



Falkland Islands - South Georgia - Antarctica

Ushuaia – Ushuaia

4th January 2025 – 22nd January 2025

On board *M/V Hondius*



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



Captain Hans Söderholm

and his international crew of 57 sailors

Staff Captain:	Jan Dobrogowski
Chief Officer:	Sven Holzhausen
Second Officer:	Nino Cizmic
Third Officer:	Anar Babaiev
Hotel Manager:	Jeroen William Barnes
Head Chef:	Gaurav Bawa
Sous Chef:	Donald Rivas Cielo
Ships doctor:	Anneke Planting
Expedition Leader:	Chris Long
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Pierre Gallego
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Jerry Zhao
Expedition Guide:	Katja Riedel
Expedition Guide:	Ashleigh Kitchiner
Expedition Guide:	Rose Li Hong
Expedition Guide:	Jess Owen
Expedition Guide:	Charlotte Taplin
Expedition Guide:	Gabriela Kolodko
Expedition Guide:	Mark Whiffin
Expedition Guide:	Julian Robinson
Expedition Guide:	Annina Scholl
Expedition Guide:	Marcelo Tarapow
Expedition Guide:	Andrea Schwertz
Expedition Guide:	Alexander Romanovski

WE WELCOME YOU ON BOARD!

Day 1 – Saturday 4th January - Ushuaia, Embarkation Day

08h00 GPS Position: 54°48,5S / 068°18.10'W

Wind: S2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +10°C

At around 4pm, we started to gather on Ushuaia pier. We looked up at the Hondius, the ship that would be our home for the next nineteen days. We had travelled from all over the world. Some of us had spend time in Ushuaia and Patagonia, while others had just arrived. We were both nervous and excited to meet our cabin mates, see our new home, and get started on a trip that for many had been a dream for years.

We were welcomed onboard by the Expedition Team and Hotel department. Once we were settled in our cabins we then had to attend a mandatory safety briefing. We practiced an abandon ship drill where we were shown the location of the lifeboats and what to do in an emergency.

We were then invited to the Captains Welcome evening where we toasted to the voyage and where we met Chris the Expedition Leader. Chris gave us some essential information on how the expedition would look and he introduced us to the whole expediton team.

We had a buffet dinner in the lounge and then enjoyed a beautiful evening outside on the bow and outer decks. The pink light in the Beagle Channel was stunning and we were so excited to catch glimpses of our first dolphins, whales, and albatross species.



Day 2 – Sunday 5th January - At sea sailing towards The Falklands

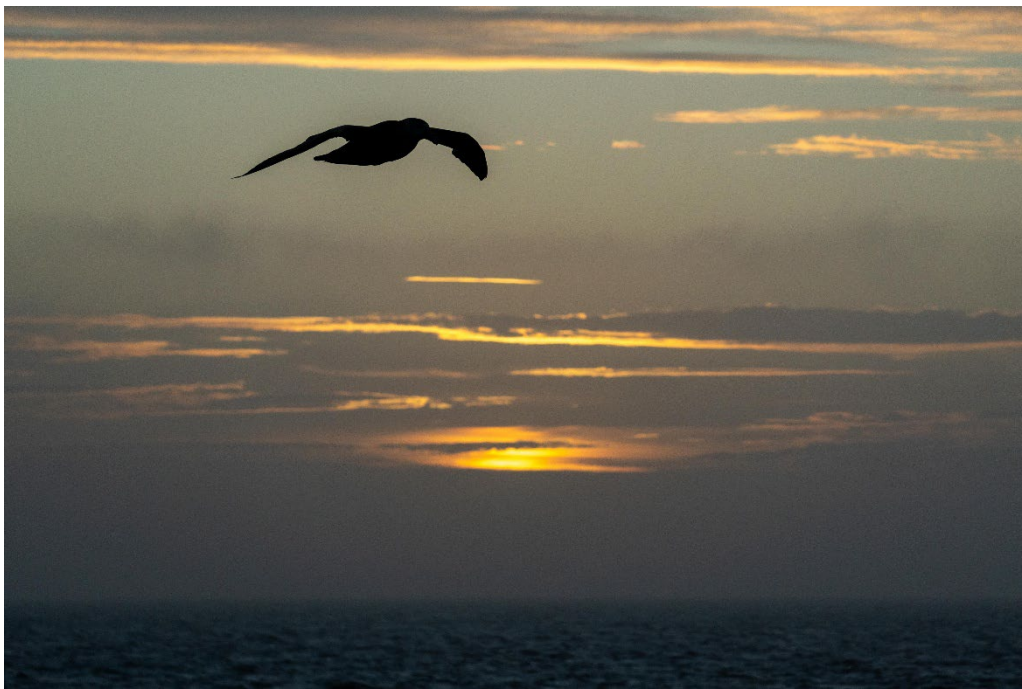
08h00 GPS Position: 53°58.6'S / 061°10.1'W

Wind: NNW3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Partial Cloud • Air temperature: +8°C

After a quiet first night, we woke up to a calm sea with the silhouette of Tierra del fuego still in sight. Some of us had been up and outside for hours already to observe the different seabird species – including our first albatrosses - that were effortlessly following the ship. It was nice to feel the breeze of the ocean as it was not too cold yet to be outside and have a walk around the ship.

