



Antarctica – Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshop

Ushuaia – Ushuaia

30 November – 10 December 2024

On board *m/v Ortelius*



M/V *Ortelius* was built in 1989 in Gdynia, Poland as a special-purpose research vessel for the Russian Academy of Science. She was originally named “*Marina Svetaeva*” after a well-known Russian poet. The vessel was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions in 2011, re-flagged in The Netherlands, and re-named *Ortelius*. She was extensively re-fitted in 2019 and complies with the latest SOLAS-regulations (Safety Of Life At Sea). M/V *Ortelius* is 90.95 m long, 17.2 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5.4 m. She has ice class UL1 (Equivalent to 1A), 10.5 knots average cruising speed and propulsion is 6 ZL 40/48 SULZER. *Ortelius* is 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. Her home port is Vlissingen.



Captain Per Andersson [Sweden]

and his international crew of 56...

Chief Officer:	Nicolās Dámeto Ordinas	[Spain]
Second Officer:	Ward Dekkers	[Netherlands]
Third Officer:	Archer Cultura	[Philippines]
Chief Engineer:	Floris Oskam	[Netherlands]
Second Engineer:	Jhunwel Yuzon	[Philippines]
Hotel Manager:	Volodymyr Cherednychenko	[Ukraine]
Assistant Hotel Manager:	Karolina Guziejko	[Poland]
Head Chef:	Ivan Yuriychuk	[Ukraine]
Sous Chef:	Sergei Sklyarov	[Ukraine]
Bosun:	Philip Malang	[Philippines]
Bartender:	Glaiza Loterina	[Philippines]
Ship's doctor:	Edwin Van Leeuwen	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Sara Jenner	[United Kingdom]
Assistant Expedition Leader:	Allan White	[Falkland Islands]
Expedition Guide:	Simon Davies	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Andres Garcia	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Koen Jongerling	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Bill Smith	[Scotland]
Expedition Guide:	Jens Binderup	[Denmark]
Expedition Guide:	Joyce Mulder	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Julian Robinson	[United Kingdom]
Dive Leader:	Tanja Bayer	[Germany]
Dive Guide:	Luce Moussiere	[France]
Dive Guide:	Gonzalo Sabbattini	[Argentina]
Dive Guide:	Dimitros Sotirakis	[Greece]
Kayak Leader	Adam Harmer	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide / Translator:	Yu Kan Cheng	[China]
Expedition Guide / Translator:	Shan Zhou	[China]

WE WELCOME YOU ON BOARD!

Day 1 – Saturday 30 November, Ushuaia, embarkation day.

08:00 GPS Position: 54°48.6'S / 068°17.8'W

Wind: W force 3-5 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Cloudy • Air temperature: +7.5°C

The day had finally come! It was time to board the good ship *Ortelius* for our Antarctic expedition! It was a windy day in Ushuaia with some spells of rain. However, the surrounding scenery of snow-encrusted mountains was spectacular (when you could see it!). The crew and expedition team had loaded our luggage onboard and delivered it to our cabins earlier in the day. All that remained was for us to take a few photos of *Ortelius*, our home for the next ten days, before heading up the gangway.



We were warmly welcomed by the crew and expedition team who assisted us in finding our cabins. We had some time to explore the ship, get our bearings and

grab a coffee in the bar. Everyone was on board by 16:45. Then it was time to gather in the lecture room for the mandatory ship safety briefing. Once complete, we could sail, and we wanted to get going as soon as possible. We met Expedition Leader Sara Jenner, and heard from the Safety Officer, who gave a practical demonstration on how to put on our emergency life jackets. Next it was time for an abandon ship drill. We went to our cabins and upon hearing the general alarm, got our lifejackets, and went to our muster station in the bar. From there we were guided to our lifeboats, so we knew where to go in case of a real emergency.

As we made our way out to the lifeboats, Captain Per pulled *Ortelius* away from the dock and got us under way. A wave of excitement ran through the ship as everyone realized that our long-awaited and much-anticipated voyage had finally begun. With the drill completed, many of us lingered on the outer decks to enjoy the glorious scenery of the Beagle Channel as *Ortelius* was brought up to full speed. Captain Per invited us to join him in the bar for champagne and canapés, to raise a glass and toast the voyage ahead. This was followed by an introduction to shipboard services by Hotel Manager Volodymyr, and an overview of our expedition by our illustrious leader Sara. Before this concluded we met the expedition team.



With briefing formalities concluded, it was time for our first evening meal, with a delicious buffet selection prepared by Head Chef Ivan and his galley team, served by the ever-friendly dining room staff. After dinner we were called back to the bar so that two more mandatory briefings could be delivered. Because 100% attendance is required, these briefings were performed while *Ortelius* was still in the sheltered waters of the Beagle Channel. Expedition Leader Sara first briefed us on the Antarctic Visitor Guidelines, as laid down by IAATO – the International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators – of which Oceanwide is a founding member. She also gave us the Zodiac Safety Briefing.



After a long and exciting day, it was time for bed and some well-earned rest, but we still had some daylight left so many of us went onto the outside decks to enjoy more of the Beagle Channel as we were escorted along by black-browed albatrosses and squadrons of Imperial cormorants. What would tomorrow bring? As the sun dipped below the horizon, the first bit of “ocean motion” was felt. It was very gentle, but it reminded everyone that we were leaving the sheltered waters of

the Beagle Channel and heading out into the mighty Southern Ocean. The infamous Drake Passage lay ahead. We hoped (some prayed) that it would be kind.

Day 2 – Sunday 01 December, At sea, Drake Passage.

08:00 GPS Position: 56°27.2'S / 065°39.7'W

Wind: NW force 6 • Sea: Rough • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +4.7°C

A soft announcement wakes us up. The ship, battered by 4-meter waves, sways relentlessly. The hallways are quiet, except for the occasional passenger battling seasickness. Breakfast buffet is ready at the restaurant on Deck 4, despite the conditions, the crew ensures everything is impeccable. Some guests opt for ginger tea, while others barely touch their food, overwhelmed by the constant movement.

The sound of waves crashes against the doors as we descend to the lecture room (Deck 3) a.k.a “The Church” to collect our muck boots, an assistant helps us pick the right size, and remind us to wear thick socks, the divers head to the bar for their own Mandatory



Dive Briefing and nervous but excited laughter fills the room as it all now, becomes more real.

At the bar on Deck 6, Simon delivers his presentation about the seabirds of the Drake Passage, his insights on petrels and albatrosses captivate the audience, momentarily distracting them from the ship's constant motion, at one stage he was at one with the sea, just having to mention light-mantled albatrosses and one appeared at the window! The lunch buffet on Deck 4 is more crowded now people are finding their sea-legs, the aroma of hot stew and fresh salads entices even those who struggled with seasickness earlier in the day.



After lunch, kayakers meet Adam at the bar for the Mandatory Kayaking Briefing, their enthusiasm is palpable despite the ship's rocking. Second Officer, Ward Dekkers offers a presentation about bridge operations and navigation, his passion for his work is evident, and he answers questions about how the crew handles these infamous waters.

During the daily recap with the expedition team, Sara shares the first observations of the trip, whilst Koen and Bill give amazing recaps to close the event, celebrating Antarctica Day and the unique treaty that was signed by many nations to protect this incredible location. Dinner is served in the dining room; carefully prepared dishes help guests forget the waves for a while.

Walking slowly on the ship is a lesson no one forgets quickly, "one hand for yourself, one for the ship" becomes the day's mantra. The sound of slamming doors and the water pounding against the hull serves as a constant reminder of the forces of nature surrounding us. Despite the seasickness, the spirit of discovery prevails. The Drake Passage is just the beginning of the Antarctic adventure!



Day 3 – Monday 02 December, At sea, Drake Passage.

