7   Sea State: Slight   Weather: Overcast   Air Temp: 3°C   Sea Temp: 4°C

Overnight, *Ortelius* had made good progress in the open waters of the Denmark Strait, the body of water that separates East Greenland from Iceland. A moderate wind coming from North-Northeast was gently accompany us towards our journey back to Akureyri in Northern Iceland. Fortunately swell and waves were not so terrible and the gentle rolling of the night carried on during the morning whilst the bearing pointed south.

A lazy morning without operations brought few of us to the restaurant for breakfast, followed by Martin's lecture about Barnacle Geese, amongst the species of bird we had seen in Scoresby Sund during our voyage. This was fascinating, as it showed the process of ringing birds, and also how migratory patterns are changing over time. Around mid morning a Humpback whale was sighted swimming in the opposite direction of the ship only less than a hundred meters away.

Lunch was served with much more excitement than breakfast and soon we found the ship's bow located in front of Kolbeinsey rock. A basalt landform, devoid of vegetation, Kolbeinsey is located on the mid-Atlantic ridge and is subject to rapid wave erosion and is expected to disappear in the near future. Erosion rate data from 1994 suggested that this would happen around mid century. Captain Per skillfully maneuvered the ship to bring us as close as possible to this special geomorphological feature of the Denmark Strait.



We carried on south, enjoying Charlotte's lecture about whales, particularly humpback whales, their behavior, migration patterns and main features. After the lecture on the port side the island of Grimsey appeared in the mist. The island is famous for its puffin colony and because the Arctic Circle runs through the island, which attracts many visitors, as it is the only accessible location in Iceland that far north. However, due to long-term oscillations in the Earth's axis, the Arctic Circle is shifting northward by about 15 meters per year. As of 2020, the place where the line crosses the island is close to the northern tip and by the middle of the 21st century it will pass north of Grimsey altogether.

Eventually it was time for Captain's farewell cocktail. All the excitement and magnificent sightings of the trip were well displayed by Gabi's slideshow to increase even further our incredible waters in the longest and deepest of the fjord system of the planet. Meanwhile the ship had slowly reached the protected waters of Eyjafljörður and dinner was served in the restaurant, buzzing with the sounds of new friendships, the sharing of memories, and the excitement of the past week. We also thanked the entire galley and hotel team, who were applauded as they made their way through the dining room. Soon, it was time to meet once again in the bar for sharing one last glass (or several more). But, before the night was up, the Northern Lights gave us one final display as we cruised into the fjord towards Akureyri. What a fantastic end to a fantastic week!

## Day 9: 19<sup>th</sup> of September 2024

### Akureyri, Iceland - Disembarkation

**GPS position at 08:00: 66° 01.9' N - 18° 20.6' W**

**Wind: N5    Sea State: Calm    Weather: Overcast    Air Temp: 5°C    Sea Temp: 7°C**

After a quiet night at anchor and feeling blessed for another chance to witness some spectacular Northern lights dimmed by the full moon of last night; MV *Ortelius* heaved to and sailed into the port of Akureyri.

The time to say goodbye had come, but the memories we have made will live with us forever. We were asked to put our luggage outside our cabins at 0730, ready for the staff and crew to take down the gangway, while we enjoyed our last breakfast on board. After saying goodbye to the dining room crew, we walked down the gangway onto the pier. Then it was time to say farewell to the expedition team before we boarded the buses and left for our onward travel.

Thank you all for such a memorable voyage, for your company, good humour and enthusiasm. We hope to see you again in the future, wherever that might be!





**On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Per Andersson, Expedition Leader Florence Kuijper, Hotel Manager Oleksandr Lyebiedyev and all the crew and expedition staff, it has been a pleasure travelling with you! We look forward to seeing you again on one of our ships for another adventure.**

# Akureyri – East Greenland – Scoresby Sund

## Aurora Borealis

**M/V Ortelius 11/09/24 - 19/09/24**

- **1:** 11/09 **Akureyri** (Iceland) \*Embarkation
- **2:** 12/09 **Denmark Strait**- At sea
- **3:** 13/09 **Milneland** (Scoresby Sund, Greenland )
- \* Landing \*Long Hike \*Kayaking
- **4:** 13/09 **Taseertit** (Bear islands) \*Landing  
\*Kayaking
- **5:** 14/09 **Rødefjord** \*Zodiac Cruise \*Kayaking \*  
\*Long Hike
- **6:** 14/09 **Rypefjord**- \*Landing \*Kayaking
- **07:** 15/09 **Harefjord** \*Landing\*Kayaking
- **08:** 15/09 **Øfjord** \*Ship Cruise
- **09:** 16/09 **Vikingebugt** \*Zodiac Cruise \*Kayaking
- **10:** 16/09 **Helgenaes** \*Landing
- **11:** 17/09 **Flakkerhuk** \*Long Hike
- **12:** 17/09 **Ittoqqortormiit** \*Hike \*Landing
- **13:** 18/09 **Denmark Strait** \*At Sea
- **14:** 19/09 **Akureyri** \*Disembarkation