The day was filled with briefings about IAATO, biosecurity and zodiac operations. Jess introduced us to the world of whales and the species we might see on the voyage. Gabi invited us to hear more about our first destination of the voyage – the Falkland Islands. We also received our boots, that would serve us well for the next 2.5 weeks.

After lunch it started to become foggy outside which made it a little more difficult to find whales or dolphins that would come close to the ship. Our expedition team and the bridge team did not give up to keep a look out. Dolphins came close to the ship but disappeared as quickly as they came.



We spent some time to get to know our fellow travellers, discover all the different areas of the ship, and unpack our things.

In the afternoon Chris and his expedition

team invited us to the Lounge to explain the plans for tomorrow and the daily recap. As the day came to an end, the sun started to sink behind a layer of clouds just over the horizon, tinting the ocean and the giant petrels, that have accompanied us all day, into a golden light.

We couldn't wait to see what the Falkland Islands had to offer...

Day 3 – Monday 6th January – Carcass Island and Saunders Island, The Falkland Islands

08h00 GPS Position: 51°18.3'S / 060°33.1'W

Wind: NNW3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +12°C



Chris stood leaning against the dashboard. Through the windows of the captain's bridge, the blurry outlines of approaching land could be discerned. The Hondius ship, gently swaying from side to side and cutting through the waves with its powerful bow, was approaching the Falkland Islands (Las Malvinas).

There was a rather thick fog, which gave the surrounding world an ethereal and even slightly eerie appearance. The fog hung over the sea, blurring the horizon line, and, like a shroud, enveloped the island that was destined to become the first stretch of land on the path of our expedition.

Exactly fifteen minutes before breakfast, at 6:45 am, Chris, whispering, "Well, my friends, let's get it started," approached the microphone, pressed the loudspeaker button, and began his morning speech: "Good morning, Hondius, good morning..."



During breakfast, many of us felt a slight excitement, as it was our first full expedition day. Two landings were planned for the day: in the morning on the island with the ominous name Carcass Island, and after lunch on another island called Saunders Island. Not everyone in our



group had been on expeditions before, which added to the nervousness. What to wear, what to bring, and how not to forget anything important while not overloading the backpack with unnecessary items were common concerns. Despite the detailed explanations from the expedition team members the day before, a mild uncertainty still lingered.

Hondius dropped anchor, sailors lowered several Zodiacs into the water. All members of the expedition team, except for two people, got into these black inflatable motorboats and, taking all the necessary equipment, rushed towards the shore, raising clouds of spray. It turned out to be a routine procedure: first, the expedition team lands, assesses the situation and weather conditions, and then the expedition leader gives the "green light" for us to exchange the ship's iron decks for the solid ground of the land.

We gathered in the Zodiac boarding area and, in small groups of ten, began to board the Zodiacs. As soon as all the seats in the boat were occupied, the Zodiac, led by an experienced guide, set in motion. Quickly gaining speed, it raced towards the shore. The fog, parting before us, revealed new stretches of land, the engine roared, splashes flew in all directions,



showering us like rain and enhancing the sense of adventure we were experiencing. To those watching us from the deck, the Zodiacs resembled mischievous children who, as soon as the rain stopped, rushed outside and, with

their childlike feet, ran through puddles, creating splashes, making adults shake their heads and wag their fingers.



On the shore, Chris, Marcello, Julian, Pierre, Ashleigh, and other members of the expedition team were already waiting for us. The Zodiacs nosed into the white Falkland sand, and one by one,

we climbed onto the shore, swinging our legs over the side. The beach was shallow, and it was low tide, so the Zodiacs had to stop slightly short of the shore when their bottoms began to brush against the fine Falkland sand. Accordingly, before confidently setting foot on land, we had to take about a dozen steps ankle-deep in water. Thankfully, each of us was wearing rubber boots, so walking through the water posed no problem.

The sandy beach strip was replaced by tufts of tussock grass as we moved further inland. Sometimes we had to step through marshy areas. The air smelled simultaneously of the sea, grass, and peat — a very unusual combination of natural aromas.

In fact, we landed on a narrow isthmus. After passing through a densely overgrown grassy hollow, we found ourselves back on the beach but on the other side of the island. It was, I must say, much more picturesque than the one we initially landed on, not only because the sandy strip was much wider but also because the beach was bustling with quite a large number of local fauna representatives.

On a little hill, surveying everything with their proud gaze, stood a family of geese. The male and female, being the same size, sharply differed in the color of their feathers: one was entirely covered in absolutely snow-white feathers, and the other had brown feathers, but the chest was speckled in a thin black-and-white stripe. The goslings were all



uniformly gray. Treading the ground with their small steps, they constantly bent their heads to the ground, plucking edible vegetation with their sharp beaks.



On the waves, a couple of Steamer ducks swayed. The male had an orange beak, and the female had a green one. These birds had long since forgotten how to fly. Why bother? The climate here is favorable, with no sharp temperature fluctuations, so there's

no need to migrate. All their food is right in front of them, no need to fly for it, and the nest is within walking distance, just a few dozen meters from the shoreline. The most amusing thing about Steamer ducks is how they quack. No, it's not quacking; it's more like a cross between the chirping of a cicada and the sounds from some old computer game from the early 90s.