08:00 GPS Position: 60°45.1'S / 063°59.2'W

Wind: NW force 4 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 0°C

The sea was still a bit rough when we woke up, but by wake-up call, the waves had calmed, offering a much smoother ride. Sara greeted us with the exciting news that the first fin whale had been spotted. The breakfast room was livelier than the day before, with more guests up early, ready to witness the magic of the ocean as the seas began to settle.

While we sipped our coffee and nibbled on breakfast, an announcement rang out from the bridge: humpback whales had been sighted nearby! The news spread like wildfire, and within moments, the bridge was crowded with eager passengers, all gazing out toward these magnificent gentle giants. As the whales swam away from us, Julian invited us to his lecture about the fascinating world of sea ice. He shared insights into this powerful natural element, taking us through its many shades—white, blue, and even black—each telling a different story of the icy wilderness.



But we weren't done yet. Koen then captivated us with tales of Antarctic exploration, recounting the adventures of brave explorers in their wooden ships, setting sail into the unknown to conquer the great white continent. As we sailed part of their historic routes, we could feel the excitement of heading southward, ever closer to Antarctica itself!

Before we could set foot on the icy shores, there was one crucial step: biosecurity. In line with IAATO regulations, we gathered in the bar for the mandatory check. Clothing, muck boots, and bags were thoroughly inspected to ensure that no foreign seeds or contaminants would be brought into Antarctica. Once the checks were complete, we could all breathe easy, stow our gear, and relax with a well-earned break.



Sara then invited us to a lecture about the delightful penguins of Antarctica—an essential primer for the upcoming landing. We learned all about these charming birds and the vital role they play in the Antarctic ecosystem, making us even more excited for our first footstep on the frozen continent the following day.

Throughout the day, humpback whales made frequent appearances around the ship. Many of us were out on deck, scanning the horizon for sightings. Then, as if by magic, a pod of about



15 humpbacks appeared! Their flukes and flippers rose gracefully from the water in a breathtaking show of nature's grandeur. What an unforgettable sight!

As the evening approached, so did the first glimpses of land. Antarctica was finally in sight! Though we still had some sailing ahead, the sight of land on the horizon filled us with a sense of awe and anticipation. The

day, full of whale sightings and mesmerizing wildlife, left us all in eager anticipation for what lay ahead. Tomorrow, we would step foot on the frozen continent—our adventure in Antarctica had truly begun.

Day 4 – Tuesday 03 December, Palaver Point and Foyen Harbour

08:00 GPS Position: 64°08.4'S / 061°45.4'W

Wind: W force 2 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Sunny • Air temperature: +0.4°C

So, after the rigors of the Drake Crossing, it was a pleasure to wake to beautiful day and thankfully, a calm sea. Our home in this stunning world of ice, our expedition vessel *Ortelius*, was framed by the 360-degree panorama of majestic snow-covered mountains.



After traveling through the night, the ship positioned off Palaver Point for our first landing, conditions could hardly be better...a great day, no wind, no waves, and some bergy bits to add interest, Zodiacs were launched ...a short ride and everyone was soon transported ashore to trudge up the hill to view the chinstrap penguin colonies. This was a beautiful introduction to Antarctica.

After lunch, *Ortelius* motored down the Gerlache Strait to Foyen Harbour, the location of our next adventure. Numerous loudspeaker calls indicated sightings of humpback whales to port...humpbacks to starboard...humpbacks straight ahead and just for a pulse-racing, exciting change, the iconic species - the orca!



At Foyen Harbour, we cruised to the rusty, bent and twisted hulk of the old whaling factory ship the *Guvernoren* lying dejectedly in a narrow cove menaced by huge slopes of snow and ice.

As if to emphasize the danger, one side of the bay just beyond the ship had the break-away indicator of a huge slab avalanche. We took care not to approach close to that shore.



Once deployed and loaded with passengers, Zodiacs spread out and in twos for safety, explored the whole area before finally the icy cold had its effect and as a result of savage wind chill, passengers in most boats requested a return to the warmth of the ship.

This was followed by recap which included an excellent visual reminder of the IAATO rules regarding kneeling, sitting or lying down in the snow...all forbidden. The whole lounge then wished our superb barwoman, Glaiza happy birthday and she was presented

with a cartoon illustration from our Scottish, fun-loving cartoonist guide, Bill.

The evening was a delightful case of humpback and orca overload as were treated to repeated exciting sightings. This amazing day ended perfectly with us voyaging into a magnificent sunset!

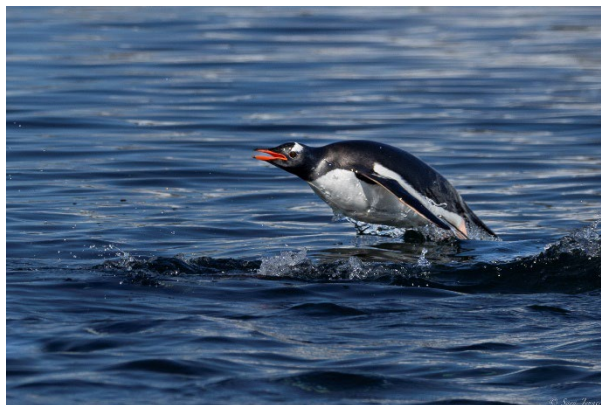


Day 5 – Wednesday 04 December, Danco Island and Neko Harbour

08:00 GPS Position: 64°43.9'S / 062°37.2'W

Wind: NW force 1 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Blazing sunshine • Air temperature: 0.8°C

Yet another sunny day to wake up to. The memories of a rough and uncomfortable crossing of the Drake were long gone and the 'early birds' went to the outer decks for a crisp sunny morning, enjoying the majestic snow-covered mountains and glaciers and a mirror-like calm



bay. While breakfast was served, the first Zodiacs with guides and equipment were seen setting a course for Danco Island, preparing for our arrival.

The story behind the name, Danco Island, is sad though. Emile Danco was a lieutenant in the Belgian artillery but studied geomagnetism and meteorology and was recruited by Adrian de Gerlache as a geophysicist on the ship Belgica – for the Belgian Antarctic Expedition in 1897. Unfortunately, Danco's health was not good – he suffered from a heart failure and passed away in June 1898 during the expedition. A 200km stretch of coast on the Peninsula was named in his memory (Danco Coast) and so was Danco Island. A bit of history from the early expedition days.



Arriving at the landing site we were welcomed by several gentoo penguins – both in the water and on land, and several small colonies of nesting penguins were visited as we zigzagged our way up the 134m/400' high hill. As usual in the colonies there were the never-ending disputes at the nests, penguins bringing pebbles, upcoming parents patiently incubating the new generation and skuas flying low over the nesting sites, looking for an opportunity to steal an egg or two. But

most breathtaking was the scenery! From the top of the hill, we had a perfect and breathtaking 360-degree view of the snowclad mountains, the crevasse filled glaciers and the (still) mirrorlike calm bay, where kayaks and divers had the most beautiful morning. A humbling experience! For the brave, this was also the opportunity to do the polar plunge! Only the



icebergs and the cold water differed the beach from the Caribbean, as the sun shined intensely from the cloudless sky, and anything from dips to regular swimming were taking place to the cheers from everyone still on land.

But the day continued giving. After our lunch, it was time for a continental landing at Neko Harbour. A special experience, as our landing site was close to a massive (calving) glacier. A



major calving could send equally major waves to our beach, so as soon as we left the Zodiacs, we also left the beach and went to higher terrain. Once again, we could enjoy the ever-busy gentoo penguins on their highways to and from their nesting sites, and a perfect lookout high in the terrain was the perfect spot for photos with a beautifully crevassed glacier as background. Just to make the afternoon perfect, a couple of Weddell seals were resting near our landing site – ready for Instagram photos to be taken.

After our recap - plans and weather for tomorrow - Sara told us about the different species/subspecies of orcas, as we had the privilege to see a family group for a long time yesterday evening. And just to end a perfect day, we got another opportunity to see a major pod of orcas, socializing or hunting maybe, but a lot of tail slapping and spy-hopping were seen – and even a couple of Humpbacks came very close to the ship. What a wonderful day!