- **1:** 11/09 **Akureyri** (Iceland) \*Embarkation
- **2:** 12/09 **Denmark Strait**- At sea
- **3:** 13/09 **Milneland** (Scoresby Sund, Greenland ) \* Landing \*Long Hike \*Kayaking
- **4:** 13/09 **Taseertit** (Bear islands) \*Landing \*Kayaking
- **5:** 14/09 **Rodefjord** \*Zodiac Cruise \*Kayaking \*Long Hike
- **6:** 14/09 **Rypefjord**- \*Landing \*Kayaking
- **07:** 15/09 **Harefjord** \*Landing\*Kayaking
- **08:** 15/09 **Ofjord** \*Ship Cruise
- **09:** 16/09 **Vikingebugt** \*Zodiac Cruise \*Kayaking
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- **13:** 18/09 **Denmark Strait** \*At Sea
- **14:** 19/09 **Akureyri** \*Disembarkation



Species list: Birds and Mammals of Svalbard and Franz Josph Land				
English Name	Scientific	German	French	Dutch
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Eistaucher	Plongeon imbrin	Ijsduiker
Red-throated diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Sterntaucher	Plongeon catmarin	Roodkeel duiker
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Eissturmvogel	Fulmar boréal	Noordse stormvogel
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	Weisswangengans	Bernache nonnette	Brandgans
Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla</i>	Ringelgans	Bernache cravant	Rotgans
White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	Blässgans	Oie rieuse	Kolgans
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Kurzschnabelgans	Oie à bec court	Kleine rietgans
Greylag Goose	<i>Anser anser</i>	Graugans	Oie cendrée	Grauwe gans
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Eiderente	Eider à duvet	Eider eend
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	Prachteiderente	Eider à tête grise	Konings eider
Gyrfalcon	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>	Gerfalke	Faucon gerfaut	Giervalk
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Eisente	Harelde de Miquelon	Ilseend
Rock Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus hyperboreus</i>	Alpensneehuhn	Lagopède alpin	Sneeuw hoen
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Sandregenpfeifer	Pluvier Grand-gravelot	Bontbek plevier
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Sanderling	Bécasseau sanderling	Drieteen strandloper
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Meerstrandläufer	Bécasseau violet	Paarse strandloper
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Knutt	Bécasseau maubèche	Kanoetstrandloper
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Alpenstrandläufer	Bécasseau variable	Bonte strandloper
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Steinwälder	Tournepierre à collier	Steenloper
Grey Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	Thorshühnchen	Phalarope à bec large	Rosse franjepoot
Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	Spatelraubmöwe	Labbe pomarin	Middelste jager
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Schmarotzerraub-möwe	Labbe parasite	Kleine jager
Long-tailed Skua	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	Falkenraubmöwe	Labbe à longue queue	Kleinste jager
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	Skua	Grande Labbe	Grote jager
Sabine's Gull	<i>Xema sabini</i>	Schwalbenmöwe	Mouette de Sabine	Vorkstaart meeuw
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Eismöwe	Goéland bourgmestre	Grote Burgemeester
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	Sturmmöwe	Goéland cendré	Stormmeeuw
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Silbermöwe	Goéland argenté	Zilvermeeuw
Lesser black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Heringsmöwe	Goéland brun	Kleine mantelmeeuw
Great black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Mantelmöwe	Goéland marin	Grote mantelmeeuw
Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Dreizehenmöwe	Mouette tridactyle	Drieteenmeeuw
Ross' Gull	<i>Rhodostethia rosea</i>	Rosenmöwe	Mouette de Ross	Rossmeeuw
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	Elfenbeinmöwe	Mouette blanche	Ivoor meeuw



Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Küstenseeschwalbe	Sterne arctique	Noordse stern
Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>	Trottellumme	Guillemot marmette	Zeekoet
Brunnich's Guillemot	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Dickschnabellumme	Guillemot de Brunnich	Dikbekzeekoet
Black Guillemot	<i>Cepphus grylle</i>	Gryllteiste	Guillemot à miroir	Zwarte zeekoet
Little Auk	<i>Alle alle</i>	Krabbentaucher	Mergule nain	Kleine alk
Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Papageitaucher	Macareux moine	Papegaai duiker
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Schneeammer	Plectrophane des neiges	Sneeuwgor
Common Redpoll	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>	Birkenzeisig	Sizerin flammé	Barmsijs
Arctic Redpoll	<i>Carduelis hornemanni</i>	Polarbirkenzeisig	Sizerin blanchâtre	Witstuitbarmsijs
Raven	<i>Covus corax</i>	Kolkrabe	Grand Corbeau	Raaf
Northern wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Steinschmätzer	Traquet motteux	Tapuit
English	Scientific	German	French	Dutch
Walrus	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>	Walross	Morse	Walrus
Bearded seal	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>	Bartrobbe	Phoque barbu	Baardrob
Ringed seal	<i>Phoca hispida</i>	Ringelrobbe	Phoque marbré	Ringelrob
Harp seal	<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>	Sattelrobbe	Phoque du Groenland	Zadelrob
Hooded seal	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>	Klappmütze	Phoque à capuchon	Klapmuts
Common /Harbour seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Seehund	Phoque commun	Gewone zeehond
Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Zwergwal	Petit rorqual	Dwergvinvis
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Seiwal	Rorqual boréal	Noordse vinvis
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Blauwal	Baleine bleue	Blauwe vinvis
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Finnwal	Rorqual commun	Gewone vinvis
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Buckelwal	Baleine à bosse	Bultrug
Bowhead whale	<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>	Grönlandwal	Baleine du Groenland	Groenlandse walvis
Sperm Whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	Pottwal	Cachelot	Potvis
Narwhal	<i>Monodon monoceros</i>	Narwal	Narval	Narwal
Northern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	Entenwal (Dögling)	Hyperoden arctique	Butskop
Orca (Killer Whale)	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	Schwertwal (Orca)	Orque	Zwaardwalvis
White-beaked Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	Weisschnauzendelphin	Lagenorhynque	Witsnuitdolfijn
Beluga	<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>	Weisswal	Marsouin ou Dauphin blanc	Beloega
Polar Bear	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	Eisbär	Ours blanc	Ijsbeer
Arctic Fox	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>	Polarfuchs	Renard arctique	Poolvos
Spitsbergen Reindeer	<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus</i>	Svalbard Renntier	Renne du Spitzberg	Rendier
Sibling vole	<i>Microtus rossiaemeridionalis</i>	Südfeldmaus	Campagnol des champs	Oostelijke veldmuis
Short tailed Vole	<i>Microtus agrestis</i>	Erdmaus	Campagnol agreste	Aardmuis

English Name	Chinese	Scientific Name	11 sept	12 sept	13 sept	14 sept	15 sept	16 sept	17 sept	18 sept	19 sept
Great Northern Diver	北方大潜鸟	<i>Gavia immer</i>									
Red-throated diver	紅喉潜鸟	<i>Gavia stellata</i>									
Northern Fulmar	暴雪鵰	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>		X						X	X
Northern Gannet	北方鰲鸟	<i>Morus bassanus</i>							X		X
Barnacle Goose	白颊黑雁	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>									
Brent Goose	黑雁	<i>Branta bernicla</i>									
Pink-footed Goose	粉脚雁	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>									
Common Eider	欧绒鸭	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	X			X					
King Eider	王绒鸭	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>									
Long-tailed Duck	长尾鸭	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>									
Rock Ptarmigan	岩雷鸟	<i>Lagopus mutus hyperboreus</i>			X			X	X		
European Golden Plover	欧金鸻	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>									
Red Knot	红腹滨鹬	<i>Calidris canutus</i>									
Sanderling	三趾鹬	<i>Calidris alba</i>									
Purple Sandpiper	紫滨鹬	<i>Calidris maritima</i>									
Dunlin	黑腹滨鹬	<i>Calidris alpina</i>							X		
Whimbrel	中杓鹬	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>									
Ruddy Turnstone	翻石鹬	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>							X		
Grey Phalarope	瓣蹼鹬	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>									
Pomarine Skua	中贼鸥	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>		X						X	
Arctic Skua	短尾贼鸥	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	X								
Long-tailed Skua	长尾贼鸥	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>									
Great Skua	北贼鸥	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>									
Sabine's Gull	叉尾鸥	<i>Xema sabini</i>									
Glaucous Gull	北极鸥	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Lesser black-backed Gull	小黑背鸥	<i>Larus fuscus</i>									
Great black-backed Gull	大黑背鸥	<i>Larus marinus</i>									
Black-legged Kittiwake	三趾鸥	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>		X					X	X	X
Ross' Gull	羅斯鸥	<i>Rhodostethia rosea</i>									
Ivory Gull	象牙鸥	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>									
Arctic Tern	北极燕鸥	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>									
Common Guillemot	崖海鸦	<i>Uria aalge</i>	X	X							
Brunnich's Guillemot	厚嘴海鸦	<i>Uria lomvia</i>		X		X				X	