And here are our first penguins — Magellanic penguins! They are quite small, peculiar, constantly waddling and assisting themselves with their wings. Nevertheless, they are completely unbothered by it, strolling along the beach and looking in different directions. Instead of building nests, they dig deep burrows and sit in them, waiting for the arrival of their



offspring. Yes, it's dark and dirty, but no skuas will ever steal their eggs. Well, except for the occasional curious penguin chick, wanting to see what lies beyond the burrow, inadvertently emerges on the surface — and here the troubles begin. The malicious skua only needs that, instantly diving down, grabbing the little one, and that's it. It sits somewhere on a rock and

pecks at its bloody catch. We also watched Commerson's dolphins surfing in the waves remarkably near to the shore.



Ahead of us was a quite long walk. Three to four kilometers from the landing site stood a hamlet. The locals, the owners of the island, had been living there

for a long time, raising sheep and catching fish. Around the houses, there was a garden with flowers and shady coniferous trees. Every time travelers arrived on their island, they baked hundreds of pastries and treated all the guests. It was the same this time, but before enjoying tea and indulging in local pastries, as mentioned earlier, we had to cover some distance.

The path led along the slope of the hill along the seaside. On our right, sheep were grazing, and local birds fluttered around, while on the left, the bay of Carcass Island spread out, in the middle of which stood our ship Hondius, anchored proudly and confidently. Despite the fog showing no signs of lifting, occasionally settling as droplets of condensation on our clothes, the physical

exertion of walking had the desired effect, and we began to feel a bit warm. Some of us had to make stops to take off sweaters or jackets. The situation was complicated by the fact that,



according to the rules, nothing could be placed on the ground. We had to ask for help from other travelers: "Could you hold my backpack for a moment?" — "Yes, of course, no problem!"

Reaching the house of our hospitable hosts, we took off our boots and entered the living room, where tea, coffee, and pastries were already waiting for us. The table was literally groaning

under the weight of the feast. Relaxing on the sofas and chairs, we began to savor the treats our hosts had prepared, fully appreciating the skill of the local bakers. How wonderful it was to catch our breath after a long walk!



The morning time quickly passed. Look, and it's already approaching noon! It's time to return to the ship! The Zodiacs were already waiting for us near a small concrete pier. We put on life jackets, boarded the boats, and rushed back on board the Hondius. Pastries are undoubtedly good, but a full lunch is even better!

While we gathered for lunch, the sailors raised the anchor, and our ship headed to our afternoon activity location — the Saunders Island. It was not far away, so we had no more than an hour for post-lunch rest, and even less for our guides. As soon as the anchor chain rattled, the brave participants of our expedition team boarded the Zodiacs and headed to the shore of Saunders Island to make some preparations for our landing. Joyful Commerson's dolphins, thrilled that guests had finally arrived, playfully leaped out of the water, organizing an honorary escort for the Zodiacs all the way to the shore.



Sometime after, the official start of the operation was given. Zodiac after Zodiac, we raced across the smooth water and, as soon as we reached the shore, disembarked, hastily getting rid of the heavy life jackets. White fine sand, the calm of the water,

and... penguins! The latter stared at us in complete bewilderment, flapping their peculiar wings and trying to understand who we were and what we wanted.

The local residents, the owners of Saunders Island, arrived in two cars to personally meet and greet us. Parking their cars near the shoreline, they opened their trunks, offering us some interesting souvenir products.



The trail was already marked. A walk of one and a half to two kilometers awaited us along the seaside. Gentoo penguins sat on their nests, watching over their chicks. The chicks were already quite big, and some of them, gaining courage, went on short walks around their nests. The parents zealously guarded them, clapping and blocking their path with their wings: "Quiet, quiet, stay, where are you going? No, it's too early for you!" It was amusing to watch as they turned their necks toward us, clicked their beaks, as if saying to us: "Move along, guys, we have enough problems here!" And indeed, they had plenty of problems. Nasty skuas constantly circled above, keeping a sharp eye on the penguin colony. God forbid any penguin

to be inattentive; instantly, a skua would swoop down and snatch a penguin chick! It would grab it in its beak and carry it away to a place where no penguin had ever returned. Nature here is cruel, but what can you do.



Here is the colony of Magellanic penguins. Like their counterparts we saw in the morning, these also sat in their burrows, consumed by curiosity, peeking outside and looking at us.

On the slope, more appropriately described as a "cliff," a colony of shags was situated, and right next to them, a patch of land was claimed by rockhopper penguins. Small, agile



troublemakers, living up to their name, were constantly in motion, hopping from rock to rock. We lingered by them for a long time, taking photos and simply observing their bustle. Nevertheless, the most important awaited us ahead.

Eventually, the trail led us to a colony of black-browed albatrosses. These enormous and majestic birds sat in nests of perfect cylindrical shape. Most of the albatrosses had already raised their offspring. Spotting an albatross chick wasn't an easy task. We had to wait for the parent to rise on its feet, and only then could we see the small gray living bundle beneath it. Some albatross parents allowed their chicks to admire the outside world, holding them snugly under their wings.