Day 6 – Thursday 05 December, Lemaire Channel, Danco Island and Neko Harbour

08:00 GPS Position: 65°06.7'S / 064°01.7'W

Wind: N force 1-2 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Sunny • Air temperature: 1°C

An early “good morning, good morning, good morning” from Sarah today announced that *Ortelius* would be passing through the Lemaire Channel, and we soon assembled in the bright



morning sunshine on the bow or the bridge of the ship as we marvelled at the steep ice-clad cliffs that towered over us as we carefully passed through the narrow gap, steering around the many icebergs.

After breakfast, we boarded the Zodiacs to tour around the iceberg graveyard, a labyrinth of grounded icebergs, and we

marveled at the shapes and textures of the ice. We saw several Weddell and crabeater seals sunbathing on ice floes as hundreds of gentoo penguins darted near our boats, feeding on the abundant krill. We were also treated to the incredible spectacle of numerous humpback whales close to our boats as they also gorged on the krill, without any care to our presence. Sadly, we had to leave the whales to return to the ship for lunch and a fresh coat of sun cream.



With the route to our planned afternoon's landing at Petermann Island blocked by ice, we chose to make a landing at Pleneau Island instead. Here we battled up the hill through the melting, soft snow past several groups of nesting gentoo penguins. Once at the top we were surprised to find a large seal basking in the heat; it was a juvenile male elephant seal, that for some reason thought it was a good idea to haul its blubbery mass far above the shore. We also observed a gentoo failing to defend itself as two rivals took turns

to steal stones from its nest. As we returned to the ship our guides took us on a short detour to view an Adelie penguin and a crabeater seal sleeping on the sea ice.

At the evening recap, Sara used a rope to demonstrate how big some of the whales and dolphins are, Joyce shared some amazing facts about humpback whales and Allan told us about a buxom young lady from the Falkland Islands called Una who gave her name to a couple of peaks that tower over the Lemaire Channel.

The crew put on a superb BBQ feast that we ate on the helideck in the evening sunshine, followed by Sara and Bill in his yellow boots leading the dancing, before *Ortelius* headed back up the Lemaire Channel in the warm evening light to round-off the most incredible Antarctic day.





Day 7 – Friday 06 December, Cuverville Island and Orne Harbour

08:00 GPS Position: 64°39.9'S / 062°37.7'W

Wind: NW force 2-3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Sunny • Air temperature: 0°C

Another beautiful day in Antarctica. Yes, we have been lucky and let's keep it going. This morning, we were going to land on Cuverville Island in the Errera Channel. After the first scouting Zodiac had tried to reach the landing site it was soon clear that the landing was not



going to happen. There was way too much ice. However, we would be able to organize to Zodiac cruise through the swarm of icebergs.

The Zodiac cruise started out at some giant icebergs near to the ship. A drydock iceberg with a pinnacle tower was very impressive. Cruising through the fields of ice we encounter many different shapes and sizes of icebergs. Each one is a unique sculpture made by mother nature. Getting to know how the features were created gave us a better inside of the life of an iceberg. Each line and dent have a story and makes for an interesting explanation. We learned about organ pipes/ flukes and cupules/ golf ball effect dents. How tide lines are created in the different stages of the icebergs life and why some have black lines or are black entirely.



Further on our cruise we were able to encounter some Weddell seals. Small little islands next to Cuverville Island were excellent haul out spots for them. Some were quite small and only a few years old, however one was very large and was at least 3 m long. During the trip around Cuverville Island we encountered a few humpback whales. They were mainly on the move and didn't stick around in the same area, which made it difficult to observe them. Getting closer to the island we got to see one of the largest gentoo penguin rookeries in the peninsula. It was interesting to see them jump in the water and get their first wash after having been on land for some time. For some, very necessary indeed. The cruise ended passing by the large icebergs for some final photos. All in all, a dynamic and interesting Zodiac cruise.



In the afternoon we visited Orne Harbour, our second continental landing in Antarctica. Here we were going to visit a chinstrap penguin rookery. However, these penguins were not at the coastline but relatively high up a mountain side. This meant we had to climb up a steep snow hill to get to them. It was a hike that was challenging for some humans, never mind the penguins with their short legs having to do the same stretch each time they need to get to their

nest.

The views from up the hill were absolutely worth it though. We could see the whole bay, known as Orne Harbour and we could see the Gerlache Strait to the other side. The sky had some clouds but most of it was blue. Nonetheless the wind made this experience quite cold and standing still in the wind got chilled many people to the bone. Just imagine what these penguins would have to withstand during snowstorms. We got to stand very close to the chinstrap penguins

which they clearly did not seem to mind, most of them had eggs laying beneath them. Some of the partners were still collecting rocks to make their nest better equipped. It was great to see the penguins living in their own habitat and how they make it possible to survive in these extreme places.



During our recap Sara told us that we finally were going to have a bit more challenging weather. For our final activity day this is certainly not an issue. We learned more about what kind of sounds Weddell seals make and Bill explained a bit more about our ship *m/v Ortelius*. Its history and how it works on the lower decks which we don't get to see.

After dinner many people were out enjoying the

evening sun and blue sky. While cruising through the Gerlache Channel we encountered many humpback whales and large icebergs. While the sun was setting people were starting to settle down as well. It was clear that people are getting tired but still want to get the most out of the amazing journey. Let's make it another amazing day tomorrow before heading back to South America.

Day 8 – Saturday 07 December, Deception Island and Elephant Point

08:00 GPS Position: 62°55.6'S / 060°40.0'W

Wind: NW force 3-4 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Partly sunny • Air temperature: +1.2°C

We woke up to find *Ortelius* entering the 'Gates of Hell'...not really, but it looked like that as the vessel slowly steered through the forbidding entrance to Deception Island. The place looked like a flooded moonscape or something out of a science fiction movie; brown lava, boulder strewn slopes, a collection of abandoned decaying buildings and rusty tanks on the



right of the entrance. This was Whalers Bay, its history, and the geology of the island explained to us later during daily recap.



Our destination for a landing and short walk on an imposing crater rim was Telefon Bay. *Ortelius* dropped anchor and deployed the Zodiacs to ferry us all ashore. The weather was different from the blue-sky days experienced earlier in the voyage; overcast, the sea lumpier, more waves forcing passengers to protect their cameras from spray during the bumpy ride to the shore. The walk was a serious leg stretch, the physical effort and excitement of being high on a volcanic crater rim

inducing a raising of pulses.

We were then back to the ship for lunch and relaxing for a couple of hours whilst voyaging north to Elephant Point on Livingstone Island for the afternoon landing.

Sara, Bill and Allan set off in a Zodiac on a scouting expedition to check the swell breaking on shore to assess if landing was possible. There was a dumping wave at the beach but not one





which presented a problem... just a wetting! The green light was given to land, and we were treated to a fantastic spectacle - the whole beach area was covered in wildlife, slumbering elephant seals, brown skuas and giant petrels nesting, lots of almost obligatory, gentoo penguins and a lucky observation, a lone Adelie penguin.

Boats ran a transfer shuttle to land at an empty spot on the beach. The journey in was bumpy and exciting

whilst as we landed, breaking waves cascaded over the stern of the Zodiacs as we speedily clambered out. Some lucky or more experienced passengers sat in front and managed to escape the spray.

Staff had marked out a walk along the beach with poles avoiding out of bounds areas and ensuring that passengers were kept the regulation safe distance from wildlife. We were free to stroll about amongst the elephant seals, cameras clicking frantically every time we observed mock battles between young males.



It was a great last landing...how lucky we had been with this Oceanwide Expeditions voyage. A succession of memorable encounters with wildlife, interesting lectures and superb weather.

We all felt replete...totally happy, and eager to return home to our respective countries as Antarctic Ambassadors and Oceanwide Expedition fans.



Day 9 – Sunday 08 December, At sea, Drake Passage.