Razorbill	刀嘴海雀	<i>Alca torda</i>									
Black Guillemot	黑海鸠	<i>Cepphus grylle</i>									
Little Auk	侏海雀	<i>Alle alle</i>									
Atlantic Puffin	大西洋海鸮	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>		X							
Snow Bunting	雪鹀	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>			X	X	X				
Ringed Plover	环颈鸻	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>							X		
Raven	乌鸦	<i>Corvus corax</i>	X			X	X	X	X	X	
Red Poll	普通朱顶雀	<i>Acanthis flammea</i>				X	X				
Northern Wheatear	穗鹀	<i>Northern wheatear</i>				X	X				
Artice redpoll					X		X			X	
English	Chinese	Latin									
Walrus	海象	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>									
Bearded seal	髯海豹	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>									
Ringed seal	环斑海豹	<i>Phoca hispida</i>			X						
Harp seal	竖琴海豹	<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>			X		X				
Hooded seal	冠海豹	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>									
Common /Harbour seal	港海豹	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>				X					
Minke Whale	小须鲸	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>									
Sei Whale	塞鲸	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>									
Blue Whale	蓝鲸	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>									
Fin Whale	长须鲸	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>									
Humpback Whale	座头鲸	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>								X	
Bowhead whale	弓头鲸	<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>									
Sperm Whale	抹香鲸	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>									
Narwhal	独角鲸	<i>Monodon monoceros</i>									
Northern Bottlenose Whale	瓶鼻鲸	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>									
Orca (Killer Whale)	虎鲸	<i>Orcinus orca</i>									
White-beaked Dolphin	白喙斑纹海豚	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>									
Beluga	白鲸	<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>									
Polar Bear	北极熊	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>						4x			
Arctic Fox	北极狐	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>			X				X		

Spitsbergen Reindeer	斯匹次卑尔根驯鹿	<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus</i>									
Musk Ox	麝香牛	<i>Ovibos moschatus</i>			X	X	X				
Arctic Hare	北极兔	<i>Lepus arcticus</i>			X				X	X	



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# Florence Kuyper – Expedition Leader

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Florence is a cosmopolitan with a passion for the polar regions, remote nature, deserts, history and nomadic people around the globe. After receiving her Masters degree in Educational and Organisational Psychology in the Netherlands, Florence had a European career as a consultant-manager in the field of social affairs.

In 2004 she went for the first time to the big white desert 'Antarctica' and her passion for this continent has drawn her back 'South' ever since.

But Florence can also do extreme heat: she crossed 1,200 km of harsh Mongolian desert on foot, together with a team and her Bactrian camel. Florence lived on a British historical base on the Antarctic Peninsula "Port Lockroy" where she worked as Base Leader. She also works on sailing yachts in the Arctic and Antarctica. Florence has worked as a guide and expedition leader in both polar regions since 2012 and she looks forward to sharing her knowledge and unlimited passion for the polar regions with you.

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# Beth Hitchcock – Expedition Guide

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

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

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

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



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## 杰瑞·赵—探险领队

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杰瑞对自然与野生动物的热爱以及对旅行的热衷，让他从美国费城德雷塞尔大学获得工商管理学位之后不久，便催促他开启了作为一名旅行向导的职业生涯。最初，他作为一名国际旅行顾问和领队，在欧洲领导一家小型、私人定制的豪华旅行团。

随着时间的推移，杰瑞成为了一家国际旅行咨询公司的合伙人，专注于规划旅行路线和培训员工。

一场令人心潮澎湃的环球旅行，为杰瑞的生活开启了新的篇章。在环游世界的旅程中，杰瑞掌握了探险的技能和知识。最终，他的脚步停留在了极地，加入了泛海探险队，担任起了探险向导的角色，引领着多次前往北极、斯瓦尔巴群岛、格陵兰岛、南极半岛、南乔治亚岛等地的探险活动。

随着时间的积累，杰瑞在极地的时间越来越多，对极地的了解也越来越深入，他对极地的兴趣也日益浓厚。杰瑞自学了极地地理、历史和野生动物的相关知识，并掌握了野生动物摄影的技巧。当杰瑞不身处极地时，他喜欢在中国西北地区的森林、沙漠和平原中度过时光。杰瑞对自然、野生动物的热爱无休无止，并且乐于与遇到的每一个人分享他在旅途中积累的宝贵知识。

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# Xinpeng Rao - Expedition Guide

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Rao was born in Harbin China, the city full of snow and ice. This is still the reason he gives to others that he is really afraid of hot, he is a true northern man.