Parental duties weighed heavily on the albatrosses. Sitting in their nests, they gazed longingly at the sea, dreaming of the moment when they could finally spread their enormous wings and, taming the wind, soar over the waves into the distance. Albatrosses are made for flight, and only the ancient instinct, as old as the Earth itself, compelled them to sit still in the nest and attend to their offspring. Some albatrosses emitted long, mournful sounds, probably expressing the emotions that had accumulated within them. While preening their chicks' feathers, it seemed as if they were whispering in their ears: "Grow up quickly, and then we'll fly together! I'll show you how the moonlight plays on the sea waves and how whales shoot



fountains into the sky. I'll teach you to challenge the wind and catch squids!" Oh, if only it could happen sooner!

Our guides showed us where to take the best photographs and made sure none of us, absorbed in the spectacle, fell off the cliff. Albatrosses,

glancing at us, furrowed their brows but still posed for photos.

Having feasted our eyes on albatrosses, we started our return journey. On the way back to the landing site, we had the opportunity to turn right and find ourselves on another beach, opposite to the one we arrived on. White, towering waves, ominously roaring, crashed onto the sand. Fearless Magellanic and Gentoo penguins eagerly rushed towards them, disappearing in the white foam. Some penguins, on the contrary, emerged from the sea foam, as if Venus herself, having swum and hunted, appeared in white foam, heading to their nests to swap places with their mates, thereby giving them the opportunity to go hunting in the sea.



But what penguins are standing there near the shoreline? Oh, these are the King penguins! There were only a few of them, some still chicks adorned in huge, clumsy brown pajamas made of soft warm feathers. What a surprise! Of course, we all tried to capture at least a few photographs of these magical creatures.

Walking briskly past the penguins were kelp and dolphin gulls. They turned their heads and repeatedly pecked the sand, devouring the crustaceans hiding in it. Among small sand dunes,



oyster catchers strolled, astonishing us with their long bright red bills. Leisurely, rocking from side to side, steamer ducks ambled here and there. A turkey vulture circled above, and just like at the beginning of our walk, skuas and caracaras soared in the air, striking terror into all the other feathered inhabitants of Saunders Island.

On the slopes of the hill, occasionally drawing attention with loud bleats, sheep grazed. In the local setting, they seemed to perceive us as something outlandish, if not extraterrestrial, certainly as something entirely out of harmony with the surrounding landscape.



One way or another, it was time to return to the ship. As soon as the last of us were on board, the Hondius set course for Stanley, the capital of the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands. In my opinion, a very decent first day of the expedition, wouldn't you agree?

Day 4 – Tuesday 7th January, Stanley, The Falkland Islands

08h00 GPS Position: 51°41.3'S / 057°51.2'W

Wind: E2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +10°C

This morning, we arrived at Stanley, the capital of the Falkland Islands. It was a calm and overcast morning, which made for an easy Zodiac ride to the jetty. From here we could wander along the waterfront to the museum. First stop was the cathedral with its large whalebone arches. Several cafes and souvenirs shops vied for our attention, before we could make it to the museum. The museum houses a great collection showing the life on the Falkland Islands. There were many artifacts, like a collection of saddles and anything horsy, a diorama of local wildlife, whale skulls, and an interactive room focused on the stories of the islanders during the Falkland war.



Wandering the little streets of Stanley, we could see gardens full of flowers, but also curiosities like military tanks and a collection of whale skeletons.

After a few hours in town, it was time to head back to the ship, some bags bulging with local products. The gin distillery was particularly popular. As we enjoyed our lunch, we sailed through the narrows that separate Port Stanley from the open ocean.

After lunch we watched a documentary about the conflict between the UK and Argentina over the Falkland Islands in 1982.

In the afternoon we started preparing for our next destination, South Georgia. At the mandatory briefing we watched a movie about the amazing and unique wildlife of South Georgia and how best to protect it. Chris ran us through the biosecurity measures that we would have to do before we were



allowed to go ashore in South Georgia, like thoroughly cleaning all our outdoor gear from any seeds and soil.

During recap we heard amongst other topics more about the dolphin species we had seen from Andi and learned weird and wonderful facts about the Falkland Islands from Katja. Chris outlined the program for the next few sea days and then it was already time for another fantastic Hondius dinner.



Day 5 – Wednesday 8th January – At sea, sailing towards South Georgia

08h00 GPS Position: 52°16.2'S / 051°21.8'W

Wind: NE6 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +6°C

This was our second sea day with the option of sleeping in a bit – but the few early birds had the luck of seeing some White-chinned petrels passing close to the ship. Those of us who woke up a little later to Chris' wake-up call could see out of the portholes or windows, a clear morning – with some white water about.

The first lecture was given by Katja about the Southern Ocean – she explained how the chemistry has changed in this ocean in recent years, due to climate change. As the ocean warms, it has also become more acidic leading to animals not being able to fully develop their calcium carbonate outer skeletons or 'shells'. It was also astonishing to hear the Southern Ocean is the stormiest place on the earth and is an uninterrupted ocean circling Antarctica which creates a freeway for winds and waves to strengthen like nowhere else on earth. This significant region of the earth influences the atmospheric circulation and composition of the entire Southern Hemisphere and beyond.



Whilst the ever-optimistic bird watchers bravely kept a lookout around the ship many of us enjoyed a cup of coffee or tea in the lounge as the clocks went forward, waiting for the next lecture. Mark showed us all the interesting Albatrosses and Petrels we may see on our way to South Georgia, or already have seen in the Southern Ocean. There were lots of interesting

details and facts on migration routes, feeding behaviour, size and weight – and maybe most importantly – how the Wandering albatross is now deemed a group that consists of four different species one of which is named the Snowy albatross.