08:00 GPS Position: 60°52.5'S / 063°28.6'W

Wind: NW force 2-3 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Fog moving in and out • Air temperature: 6.1°C

With a full day at sea ahead of us, Sara woke us at a slightly more reasonable time of day. In anticipation of a wild ride in the Drake Passage, we had taken pills and stuck patches behind our ears but were pleasantly surprised to find the ship barely moving in the benign seas.

After returning our muck boots we assembled in the bar to listen to Jens tell the story of Shackleton and his crew and their incredible escape to South Georgia after being stuck in the Weddell Sea pack-ice, and later in the morning Bill showed how painters have captured the stories of the sea in their works.

With the calm and sometimes foggy conditions on the “Drake Lake”, bird sightings were sparse, although occasional





fin and humpback whales were sighted from the bridge throughout the day. The ornithological highlight was mid-afternoon when, near the Antarctic Convergence a large group of Antarctic Prions appeared suddenly behind the ship, stayed for half an hour before dispersing just as quickly.

After lunch, many of us went to the bridge where Adam and second officer Ward gave workshops on navigation where we learnt how mariners navigated using a sextant before the days of GPS positioning. Later in the afternoon Joyce talked about her work exploring the fantastic “other worlds” of the deep seabed in the polar regions.



At the evening recap Jens explained how the wandering albatross is able to effortlessly cover vast distances over the waves by dynamic soaring.

Day 10 –Monday 09 December, At sea, Drake Passage & Cape Horn.

08:00 GPS Position: 56°33.7'S / 066°52.3'W

Wind: W force 4 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +6.5°C

We awoke to overcast skies and three meter swell on our final day at sea, the conditions were uninspiring but the brilliant numbers of southern royal and wandering albatrosses gliding serenely around the ship certainly were not. They were giving amazing views as they cruised effortlessly on the wind behind the ship, often within a few meters – a wonderful start to the day. The coast of South America soon appeared on the horizon as we tucked into our last breakfast at sea.



The days program started soon after, with Tanya and the dive team giving a presentation about the wonders they had encountered on this trip and some great tales about other dives in Antarctica. We continued north and just before our arrival at the closest point to Cape Horn that Chilean authorities allow us to be, the call went out for hot chocolate, rum and cream (or any combination of the above) served out on deck, so we could view this infamous

headland with a warming drink in our hands.

We could see the small dwelling perched on the cliff which doubles as the military lookout and the famous sculpture on the cliff-edge with the poem below inscribed next to it, in memory of the many mariners who lost their lives trying to round this unforgiving stretch of coast.

*I am the albatross that waits for you at the end of the World.
I am the forgotten souls of dead sailors
who passed Cape Horn from all the oceans of the Earth.
But they did not die in the furious waves.
Today they fly on my wings towards eternity,
in the last trough of the Antarctic winds.*

The rest of the afternoon passed serenely with a spirited question and answer session with the Captain before Sara gave a presentation concerning the threats that the marine environment faces in these modern times.

Then it was time for Captains Cocktails in the bar, the showing of the trip slideshow, put painstakingly together by Koen, a fantastic final dinner and then time to reflect on a wonderful expedition.

Day 11 – Tuesday 10 December, Ushuaia, disembarkation day.

08:00 GPS Position: 54°48.6'S / 068°17.8'W

Wind: W force 1 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Cloudy • Air temperature: +7.5°C

We arrived in Ushuaia early morning, but most of us were oblivious to anything happening. We woke up to a cloudy, calm, clear morning in Ushuaia, with the surrounding mountains reflected in the still harbour.

The crew and expedition team handled all the luggage and placed it on the dock, while we enjoyed one last buffet breakfast. At 08:30 it was time for disembarkation. The voyage was over, and it was time to go our separate ways. Fond farewells were exchanged on the dock, as our band of intrepid adventurers dispersed and began the long journey home. For some, it was just the beginning of the next chapter in our own personal travel story.

Total distance sailed on our voyage: 1,586 nautical miles.
Southernmost position: 65°04' S / 064°00' W (Port Charcot).

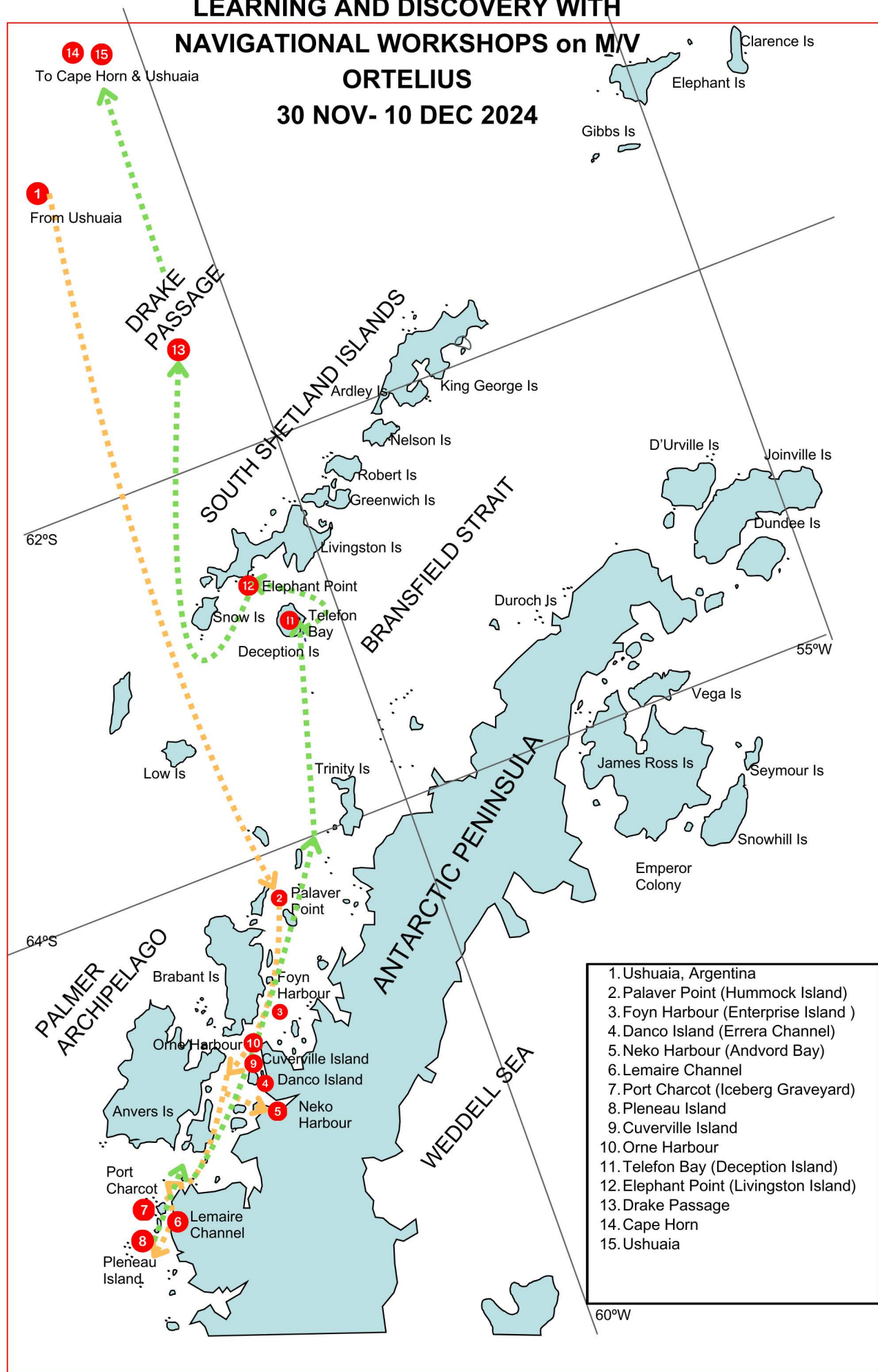
On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Per Andersson, Expedition Leader Sara Jenner, Hotel Manager Volodymyr Cherednychenko and all the crew and staff of *M/V Ortelius*, it has been a pleasure travelling with you.