His hometown made him full of love in ice and ocean. After he retired from CAPF army and finished college in 2011, he works as an international tour leader in Travel agency for 6 years, during that time, he first went to Europe for western history, then Africa for wildlife.

After his first time in Antarctica, he actually found that most of the information written in Chinese such as Baidu in some common sense about Polar region were totally wrong. Then he decided to make some change.

Now 5 years since that first tour leader trip, during this time he tried to learn anything he could. He has some friends also working in polar region as a staff or a translator. They together making Science popularization in China.

Rao always encourage people to learn from the place they have been. Now the world changing so fast, every modern city looks like same. Original culture and wild environment were taken place by “modern”. That is also the reason why now the wildlife tour is more and more popular in tourism industry.



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## 夏洛特·塔普林——探险领队

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夏洛特在英国康沃尔郡的海岸长大。

从很小的时候起，她就一直对野生动物和海洋着迷。她在大学学习野生动物保护，然后在接下来的十年里游历了南美洲、澳大利亚和非洲。



小须鲸和抹

在乘坐  
比克，在那  
，研究莫桑  
游艇和破冰

她对船只的热爱始于 2013 年，当时她在游轮上工作，前往大堡礁的偏远地区。她后来在澳大利亚和新西兰研究座头鲸，她对海洋生物学的兴趣与日俱增。

在离开游轮后，她于 2018 年搬到了莫桑比克，在那里她担任海洋生物学家。夏洛特在业余时间担任研究员，并于 2020 年至 2022 年期间，她在超级游艇上工作。她的爱好包括水肺潜水、冲浪、自由潜水和徒步旅行。被大海包围的感觉，是让夏洛特最向往的，因此，自 2022 年起，夏洛在泛海探险开启了她人生的新旅程。

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# Gabi Kolodko - Expedition Guide

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Having been exposed to the pristine wilderness of Alaska, Canada, and Lapland before turning ten, she developed a deep-rooted passion for cold climates and the great outdoors. She has dedicated every summer to sailing, a journey highlighted in 2012 when Gabi crossed the Baltic Sea from Poland to Scandinavia and back aboard the Zawisza Czarny, a historic 42-meter vessel originally built in 1952.

Her draw towards art, culture and history has led her to explore and focus on the rich tapestry of Antarctica's past and present. From archaeological

excavations, the secrets of early explorations, up to modern conquests and continent's preservation.

Gabi's enthusiasm for the cold extends beyond mere travel; she is a dedicated practitioner of the Wim Hof method, engaging in ice baths, walrusing, and cryotherapy throughout the year. A significant encounter in 1993 with a herd of Musk Oxen at Herschel Island off the Canadian Arctic coast solidified her fondness for this majestic Arctic animal. In Antarctica, the jury is still out (but Emperor chicks are top on the list).

As an alumnus of the Nature Outdoors Leadership School, she is a certified Wilderness First Responder and an esteemed member of the Polar Tourism Guide Association.

Her journey, marked by a profound connection to the Arctic wilderness and a lifelong pursuit of adventure, positions her as a passionate advocate for the natural world and its preservation. Through this lens, she aims to share the beauty and challenges of the polar regions with others, fostering a deeper appreciation for these extraordinary landscapes.



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# Marco Rosso – Expedition Guide

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

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

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

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

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# Martin Anstee – Expedition Guide

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

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

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

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

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

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



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# Saskia van der Meij – Expedition guide

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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# Brian Veltrop – Expedition Guide

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This is Brian. He is 30 years young and lives in Heerlen, the Netherlands.

Brian is a true nature enthusiast. In his daily life he can be found regularly in the nature and loves everything that comes with it. Think of hiking and survival in nature. But also being able to identify the flora & fauna.

In 2022, Brian completed the Hike & Survival Instructor, Hike & Backpacking Guide and Canadian Woods Travel and Survival Instructor LVL1. For this he has been in Canada, France and the Netherlands and has been examined here in Map, Compass, GPS, Route Selection, Pathfinding, Canoeing, Hiking,

Backpacking, Snow Shoe Hiking, Wilderness Camping, Food Care and Preparation, Equipment Care and Handling, Survival Skills, Bushcrafting, Wilderness First Aid, Wildlife Tracking, Flora and Fauna Species Identification, Group Management, Leadership and Instructions

In addition, he is trained in winter conditions and has completed the Winter Travel & Survival Level 2 training in France and followed the training of Bico, Baby It's Cold Outside and Mountain 101 (University of Alberta, Canada) In addition to his rounded studies and training now he is also busy with his training for CSWI LVL 2, outdoor sports instructor and Nature & Wildlife Guide LVL 1.