As all guests were milling around the ship, we heard the announcement ‘Killer whales at 12 ‘o’ clock’! All staff and guests moved to the bridge or outer decks as the ship turned to get see two huge killer whales. We did then see them briefly at the stern but just as quick as they appeared, they were gone. We later learned from Ashleigh that these were Type B killer whales who are more often seen around the pack ice hunting seals’; however, they do make offshore movements to remove the greenish/yellow tinge on their bodies which is caused by diatoms. Diatom build up can impede the animals in the water; therefore, they travel to mildly warmer waters where the diatoms fall off.

We also heard from Marcello who told us all about South Georgia History. The island was first visited in 1675 by Antoine de la Roché, an English merchant born in London to a French father. He left Hamburg in 1674 as a passenger on a 350-ton vessel bound for Peru. During the return journey, it was en route to Salvador in Brazil around Cape Horn. While trying to navigate through the Le Maire Strait near Staten Island, it was driven off course far to the east. In April 1675, the vessel found refuge in a bay of an unknown island where it anchored for 14 days. La Roché published a report of his voyage in London in 1678 in which he described the new land. South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands were incorporated as a distinct British overseas territory in 1985.

Our Expedition Team delivered recap in the Observation Lounge where Jess showed us the wingspans of Antarctic birds, from the smallest petrel right up to the Royal and Wandering albatross. After a delicious dinner, we were treated with popcorn in the lounge and saw the recent released movie “Endurance”, the epic journey of Shackleton and his men (and animals)



to Antarctica – and the discovery of Endurance on the seafloor, 3000 meters below the surface. What a wonderful historic way to end our day on our way to South Georgia.

Day 6 – Thursday 9th January – At Sea towards South Georgia

08h00 GPS Position: 53°01.9'S / 043°33.4W

Wind: NNE5/6 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +5°C

Our second full day at sea on our approach to South Georgia dawned foggy, but following another hearty breakfast the morning started with a presentation by Ashleigh on 'Bioacoustics - ID by sound'. Here she introduced us to some of the sounds of the sea, both anthropogenic and natural. This was followed by the amazing sight of the A76b



iceberg looming out of the fog midmorning. Measuring 20nm x 7nm and 40m in height this substantial piece of ice shelf broke away from its parent iceberg A76, which calved from the Filchner-Ronne ice shelf in Antarctica in May 2021. Prior to breaking into three pieces, A76 was the world's largest iceberg. It floated through the Weddell Sea and by 2023 had reached the South Atlantic near South Georgia.



The mornings lecture programme continued post iceberg with Julian's lecture on the 'Geology of South Georgia' our soon to be destination.

The foggy patches continued after lunch and finally began to thin out later in the

afternoon which was perfectly timed to see three Humpback Whales feeding next to the ship. Charlotte provided the afternoon lecture on the seal species that we would hopefully encounter, including elephant seals, fur seals, weddel seals, crabeater seals, and the infamous leopard seals. Recaps before dinner were provided by Katja on the A76 iceberg and lenticular clouds and by Pierre on Whaling in the Southern Ocean.

Day 7 – Friday 10th January – Grytviken and St Andrew's Bay

08h00 GPS Position: 54°17.3'S / 036°29.1'W

Wind: NW5 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Partial Cloud • Air temperature: +5°C

On this beautiful morning our Expedition leader Chris woke us up with some good news: after 2 days of fog and clouds, sunshine welcomed our first sight of the island of South Georgia. For many it was a dream come true – seeing the island come into view on the horizon. Shortly after breakfast we headed out to