Your Oceanwide Expeditions Team.



LEARNING AND DISCOVERY WITH NAVIGATIONAL WORKSHOPS on M/V ORTELIUS

30 NOV- 10 DEC 2024



Ortelius: Antarctica – Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshop 30 Nov - 10 Dec 2024

		November													
BIRDS	Latin name	30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>														
King Penguin	<i>A. patagonicus</i>														
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua</i>				X	X	X	X	X						
Adelie Penguin	<i>P. adelaie</i>				X	X	X		X						
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>P. antarctica</i>			X	X			X	X	X					
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>										X				
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>														
Rockhopper Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysocoe</i>										X				
Snowy Wandering Albatro	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>										X				
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>D. epomophora</i>		X								X				
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>D. sanfordi</i>														
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Thalassarche melanophrys</i>	X	X		X					X	X	X			
Grey-headed Albatross	<i>T. chrysostoma</i>		X							X					
Light-mantled Albatross	<i>Phoebetria palpebrata</i>		X							X					
Cape/Pintado Petrel	<i>Capense capense</i>		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X				
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>			X											
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>							X							
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialoides</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Northern Giant Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>										X				
Southern Giant Petrel	<i>M. giganteus</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>		X	X						X	X				
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>														
Slender-billed Prion	<i>P. belcheri</i>		X							X					
Antarctic Prion	<i>P. desolata</i>			X						X					
White-headed Petrel	<i>Pterodroma lessoni</i>														
Mottled Petrel	<i>P. inexpectata</i>									X					
Soft-plumaged Petrel (dar	<i>P. mollis</i>										X				
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>										X				
White-chinned Petrel	<i>P. aequinoctialis</i>		X	X						X	X	X			
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Fuegian Storm-petrel	<i>O. chilensis</i>														
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>			X						X					
Grey-backed Storm-petrel	<i>Garrodia nereis</i>														
Common Diving-petrel	<i>Pelacanoides urinatrix</i>														
Magellanic Diving-petrel	<i>Pelancanoides magellani</i>														
Imperial Cormorant	<i>Phalacrorax atriceps</i>	X									X	X			
Antarctic Shag	<i>P. bransfieldensis</i>				X	X	X	X	X						
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	X									X	X			
Subantarctic skua	<i>C. antarctica</i>				X	X	X	X	X						
South Polar Skua	<i>C. maccormicki</i>				X	X	X	X	X						
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	X									X	X			
Kelp Gull	<i>L. dominicanus</i>	X			X	X	X	X	X			X			
Antarctic Tern	<i>S. vittata</i>				X	X	X	X	X						
South American Tern	<i>S. hirundinacea</i>	X										X			
Arctic Tern	<i>S. paradisaea</i>														
Pale-faced Sheathbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>				X	X		X	X						
Flying Steamer Duck	<i>Tachyeres patachonicus</i>														
Southern Bottlenose Whal	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>	X													

MAMMALS	Latin name	November													
		30	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>				X										
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>			X						X					
Sei Whale	<i>B. borealis</i>														
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>B. bonaerensis</i>														
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>														
Antarctic Killer (type A)	<i>Orcinus species</i>														
Antarctic Killer (type B)	<i>Orcinus species</i>				X	X									
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>														
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>										X				
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>														
Dolphins	<i>Unidentified Species</i>														
Arnoux's Beaked Whale	<i>Berardius arnuxii</i>														
Beaked Whale-	<i>Cuvier's or Grey's</i>														
South American Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus australis</i>														
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>									X					
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonina</i>						X		X						
Crabeater Seal	<i>Lobodon carcinophaga</i>					X	X								
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddellii</i>				X	X	X	X	X						
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>														
		Depart Ushuaia	Drake Passage	Drake-Whalers Bay-Deception Is	Penguin Is.-Turret Pt.	Hope Bay-Brownbluff-Ant. Sound	Snow Hill Is-Emperor Colony	Snow Hill Is-Emperor Colony	King George Is-Halfmoon Is-Drake	Drake Passage	Drake Passage-Cape Horn	Beagle Channel-Ushuaia			

Sara Jenner – Expedition Leader



For as long as Sara could remember she has had a passion for travel and searching for the wildest and most remote places on earth.

Back in the UK when she was only 10, she remembers trading in her favourite pink bicycle for the money to start her travel fund. Every birthday and Christmas she added a little more in the kitty and finally, at 18 she realised her dream of diving at the Great Barrier Reef! At that point the travel addiction was born. Ever since Sara has been travelling the globe in search of wild and remote places and has spent many

months volunteering on wildlife conservation projects in a bid to help some of our most iconic and endangered species.

Sara's love of wildlife and the great outdoors has taken her to all seven continents, and she has travelled extensively in the polar regions including the Antarctic Peninsula, Weddell Sea, Ross Sea, Falklands, South Georgia, NZ and Australian Sub Antarctic Islands, Spitsbergen, Greenland, Iceland, Baffin Island and Canadian High Arctic. Returning to the UK, Sara used this knowledge to work in the travel industry as a polar specialist for several years, until the travel bug hit again, when she decided to swap life on the land for a life at sea and joined the Oceanwide Expedition Team in 2016.

During 2020-2021 she worked extensively on a leopard seal identification project and took the opportunity to fulfil a lifetime dream of visiting South Georgia in winter by working on the M/V Pharos, which is deployed by the South Georgia Government as a fishery patrol vessel.

Sara is a keen wildlife photographer and when she is not wrapped up warm in the polar regions she enjoys working as a photographic guide in Botswana, on the beautiful Chobe River and Okavango Delta, so really has a life of two halves.

Allan White – Assistant Expedition Leader



Allan was born and raised in the Falkland Islands. He's a fifth generation Islander, and a descendant of one of the original British colonists in 1840. His higher education was completed in England, after which he embarked on a military career.

He joined the British Army aged 17. After serving in West Germany for two years during the Cold War period, he completed deployments in Northern Ireland, Cyprus as a United Nations peacekeeper, and with British Forces South Atlantic Islands. He left the Army to settle back in the Falklands.

While working as a Port Agent in the Falklands, Allan worked with the late Lars-Eric Lindblad, the inspirational pioneer of small ship expedition cruising. He encouraged Allan to become a Zodiac driver and go to sea for a year. Thirty years later, he's still at it. His voyages have taken him all over the world, with particular focus on the Polar regions. His travel experience ranges from 90° North to 78° South.

In the Falklands, Allan and his wife owned and operated their own tourist lodge for over a decade. More recently they managed a privately owned island, where they were the sole residents for almost 5 years, with thousands of albatrosses, penguins and seals for neighbours.

Allan is an experienced guide and Zodiac driver, with a keen interest in natural history and polar exploration. He lives in the Falklands capital Stanley, with his wife Jacqui.

Simon Davies – Expedition Guide



Simon is a life-long birder and naturalist and after achieving a Masters degree in Ecology focusing on seabirds he has undertaken a broad range of wildlife related contracts around the world.

His career has predominantly been focused on birds (with the only notable 'blip' coming during a year researching Meerkats in South Africa) during which his focus has ranged from research to conservation to guiding and much in between. Most recently he has been working in Scotland and Sweden studying both breeding birds and migratory species through

ringing/banding, a wide range of surveys and other tracking methods.

He is an experienced guide, having led bird and wildlife tours in Australia and many tours, walks and talks in his native UK, enthusiastic about sharing the wide range of seabirds in the colonies he loves.

Among the recent studies he has participated in has included putting geolocators on Black Guillemots in Scotland to find out where they are foraging, fixing satellite transmitters on migratory wading birds in Australia to track their movements as they move up and down the East Asia flyway and affixing geolocators on Great Reed Warblers in Sweden to work out migratory routes.