Brian is a member of the Wilderness Guide Association and Interpretive Guide Association. In addition to Oceanwide Expeditions, Brian works at two Dutch companies as an instructor and wilderness guide, who offer Wilderness trips to Scandinavian countries, France, Poland, Canada and Spain.

Beside of his work in the outdoor, Brian works as a self-employed person in healthcare. He now has 11 years of experience in this.

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# Tom van Hoof – Expedition Guide

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Tom fell in love with the Arctic when he was attending a climatology masterclass as student at the University Centre of Svalbard in 2001.

During his PhD research at Utrecht University he organised and carried out several lake coring expeditions in the USA and Scandinavia. During his PhD Tom published a number of key scientific publications on the role of CO<sub>2</sub> on climate change during the past millennium.

After living a year in the desert of Tucson, Arizona (USA), where he was working as a Postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Arizona, Tom returned to the Arctic when he started working for the Dutch Geological Survey in 2005. As a biostratigrapher (fossil-lover) he returned to Spitsbergen for a number of expeditions, collecting rocks and guiding fellow geologists.

Tom's academic background in geology/ paleoclimatology is a broad one, ranging from climate change during the past 1000 years to ecology of coal forming swamp ecosystems 300 million years ago. He loves to be outside especially in the Arctic wilderness. In 2018 Tom left the Dutch Geological Survey and started his own geological consultancy business.



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# Regis Perdriat – Expedition Guide

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Regis has always been passionate about nature and wildlife conservation.

After a master's degree in Ecology, he first specialized in seabird rehabilitation after oil spills for BirdLife France. Then he joined the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust, studying endangered species.

In Brittany he worked seven years for the Sept-Iles National Nature Reserve, driving zodiac, counting seabirds and seals in this wild and protected archipelago.

His polar experiences go as far back as 2007, when he spent 15 months working as a field researcher studying the seabirds and marine mammals of the remote Kerguelen Islands, a French subantarctic territory.

In love with those isolated environments he carried out several fieldwork missions in subantarctic islands. He finally joined the management team of French Southern and Antarctic Lands and became Head of the Southern Lands National Nature Reserve.

He now proposes his experience as a freelance biologist for scientific expeditions and share his passion for birds as often as he can. His last expeditions took him to North-East Greenland, Central Asia or Antarctic Peninsula.

Looking for him? Try outside, you should find him and his binoculars searching for birds or whales.

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# Alexis Bellezze – Kayak Guide

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Alexis Bellezze was born in San Luis, Argentina in 1973. He spent his childhood in the center of the country, in a rural area, then moved to the city of Mendoza close to the Central Andes and studied in the Army High School where he fell in love with the mountains and the outdoors. Then moved to Cordoba where he spent 3 years in the Air Force Academy. After that he moved to Italy where he worked and finished a paragliding course, then returned to Argentina to finish his studies as a Veterinarian. In 2006, he did a Residency in the ICU Service of the Large Animal Hospital of the Royal

“Dick” Veterinary College in Edinburgh, Scotland. In 2006 and 2008 he did an internship as a veterinarian surgeon at Milano, Italy. Then he moved to Villa La Angostura, an isolated village in the middle of the Patagonian Lake District where he works as a veterinarian surgeon and runs a kayak company in the Nahuel Huapi National Park.

Since 2018 he has been working as a Polar Kayak Guide and Expedition Guide. He has guided in the Antarctic Peninsula many times, reaching the Antarctic Polar Circle, Svalbard, circumnavigated Spitzbergen, East coast of Greenland and many rivers and lakes in Patagonia. During the last years he travelled the south and north of Chile and Argentina as a Wilderness First Responder instructor working in different environments like the jungle, the Patagonian mountain range, the windy Patagonian estepa and the desert of Atacama. Since 2014 Alexis is the owner and Director of endurance kayak & mountain expeditions based in Patagonia Argentina, offering multiple days kayak trips in this pristine area.

Alexis is divorced, has 3 children and lives in Patagonia Argentina. He likes to cook for them with fire in the wilderness and go camping when is possible.

He speaks fluently Spanish, Italian and English.

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# Eva-Maria Kifmann – Ships Doctor

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Eva ist in Deutschland aufgewachsen und hat an der Technischen Universität München Medizin studiert. Seit mehr als 20 Jahren arbeitet sie in Krankenhäusern in der Schweiz. Sie wurde zunächst Fachärztin für Innere Medizin und spezialisierte sich später auf die Notfallmedizin.