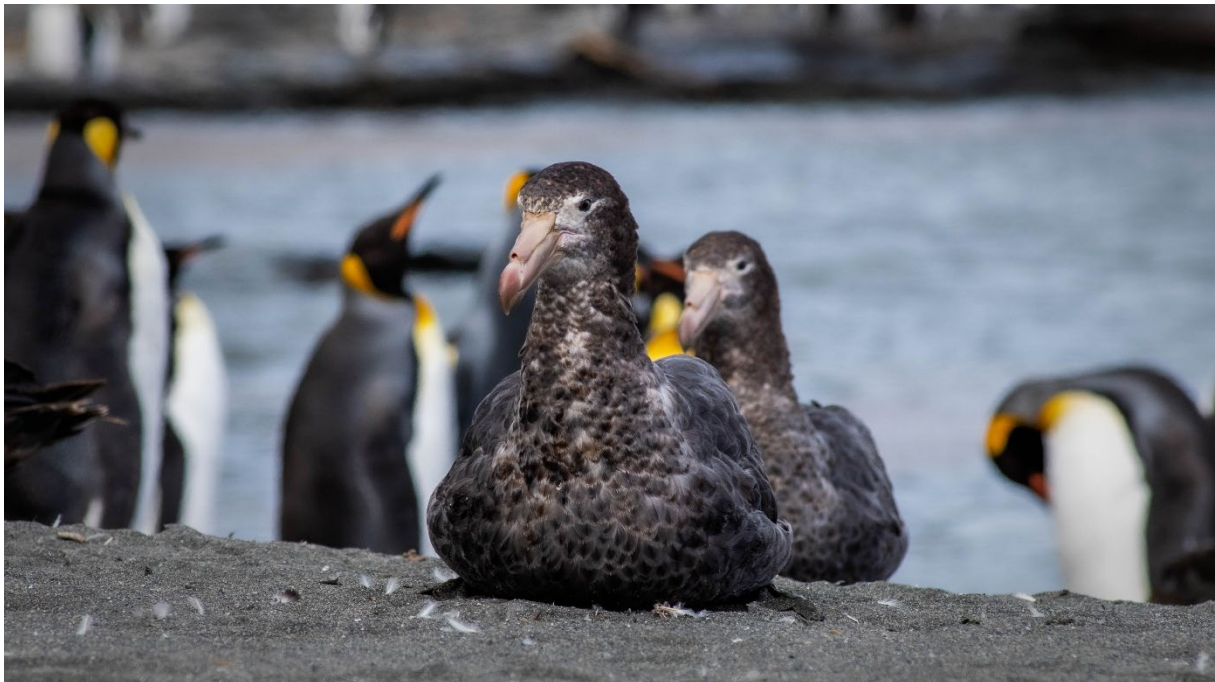
the Zodiac deck and made our way towards Grytviken, which is nestled within a sheltered harbor surrounded by snow-capped peaks. Once a bustling whaling station, Grytviken now stands as a poignant reminder of South Georgia's human history. Grytviken was established in 1904 by Carl Anton Larsen as the first whaling station in South Georgia. At its peak, it was a hub for processing whales harvested in nearby waters. We explored the rusting remnants of processing facilities and oil tanks with a guide called Bodil from the South Georgia Heritage Trust who offered insight into the once-thriving, now controversial, whaling industry.



We visited the museum and the Post office and continued our way to the small cemetery where the legendary explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton is buried. After his ship *Endurance* was



trapped in ice during the Imperial Trans-Antarctic Expedition, Shackleton and his crew undertook an incredible journey to South Georgia to seek rescue. Grytviken marks the final chapter of his remarkable life. A toast with whisky at his gravesite, a tradition for visitors, honors his spirit of resilience and was something that we could not miss. The beaches around Grytviken were alive with elephant seals, fur seals and their pups, and some molting king penguins. The seals lounged on the grass and around the buildings while penguins waddled by, curious but unbothered by human presence. Giant petrels soared overhead, adding to the dynamic wildlife scene.



After we all headed back to our ship, we had lunch and our captain repositioned our floating base towards St. Andrews Bay. Just a short time after, the expedition team prepared our

landing site. A zodiac ride took us to the pristine shores of St. Andrews Bay, home to one of the largest king penguin colonies in the world. The scene is unforgettable: tens of thousands



of king penguins standing shoulder to shoulder, their golden neck feathers gleaming in the sunlight. These majestic birds dominate the landscape, and their distinct calls create a symphony of

sound. Observing their intricate social behavior offers a unique glimpse into their lives. We were able to walk all the way along a river into the valley of a glacier. Elephant seals, some weighing over 3,000 kg, basked on the beach and in the plains. Fur seals darted in and out of the surf, playful and agile, but many were scattered on the green plains. Skuas and Kelp gulls patrolled the skies and the ground, scavenging and hunting in this abundant ecosystem. The backdrop of glaciers descending from the Allardyce Range enhanced the bay's dramatic beauty. The contrast of icy blues, vibrant penguins, and lush green mosses made for unparalleled photographic opportunities.

At 9pm the last of us returned to the ship. Everybody was excited and after Chris's short briefing for the upcoming day, we fell happily into our beds. South Georgia is not just a destination; it's a profound experience blending history, wildlife, and unparalleled natural beauty.



Day 8 – Saturday 11th January – Fortuna Bay and Hercules Bay

08h00 GPS Position: 54°08.9'S, 036°48.6'W

Wind: W5 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Partial Cloud • Air temperature: +4°C



We woke up today with Hondius anchored in Fortuna Bay, home to another King Penguin Colony. Conditions were good with some sunshine and only a light breeze, making for an easy landing. After breakfast, half the group went ashore, with the other half going on a Zodiac cruise around the bay, before swapping halfway through the morning.

Onshore, we were met by inquisitive seal pups defended by their feisty mothers, lines of fat King penguins returning from the ocean, and more groups of skinny penguins heading the



other way, out to sea for another feed. We walked along the beach towards the King penguin colony, passing by large numbers of dead fur seals – both mature males and pups; seals have been badly affected by avian flu in the last two years. Once at the colony we took-in the incredible sight of the densely packed King penguins and their nearly mature brown fluffy chicks.

On the Zodiac cruise we enjoyed the sunshine and took-in the incredible scenery with views up to the glaciers. We watched numerous seal pups playing on the rocks and taking their first swims near the shore. We also saw a few Elephant seals and some Gentoo penguin colonies higher up on the slopes.

With the seas around South Georgia building, we made the short transit over lunch to the shelter of Hercules Bay, where Hondius was able to anchor. We had a short zodiac cruise around the bay, viewing the spectacularly folded rocks on both sides of the bay, and up to the colony of Macaroni penguins. We watched the them porpoising through the water next to our boats, we saw some large Elephant seals lying on the beach next to a high waterfall, Snowy Sheathbills scavenging on the rocks by the shoreline, and Light Mantled Albatross soaring high against the cliffs.