A large part of his recent work has also been training others in bird ringing/banding and surveying, hopefully inspiring others to a career in research or conservation.

The vast majority of his spare time is also spent birding and wildlife watching and he has undertaken many trips around the world including Australia, Europe, India, Venezuela and the USA, always chasing the next bird!

Andres Garcia Diaz – Expedition Guide



Andres was born in Buenos Aires, Argentina. His father always took him on trips around the country doing trekking ever since he was old enough to walk, and the same with sports, being a multi-disciplinary player in football, basket, handball, tennis, swimming and taekwondo.

He studied at the University of Buenos Aires to become a doctor and then later he became an Orthopedic Surgeon with two Fellowships on Arthroscopy.

He never stopped doing outdoor activities and started to get more involved in the mountain with guide friends, learning rock and ice climbing and ski touring. He then decided to move with his family to Ushuaia to keep up the outdoor adventures. Since moving to Ushuaia, he then got his Nautic driving license and started to gaze more often at the sea.

He went to Huaraz, Peru and did the Diploma in Mountain Medicine (DIMM) to rescue in extreme conditions.

Wanting to go further and keeping to his passion, he started to apply his skills and knowledge after several courses and became an expedition team member in Antarctica and the Southern islands.

He has now visited the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica multiple times as an expedition member, medic and zodiac driver and is excited to share the next adventure with you.

Koen Jongerling - Expedition Guide



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

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

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

Bill Smith – Expedition Guide



“Super Bill” as described by his colleagues and clients, is a fun-loving outdoor pursuits enthusiast, cartoonist and former Head of Art and Design Education at Ellon Academy Aberdeenshire.

Bill joined Oceanwide Expeditions as a guide when Plancius was built and over the last few years has become addicted to the Polar Regions.

He has 58 years’ experience of Art and Design Education and Design for Industry. Plus 58 years leading and instructing a range of outdoor pursuits.

Bill delights in producing humorous cartoon logs of each trip and operates as an Artist / Designer / Illustrator / Cartoonist

Aside from his artistic commitments Bill is qualified instructor in a range of Royal Yachting Association disciplines including sailing, windsurfing and powerboating. He is also a British Canoe Union Open Canoe Instructor and British Caving Association Local Cave leader. He is a safety expert in these fields.

During the winter at home Bill is a National Patroller for the British Association of Ski Patrollers and in addition is a member of Member of the Federation Internationale de Patrolles De Ski.

As Bill lives in the North-west of Scotland he is President of Lochinver Highland Games Committee and former Chieftain Assynt Highland Games.

Bill is an Honorary Member Assynt Crofters Trust and recently awarded Honorary Lifetime Guardian of Island of South Georgia.

Jens Binderup – Expedition Guide



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

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

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

life in the Arctic and Antarctica.

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

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

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

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

Joyce Mulder – Expedition Guide



Joyce is a passionate guide with an interest for exploring and understanding the marine life in polar regions. Her journey began in 2018 as a whale-watching guide in the Azores, where she developed a deep appreciation for marine life. After this, she studied the Arctic snowfall variability at the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute, laying the foundation for her future career in Polar research.

Continuing her academic pursuits, Joyce studied Arctic biology at the University Centre in Svalbard in 2019, acquiring insights into the valuable ecosystems of the far north. With a bachelor's degree in Coastal and Marine Management, she followed a master's program in the same field in Ísafjörður, Iceland, making it her home from 2021 to 2023.

Her academic journey also brought her to the Norwegian town of Tromsø, where she studied fish migrations, further honing her expertise in marine biology. For her master thesis, she joined a research vessel in Greenland, where she studied the benthic communities by mapping the seabed in previously unexplored regions in both 2022 and 2023.

Now, Joyce brings her knowledge and interest for marine wildlife to Oceanwide Expeditions as an expedition guide. Through her role, she shares her expertise and fosters a deeper appreciation for the polar regions.

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.

Tanja Bayer – Dive Team Leader



Based in Oberursel, near Frankfurt am Main, Germany, Tanja has been a passionate diver since 1990, amassing over 5,000 dives. She is the founder and owner of TaWo Diving, a thriving diving center she has run since 1996.

As a PADI Master Instructor and Course Director, Tanja not only teaches diving but also trains the next generation of diving instructors. Her dedication to underwater exploration is matched only by her expertise in medicine.

Tanja's "second" profession is as a medical doctor specializing in General Practice, Accident & Emergency, and Diving Medicine. In 2009, she combined her medical and diving skills by serving as a ship's doctor in Antarctica. Since 2015, she has extended her expertise to the Arctic, working with Oceanwide Expeditions as both a Dive Guide and Expedition Guide.

In her role as a dive guide and dive expedition leader, Tanja has guided divers to some of the most breathtaking locations on Earth. Her favorite dive site is Planeau Bay in Antarctica, where cold-water diving offers a unique and challenging experience. She describes the thrill of touching an iceberg and observing the vibrant marine life that thrives in such extreme conditions, all while emphasizing the need for experience and vigilance to prevent hypothermia.

Blending her two professions, Tanja has contributed to several film productions as a Dive Supervisor and Expedition Doctor in remote and stunning locations, including Antarctica and Tanzania.

Her passion for the "great white continent" remains unparalleled, as she continues to explore, guide, and share her love for this remarkable region with others.

Luce Moussiere – Dive Guide



She knew how to swim before she could walk. Luce is a young French scuba diving instructor, swimming instructor and hiking guide. She left France after a degree of Neuro-Linguistic Programming with the ambition to bring the most extraordinary experiences accessible to anyone.

She lived in Asia, and Australia where when she wasn't teaching recreational courses, she enrolled in multiple marine life conservation projects and coral reef restoration, working together with the Great Barrier Reef marine parks authority. She supervised explorations

to survey remote untouched coral reef systems where she could then guide experienced divers to educate over climate change impacts. She led special trips on private yacht to encounter big marine life, such as bull sharks, tiger sharks, minke and humpback whales.

After 5 years in tropical waters, she then specialized in cold water environment, where she lives now in Iceland. She trained to adapt and work through Icelandic winters, with little to no daylight, and temperatures reaching -30 degrees Celsius (-22F). She is now diving or snorkelling in between the clear water of Silfra, fissure in between the North American and Eurasian tectonic plates.

She specialized in technical decompression diving, ice, cold, deep, night, wreck, and enriched air diving, and is always keen to add to her career more skills, to be able to dive and guide through the most challenging environments.

She also is an on-call guide when Icelandic volcanos erupt, hunting the best routes through volcanic lands to safely bring hikers to witness these events. When she is not working, you will find Luce hiking on fjords, glaciers, exploring ice caves, free diving in arctic kelp forests: enjoying this huge playground the raw Icelandic land can be.

Gonzalo Sabattini- Dive Guide



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

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

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

Activities (FAAS_CMAS)-One Star Diver at the age of 16.

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

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

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

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

Dimitris Sotirakis – Dive Guide



Dimitris is a scuba diving instructor from Greece. He has 5 years' experience of teaching, leading and driving Zodiacs in the Mediterranean sea.

Most of his career work has been at one of the most popular and busy dive centres in Greece, located at Naxos. His responsibilities there, ranged from teaching the introductory 'Discover Scuba' programme to Dive Master courses. Whilst working there he gained invaluable Zodiac driving experience, driving in some of the worse conditions that the Mediterranean sea can throw at you. He was also responsible for the

servicing of the regulators, BCD's and tanks.

Since leaving Greece he has been working as a tour guide in Silfra in Iceland, leading snorkelling, and diving tours into the fissure between the two tectonic plates. This is where he has found his new passion for a cold environment and polar diving.

Besides diving Dimitris is also very passionate about motorcycles. He likes to drive his motorbike around the islands of Greece and is always exploring new places on two wheels.

During the winter months he also enjoys leading Snowmobile tours at the second largest glacier in Europe located in Iceland, langjökull, which means long glacier in Icelandic.