Zurzeit arbeitet sie als Leitende Ärztin in der Notfallstation des Spitals in Biel/Bienne, einer zweisprachigen Stadt (deutsch und französisch) etwa 40 km nördlich der Hauptstadt Bern, und ist die ärztliche Leiterin des dortigen Notfalldienstes.

Seit ihrer Jugend zieht es sie in den kalten Norden. Faszinierende, zerbrechliche Landschaften und die einzigartige Tierwelt haben es ihr angetan. Im Jahr 2018 konnte sie sich ihren Traum von einer Reise zur Antarktischen Halbinsel erfüllen. Im Laufe der Zeit hat sie sich auch zunehmend für die Geschichte der Polarexpeditionen interessiert.

Als Schiffsärztin ist sie seit 2014 für Oceanwide Expeditions tätig. Wenn es die Ferien erlauben, ist sie an Bord.

Das passt perfekt zu ihrer Leidenschaft für Medizin und die Polarregionen..





## Welcome on Board!

**Date: 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Day 1 - Akureyri**

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

### PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

17:00      MANDATORY ship safety briefing, in the **Lecture Room on Deck 3**. Your attendance will be recorded.

After the briefing the emergency alarm will be sounded. On hearing the alarm, you must return to your cabin to get your life jacket and dress warmly. All guests should then proceed to the **MUSTER STATION** in the **Bar on Deck 6**. Please ensure that you have your room key to present at the muster station as it indicates which lifeboat you are assigned to.

18:00+/-      Please join the Captain and Expedition Team in the **Bar on Deck 6** for a celebratory toast to the forthcoming voyage. This will be followed by briefings from the Hotel Manager and Expedition Leader to orientate you to life on board and explain our plans for the forthcoming days.

19:00      Buffet dinner in the **Restaurant on Deck 4**.

20:30      MANDATORY briefings for traveling in the Arctic regions will start in the **Lecture Room on Deck 3**. Attendance is compulsory for all and will be checked on a list.

***Please note that we will be sailing into open seas this evening. If you are concerned about sea sickness, please take your medication before you feel the movement of the vessel. Also, ensure that all your belongings are put away safely and that doors and drawers in your cabin are tightly closed. Whilst at sea please walk slowly around the ship and keep one hand free to hold on. DO NOT let doors swing freely and keep your fingers out of door frames!***



**Date: 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Day 2 – The Denmark Strait Experience**

07:45 Wake-up call by your Expedition Leader Florence.

08.00-09:00 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

09:30 Your Expedition Leader will introduce her team in the Bar on Deck 6.  
**Mandatory information** regarding Polar Bears will be discussed along with the trip itinerary and staff introductions.

11:00 If you think you may want to attend a **Full Day Hike** or **Kayaking** on this trip, you **MUST** attend this briefing which will be followed by the signing up meeting. This will be in the **Bar on Deck 6**.

12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

15:00 **Introduction to Greenland** Lecture by Marco in the Bar, Deck 6.

16:30 We will start distributing Muck boots from the **Lecture Room on Deck 3**. Please listen for your deck to be called, and bring thick socks so you can try them for size. You will keep the boots until the end of the voyage.

18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the bar for a briefing on tomorrow's activities, and recap on today.

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



**Date: 13<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Day 3 – Exploring Bjørneøer**

06:30 We invite you to the outer decks for **sunrise** at the eastern entrance to **ØFjord**

07:15 Wake-up call by Expedition Leader Florence

07.30-08:30 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4. Those signed up on the **Full Day Hike** must make a packed lunch at a station set up in the dining room.

09:00 **Full Day Hikers** to the gangway for a Landing on the **Northeast tip of Milne Land**

09:30 The main morning landing is at the **Northeast tip of Milne Land**

We will welcome all other guests to the gangway –  
Please Note: Those interested in a brisk walk (Hikers) will be called first.  
After 10 minutes, we will call for anyone prioritising photography and beach exploring (Beach Dwellers).

10:00 **Kayakers** will be welcomed to the gangway.

12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

The main afternoon landing is at **Bjørneøer (Bear Islands)**.

14:45 We welcome you to the gangway in the same fashion as the morning: Hikers first then Beach Dwellers

15:10 **Kayakers** will be welcomed to the gangway.

18:15 Please join the expedition team in the bar for a briefing on tomorrow's activities, and recap on today.

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

**Note for all Kayakers:** Make sure you have checked the kayak information board in the morning! If you decide you don't want to join, update the list before the end of breakfast.  
Kayakers may wish to join the landing site after and if time allows.