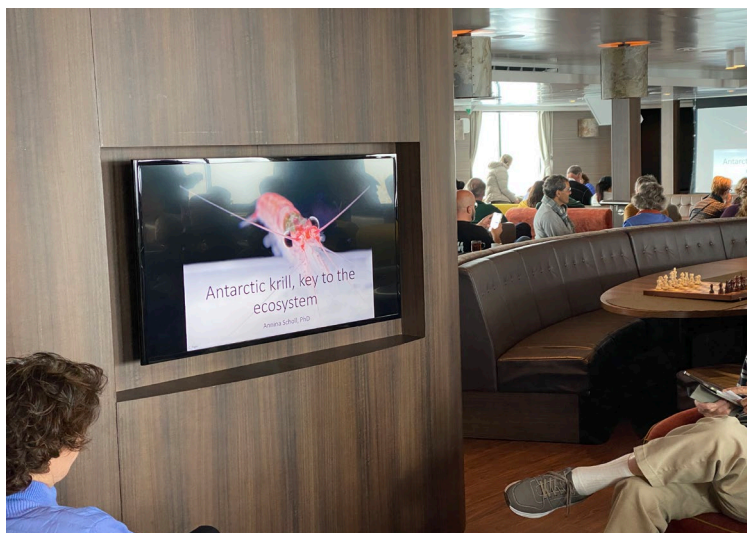
With news of a storm due to arrive in the next days, Chris informed us that we would be leaving South Georgia later that evening in order to get ahead of the storm. We remained in Hercules Bay for the Barbeque, where we dressed-up warm and ate on the outside decks taking in the view before the tables were cleared and the dancing started. At 9pm we pulled up the anchor and said goodbye to South Georgia as we moved the party inside where all corners of the lounge were treated to some tuneful karaoke.



Day 9 – Sunday 12th January – At Sea towards Antarctica

08h00 GPS Position: 54°44.6'S, 039°39.8'W

Wind: NNW6 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +1°C



Overnight the clocks went back an hour providing everyone with a welcome extra hour in bed. Outside, the morning dawned slightly foggy, as we began making our way South West towards Elephant Island in Antarctica. The mornings lecture programme started with Annina's informative lecture on 'krill' the foundation species of the Southern Ocean and this was followed later in the morning by Katja's excellent

introduction to Antarctica. Following lunch everyone took part in the mandatory IAATO biosecurity session held in the bar in preparation for our arrival in Antarctica. This went by very quickly as everybody was now very well versed in how to clean our gear, especially as we had received a 100% score in our biosecurity check from the South Georgia government officer in Grytviken.

The afternoon lecture was provided by the always entertaining Sasha and his story about 'getting to Antarctica'.

Recaps were provided by Andi on 'Kelp' and Pierre gave an overview of Avian Flu following the sight of many dead Antarctic Fur Seals at Fortuna and Hercules Bay the previous day. The waves were building through the day as we approached the storm that had caused our early departure from South Georgia. By the end of the day the ship was experiencing 5.5m swells.



Happy Feet was the movie of choice following yet another delicious dinner, served in challenging sea condition by the restaurant team.

Day 10 – Monday 13th January – At Sea towards Antarctica

08h00 GPS Position: 56°52.5'S, 046°20.6'W

Wind: NW12 • Sea: Very High • Weather: Partial Cloud • Air temperature: +1°C

Today marked a full day at sea as we continued our journey south toward Antarctica. The Southern Ocean really showed us what it was all about with high swells picking up to 10 m with wild winds. All the outer decks were closed and most of us were hunkering down in our cabins. Even for many of the staff and crew this was one of the



roughest days they had ever experienced at sea. For those of us feeling well enough this time gave us time to process and reflect on the incredible experience we had in South Georgia, and a chance to sort through our photographs.

Due to the conditions, all lectures were cancelled throughout the day as we watched the majesty of the storm and the Hondius handling the waves. Many people commented on how well she handled the swell and although we were rocking and rolling, how stable she felt. Well done, Hondius!



One of the highlights was sailing close to a tabular iceberg, a frozen giant that loomed on the horizon like a city of ice. We all watched as the waves were breaking over the top of this enormous tabular iceberg and the immense storm was unfolding all around us. In the afternoon the Expedition Team went to check on all guests to ensure all were safe and take any room service orders if they weren't feeling up to dinner.

Our Expedition Team delivered recap in the Observation Lounge where Jess showed us how much she likes the lichen, with a fantastic demonstration where Julian was (of course!) a rock, Ashleigh was the fungus and Sasha was the algae. Sasha kindly brought up some crisps to feed Ashleigh the fungus to show how this symbiotic relationship works. Katja told us all about Shackleton whisky and how in January 2010 conservators found five crates encased in ice under Shackleton's 1908 Antarctic base. Three whisky crates were excavated, and one crate was flown to New Zealand to be carefully thawed in a purpose-built environment and public gallery at Canterbury Museum. Eleven bottles of the 114-year-old whisky were revealed, still sheathed in their paper and straw packaging. After delicate conservation, the then owner of Whyte & Mackay (which owns the Mackinlay brand), flew to New Zealand to see the extraordinary find. Under permit from the New Zealand Government, he transported three bottles to Scotland on his private jet for scientific analysis by Whyte & Mackay and The Scotch Whisky Research Institute and then the Shackleton Whisky was renewed!