Dimitris is really looking forward to sharing this incredible adventure with you and helping to explore new places, both above and below the surface.

Adam Harmer – Kayak Leader



Adam has been paddling for over 20 years and this includes on all seven Continents. He calls the mountains and the Ocean his home.

Currently Adam lives in North Wales UK. He spends much of his life training and assessing outdoor instructors around the world.

Whether that is sea kayaking in Canada or Chile or raft guides and instructors on rivers in Africa.

Adam is also more than happy when he is working at home, where he shares his passion and extensive outdoor experience in training outdoor professionals and guides.

A previous winner of the Yukon 1000, the Worlds Longest Kayak race, first descents in Africa and South America and coaching under the Golden Gate Bridge and Antarctica so some of his highlights.

Adam also loves sharing the outdoors with people, sharing the interaction of nature, the sounds of waves crashing or seeing something special means the world to Adam.

He has two children and loves taking his family on 'Outdoor Adventures'

Yukan Cheng - Translator



Yu Kan, pronounced as “You Can” means creating value in the universe” in Chinese. This belief shapes her perspective that life is about finding meaning, instilling in her a positive attitude that you can achieve anything in life. Yu Kan was born and raised in Hong Kong, a city famous for its towering skyscrapers. But actually, Hong Kong also has stunning coastal and mountain landscapes.

After earning her degree in accounting and working in an office, Yu Kan realized her passion for nature and adventure surpassed her interest in an office job.

Seeing people’s joy and growth has brought her more fulfillment than working with numbers. Therefore, she transitioned to the outdoor education industry, where she spent 10 years providing experiential learning in an outdoor setting for children aged 8-18. Witnessing the growth and development of these children has been her most significant achievement.

Fluent in Cantonese, Mandarin, and English, Yu Kan has had the opportunity to work and live in various countries, including China, Malaysia, Australia, the UK, and New Zealand. Her travels across different continents have made her comfortable and deeply interested in exploring diverse cultures.

In 2024, Yu Kan joined Oceanwide Expeditions, and she is excited to offer a unique and memorable experience to all passengers.

Shan Zhou – Translator



Shan is an environmental educator from China, born and raised in Lu'an Anhui . She has deep passion for exploring different cultures and landscapes, and she has had the opportunity to travel extensively to various parts of the world by herself.

Since 2021, she has worked on conservation projects in Northeast Tiger and Leopard National Park and Giant panda National Park such as restoration of giant panda habitats, wildlife monitoring and environmental education .

With a diverse background, Shan has served as an outdoor leader in Giant Panda National Park in Sichuan. Also, she has worked on the Great Barrier Reef Cruise in Cairns, Australia, gaining extensive sailing experience.

Her academic achievements include both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Ecotourism and sustainable tourism, underscoring her deep-rooted knowledge and expertise in the industry.

In her spare time, she loves exploring nature through climbing, hiking, diving and capturing the beauty of the natural world with her camera . Driven by her curiosity and wanderlust, Shan continues to seek out new experiences and destinations, embodying a true spirit of adventure in both her personal and professional life.

Edwin van Leeuwen – Doctor



Edwin van Leeuwen is general practitioner in the city of Almere, Netherlands. Since 2012 he regularly joins expedition cruises with Oceanwide Expeditions and enjoys to be helpful in more or less primitive circumstances.

After registration in 1997 he worked as a locum in more than 80 practices in the Netherlands.

The free-lance work made it possible for him to travel a lot and lead him amongst other places to the top of Mt. Kilimanjaro in 1999 and around the Annapurna Circuit in Nepal in 2000.

In 2003 he took up his own GP practice in Almere where he works with two associates in a beautiful award-winning building. The last 14 years he took up training young GP's. Coaching them is something he enjoys very much to do. The city of Almere is a very new and fast-growing city in the Netherlands which was built in a polder.

When one of his patients asked him to join Oceanwide Expedition as a doctor this combined his two passions: working as a doctor and traveling to remote rough corners of the world.

He lives in the city of Naarden, is married and has three children. Leisure activities he loves to do are riding his HD motorcycle, cycling, photography and being outdoors.

His motto in life: "Just because my path is different doesn't mean I'm lost."



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops Welcome on Board!

Date: 30 November 2024

Day 1 Ushuaia

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

PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 17:00+/- Ship safety briefing, in the **Lecture Room on Deck 3**. Attendance to this is **MANDATORY**. After the briefing the emergency alarm will be sounded, and you will need to go back to your cabin and get your life jacket. All guests will go to their **MUSTER STATION** which the **Bar on Deck 6**.
- 18:00: +/- Please join the Expedition Team and Captain in the **Bar on Deck 6** for a celebratory toast to the forthcoming voyage. This will be followed by a welcome briefing by the Hotel Manager and Expedition Leader to orientate you to life on board and explain the plan for the forthcoming days.
- 19:00 Buffet dinner in the **Restaurant on Deck 4**.
- 20:15 Please join Sara, the Expedition Leader, in the **Bar on Deck 6** for the **Mandatory IAATO and Zodiac Briefing** and to hear more about plans for the forthcoming days. Attendance will be checked.

Please note that tonight we will be sailing into the open sea. Take your seasickness medication before you really feel the movements of the vessel, the doctor will be available in the bar after dinner to assist with such matters. Make sure that all your belongings are put away safely and that doors and drawers in your cabin are tightly closed. Walk slowly on the ship, always use one hand for yourself and one for the ship and beware of your fingers because of doors slamming!

"All things considered there are only two kinds of men in the world; those that stay at home and those that do not, the latter are more interesting." - Rudyard Kipling



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops

Date: 1 December 2024

Day 2 Drake Passage

- 07:45 Wake up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 09:15 You will be called deck by deck down to the Lecture Room on Deck 3 to collect your Muck Boots, please bring your thick socks so you can try them for size.
- 10:00 For all those who would like to go kayaking, please meet Adam in the Bar for the **Mandatory Kayaking Briefing**
- 11:30 Please join Simon in the Bar on Deck 6 for a presentation about Sea Birds of the Drake Passage.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 13:30 Please could the **divers** meet in the Bar on Deck 6 for the **Mandatory Dive Briefing**
- 16:15 Second Officer, Ward Dekkers welcomes you to join him in the Bar for a presentation about Bridge operations and navigation on board the M/V Ortelius.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap, this is a daily event where we go through what we have seen during the day and plans for tomorrow.
- 19:00 Plated dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

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

*"One must never be in haste to end a day; there are too few of them in a lifetime". -
Sir Francis Drake*



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops

Date: 2 December 2024

Day 3 Approaching Antarctica

- 07:45 Wake up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 09:15 Please join Julian in the Bar for a lecture about Icebergs.
- 11:30 Koen invites you to the Bar for a lecture about the Exploration of Antarctica until 1900.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 13:30 We will call you deck by deck for the **MANDATORY IATTO Biosecurity** in the **Bar**. When called, please bring all your outer garments, bags, boots, life jackets etc. that you plan to use in Antarctica for the Expedition Staff to check. Please ensure everything is clean before proceeding to the Lecture room and ensure you sign the self-declaration form once you have approved by the Expedition Team.
- 15:00 Please can the **divers** go to the Heli hanger to meet Tanya, please bring all your dive equipment, this will be after your biosecurity inspection.
- 16:15 Sara welcomes you to the Bar for a presentation about Penguins.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for daily recap.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 20:30 After dinner **Kayaking groups 1** will meet Adam in the Bar to get their kayaking clothing.

"If your feet are cold, cover your head" – Inuit proverb



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops

Date: 3 December 2024

Day 4 Palaver Point and Foyen Harbour

06:45 Wake-up call.

07:00-08:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

08:00-08:30 We invite you to come to the gangway for a landing at Palaver Point, where we hope to visit the Chinstrap Penguin Colony.