**Date: 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Day 4 – Exploring inner Scoresbysund**

06:45 Wake-up call by Expedition Leader Florence

07:00-08:00 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.  
Those signed up on the **Full Day Hike** must make a packed lunch at a station set up in the dining room.

08:00 **Full Day Hikers** to the gangway for a Landing starting at Harefjord and finishing at Rypefjord

09:30+/- Morning Zodiac cruise amongst the ice in **Rødefjord**

09:55 **Kayakers** will be welcomed to the gangway

12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

Afternoon landing at **Rypefjord**

14:45 We will welcome you to the gangway by activity groups –  
Long hikers – Medium hikers – Beach dwellers

15:05 **Kayakers** will be welcomed to the gangway

18:15 Please join the expedition team in the bar for a briefing on tomorrow's activities, and recap on today.

19:00 Dinner

**Note for all Kayakers:** Make sure you have checked the kayak information board in the morning! If you decide you don't want to join, update the list before the end of breakfast.



**Date: 15<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Day 5 – Exploring inner Scoresbysund**

07:15 Wake-up call by Expedition Leader Florence

07.30-08:30 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

Morning Landing at Proppen in **Harefjord**.

09:30 We will welcome you to the gangway by activity groups –  
Medium hikers – slower hikers – Beach dwellers

10:00 **Kayakers** will be welcomed to the gangway

End of morning: Polar Plunge: don't forget your bathing suit, we bring the towels

13:00-14:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

Ships cruise of ØFjord

Time for enjoying the landscape of this spectacular fjord from the outer decks

18:00 Please join the expedition team in the bar for a briefing on tomorrow's activities, and recap on today.

19:00 Dinner is served



**Date: 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Day 6 – Exploring Vikingebugt and the Volquaart Boon Kyst**

07:45 Wake-up call by Expedition Leader Florence

08.00-09:00 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

Morning Zodiac Cruise in **Vikingebugt**

09:30 We will explore the mountains of layered lavas and the sweeping glacier that winds between them, which calves on reaching the sea.

09:50 **Kayakers** will be welcomed to the gangway

12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

Expedition afternoon exploring the picturesque **Volquaart Boon Kyst**

15:00 +/- Please listen for announcements for the afternoon plan

18:15 Please join the expedition team in the bar for a briefing on tomorrow's activities, and recap on today.

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

**Note for all Kayakers:** Make sure you have checked the kayak information board in the morning! If you decide you don't want to join, update the list before the end of breakfast.





**Date: 17<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Day 7 – Striding the forgotten shores of Jameson Land and visiting the local community.**

06:45 Wake-up call by Expedition Leader Florence

07.00-08:00 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4. Those signed up on the **Full Day Hike** must make a packed lunch at a station set up in the dining room.

The morning landing will be on the southern shoreline of Jameson Land at **Flakkerhuk**

08:00 **Full Day Hikers** are welcomed to the gangway

10:00 All other hikers and beach dwellers are welcomed to the gangway.  
Hikers will go first – Beach Dwellers disembark last

12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

16:15 Short afternoon Landing at **Ittoqqortoormiit**

18:30 Please join the expedition team in the bar for a briefing on tomorrow's activities, and recap on today.

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



**Date: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

**Day 9 – The Denmark Strait Experience**

No wake-up call

08.00-09:00 Breakfast buffet in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

Relaxed morning sorting photos, looking out for whales, and enjoying the rolling ocean.

10:30 Morning Lecture, please listen for announcements

12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

15:00 **Whales** Lecture by Charlotte in the Bar

18:00 Captains Cocktails evening in the Bar.

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

20:30 **Slideshow presentation** of our full arctic voyage from 11<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September.



# DAILY PROGRAM

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Day 9: Akureyri – Disembarkation.

Please ensure your luggage is placed outside your cabin at **07:30** when you go to breakfast, so we can move it to the pier.

For those NOT booked on the transfer from Akureyri to Reykjavik, ensure your **BLUE** luggage tag is visible. If possible, don't put tags on the main carrying handles as they get torn.

Hand luggage left in the cabin must be clear of the beds.

- 07:00      Wakeup call.
- 07:30      Breakfast buffet is served in the Restaurant.
- 09:00      General disembarkation for all guests  
Either you have arranged your own plans or have booked on the transfer from Akureyri to Reykjavik.

**IF YOU GET THE TRANSFER TO REYKJAVIK, PLEASE IDENTIFY YOUR LUGGAGE ON THE PIER BEFORE GETTING ON THE BUS.**

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