If you would like to learn more about how we use OLEX please come back to the landing site between 9am and 10:30am, where you can take a short Zodiac ride out to where our team will be using it. OLEX is a survey- and mapping system that uses GPS and sonar to collect depth data, the result is visualised, as a realistic 3D map of the seabed.

08:15 Please can **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck.

12:00-13:00 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

15:00-15:15 We invite you to the gangway for a Zodiac cruise of Foyen Harbour.

15:00 Please can **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck.

15:15 **Kayak Group 1** meet Adam in the Bar on Deck 6, please be dressed in your base layer, wetsuit and bag and have any equipment you wish to take with you.

18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap!

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

20:15 Please can **Kayak Group 2 and 3** meet Adam in the Bar to get their kayaking kit.

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



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops

Date: 4 December 2024

Day 5: Danco Island and Neko Harbour

06:45 Wake-up call.

07:00-08:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

08:15-08:30 We invite you to come to the gangway for a landing at Danco Island.

08:15 Please can **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck.

08:30 **Kayak Group 2** meet Adam in the Bar on Deck 6, please be dressed in your base layer, wetsuit, kag and have any equipment you wish to take with you.

We hope to offer a **polar plunge** at the end of the landing, if you wish to take part, please wear your swimwear under your expedition clothing. We provide the towels so please do not bring them from your cabins.

12:00-13:00 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

14:15-14:30 We hope to take you ashore for a continental landing at Neko Harbour

14:30 **Kayak Group 3** meet Adam in the Bar on Deck 6, please be dressed in your base layer, wetsuit and kag and have any equipment you wish to take with you.

18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap!

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

20:30 Please can **Kayak Group 4 and 5** meet Adam in the Bar to get their kayaking kit.

"An adventure is only an inconvenience rightly considered. An inconvenience is only an adventure wrongly considered." - G. K. Chesterton



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops

Date: 5 December 2024

Day 6: Lemaire Channel, Pleneau and Petermann Island

06:45 Wake-up call.

We will start our transit down the Lemaire Channel straight after wakeup call, so we advise you to be up a little sooner. The Lemaire Channel was nicknamed Kodak Gap, as it is considered one of the most photographic parts of the Antarctic Peninsula

07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

09:00-09:15 We invite you to come to the gangway for a Zodiac cruise of Pleneau Island and the Iceberg Graveyard.

09:00 Please can **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck.

09:15 **Kayak Group 4** meet Adam in the Bar on Deck 6, please be dressed in your base layer, wetsuit, kag and have any equipment you wish to take with you.

12:00-13:00 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

14:00-14:15 We hope to take you ashore at Petermann Island.

14:15 Please can **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck.

14:30 **Kayak Group 5** meet Adam in the Bar on Deck 6, please be dressed in your base layer, wet suit, kag and have any equipment you wish to take with you.

18:00 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap!

18:30 Dinner will be served outside, please dress warmly.

"The greatest threat to our planet is the belief that someone else will save it." - Robert Swan OBE



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops

Date: 6 December 2024

Day 7: Cuverville Island and Orne Harbour

- 07:15 Wake-up call
- 07:15 Please can **Kayak Group 6 and 7** meet Adam in the Bar to get their kayaking clothing.
- 07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.
- 08:30-08:45 We invite you to come to the gangway for a landing at Cuverville Island.
- 08:30 Please can **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck.
- 08:45 **Kayak Group 6** meet Adam in the Bar on Deck 6, please be dressed in your base layer, wetsuit, kag and have any equipment you wish to take with you.
- 12:00-13:00 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.
- 14:00-14:15 We hope to take you ashore at Orne Harbour for a Continental Landing.
- 14:00 Please can **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck.
- 14:15 **Kayak Group 7** meet Adam in the Bar on Deck 6, please be dressed in your base layer wetsuit, kag and have any equipment you wish to take with you.
- 18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap!
- 19:00 Dinner is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

*"Anything more wonderful than the polar night does not exist. It is a dream-like sight.
It is a light poem of all the finest and most delicate tones of the soul." - Fridtjof
Nansen*



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops

Date: 7 December 2024

Day 8: Deception Island and Elephant Point

06:30 Wake-up call.

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

07:00-08:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

08:00-08:15 We invite you to come to the gangway for a landing at Telefon.

11:30 We invite you to the Bar for a short presentation and video about Deception Island.

12:00-13:00 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

14:30-14:45 We hope to take you ashore for a landing at Elephant Point.

14:45 Please can **the divers** meet Tanya on the Zodiac deck.

18:30 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap!

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

20:30 If you would like to sign up for a navigational workshop, please meet Sara at reception.

"It must be remembered that the men whose desires lead them to the untrodden paths of the world have generally marked individuality." - Sir Ernest Shackleton



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops

Date: 8 December 2024

Day 9: Drake Passage

- 07:45 Wake-up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 09:00 We will call you to the Lecture Room to return your Muck boots and hire rental clothing, please listen for announcements.
- 09:30 Please join Jens in the Bar for his lecture titled 'Shackleton - South'.
- 11:30 Bill welcomes you to the bar for his presentation titled 'Paintings of the Sea - The meaning of the sea in Paintings'.
- 12:30-13:30 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.
- 13:30 Group 1 to meet on the bridge for their navigational workshop.
- 14:30 Group 2 to meet on the bridge for their navigational workshop.
- 16:15 Joyce invites you to the Bar for her lecture titled 'Antarctica below: Life on the deep seabed'.
- 18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap! There will be some important information given about disembarkation, settling accounts etc. therefore, we encourage at least one person from each group to attend.
- 19:00 Dinner is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

PLEASE NOTE: Upon arrival in Ushuaia, we will provide free busses to the airport for morning flights only, at 09:00 a.m. Please get from Reception a **Blue** luggage tag if you would like this service. For the Guests with afternoon flights, we will transfer your luggage to the drop-off center (1210 Av. Maipu), and you will need to pick up your luggage before 14:00 hrs. No luggage tag is required for this service, you just need to indicate your luggage at the pier and ensure the stewadors load it into the truck. For guests who have their own transportation or planning to stay in Ushuaia, please wait till the ship is cleared by the port agent and you are free to go, no luggage tag is required for this.

"You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore"
- Christoph Columbus



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops

Date: 9 December 2024

Day 10: Approaching South America

07:45 Wake-up call.

08:00-09:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

After breakfast you will be able to settle your accounts at reception, please ensure your account is settled before 17:00 at the latest.

09:15 Please join the dive team in the Bar for their presentation about diving in Antarctica and what the divers saw on this voyage.

Before lunch we hope to pass by Cape Horn so encourage you out on deck for a better observation of this historic natural landmark.

12:30-13:30 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

13:45 Captain Per invites you to the Bar for a question-and-answer session, if you have any questions for him, please place them in the question box before lunch.

16:15 Sara would like you to join her in the Bar for her presentation about Marine Threats.

18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for Captain's Farewell Cocktails and a viewing of the slideshow.

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

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

"An Antarctic expedition is the worst way to have the best time of your life." - Apsley Cherry-Garrard



Antarctica - Learning and Discovery with Navigational Workshops

Date: 10 December

Day 11: Ushuaia

07:15 Wake-up call.

Please ensure your luggage is outside your room before 07:15am

07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

PLEASE NOTE: Upon arrival in Ushuaia, we will provide free busses to the airport for morning flights only, at 09:00 a.m. Please get from Reception a **Blue** luggage tag if you would like this service. For the Guests with afternoon flights, we will transfer your luggage to the drop-off center (1210 Av. Maipu), and you will need to pick up your luggage before 14:00 hrs. No luggage tag is required for this service, you just need to indicate your luggage at the pier and ensure the stewadors load it into the truck. For guests who have their own transportation or planning to stay in Ushuaia, please wait till the ship is cleared by the port agent and you are free to go, no luggage tag is required for this.

08:30+/- We invite all guests to disembark.

From all the Expedition Team and Crew on board the MV Ortelius, 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.

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