After a delicious dinner, we were treated with popcorn in the lounge and saw the movie "Happy Feet 2", where young penguin Erik, who is reluctant to dance, runs away from home and encounters the Mighty Sven, a tufted puffin, north and south are intertwined.



Day 11 – Tuesday 14th January – At sea, sailing towards Antarctica

08h00 GPS Position: 59°08.9'S, 049°58.4'W

Wind: NW5 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +1°C

The morning after the storm brought improved visibility, and the waves and swell had dropped considerably. There was plenty of wildlife to be seen throughout the morning: many isolated Fin Whales, a group of Hourglass Dolphins, many Prions and Pintado and the occasional Light Mantled and Black Browed Albatross.

Charlotte got the morning's lecture programme underway with her talk on the feeding techniques of whales and explained the differences between the baleen whales and the toothed whales. She explained how Fin Whales can consume huge amounts of krill with a single gulp by opening their mouths 90 degrees.

Mark then gave his talk on penguins, explaining the differences between the Antarctic penguin species. He also talked about his time working on Bird Island in South Georgia. He explained how it was possible to identify the species of penguin eaten by Skuas by poking about their excrement and looking at the undigested penguin tongues.



As visibility improved and the waves dropped further after lunch, Marcelo talked further about Shackleton's incredible story of survival, and following ice cream, Chris gave his talk about ice and his time working on a research station where he would navigate the crevasses on the surrounding Ross ice shelf.

After dinner we celebrated our 100% biosecurity pass rate with a free drink from the bar and many of us stayed-up late playing card games until midnight so that we could view Point Wild on Elephant Island with the ship's bright searchlights. Gabi pointed out the beach where 22 of Shackleton's crew were stranded for four and a half months and the bust of Captain Luis Pardo the Chilean captain who was eventually able to rescue them.

Day 12 – Wednesday 15th January – Penguin Island

08h00 GPS Position: 61°401.4'S, 056°25.4'W

Wind: NNW5 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +1°C

After a late night spent marvelling at the spectacular and historic Elephant Island, we were all grateful for a restful morning aboard the ship. We enjoyed a leisurely breakfast before gathering for an insightful lecture from Rose, who shared her expertise on geology in Antarctica. Following that, Katja took the floor to talk about the fascinating topic of



overwintering in Antarctica. It was a perfect way to begin the day, with both talks sparking curiosity and excitement about the environment around us.



By the time lunch had rolled around, we were more than ready for another wholesome meal, but there was something extra to look forward to: after three days at sea, we were finally heading to land! We set off to Penguin Island, a 1.6-kilometer-wide volcanic island nestled in the South of The South Shetland islands. The island's rugged terrain was

nothing short of breathtaking, and we could hardly wait to set foot on its shores.

We landed in two groups, and after a brief briefing, we started our walk around the entire crater. The island was teeming with Chinstrap Penguins, waddling along the beach, seemingly perplexed by our presence. Their curious stares made us feel like intruders on their home, and we couldn't help, but laugh at how bold they were in observing us. Along the beach, we passed by the main colony of penguins, with their adorable antics and constant chatter filling the air. We could also see some Antarctic fur seals and Southern elephant seals that were moulting on the beach. The beach was scattered with huge ancient whale bones with interesting lichen species growing on them.

After a few hours of exploring, we felt a deep sense of satisfaction from stretching our legs and soaking in the sunshine. It was just what we needed after days at sea. We returned to the ship, where a delicious dinner awaited us, giving us the chance to reflect on the day's adventure.

But the fun didn't end there. That evening, the South Georgia auction kicked off, with Sasha and Gabi taking the reins as auctioneers. There were 24 items up for bid, ranging from Endurance Whiskey and a hip flask to a beautiful chart drawn by Gabi and a lovely fish print scarf, elegantly modelled by Jess. The bidding was lively, with everyone eager to contribute to the cause, and in the end, we managed to raise a fantastic sum of £4500 for the South Georgia Heritage Trust.



Day 13 – Thursday 16th January – Mikkelsen Harbour & Meusnier Point

08h00 GPS Position: 63°54,9'S / 060°47.0'W

Wind: NE5 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Snow • Air temperature: +2°C

Today we experienced the real Antarctica. When we arrived in the morning on D'Hainaut Island in Mikkelsen Harbour it was snowing in big white flakes. A welcome committee of several gentoo penguins was at the landing site. Through deep snow we walked a circuitry route on the small, less than one square kilometre large island. Several gentoo penguin rookeries were dotted on the rocky outcrops. We could see the grey and downy chicks under the bellies of their parents. A Weddell seal was dozing in the snow close to the Argentine refuge Hut called Caillet Bois. Some years ago, Marcelo had spent a week in this hut, and he was happy to share his stories about this time with us.



As the wind picked up during the morning we walked back to the landing site deeply buried into the hoods of our jackets. However, some hardy and brave souls threw themselves into the icy water from the landing beach. They claimed that the polar plunge was refreshing and a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Through their chattering teeth these words were hard to understand.

While one group was ashore, others went on a short Zodiac cruise. The glacier walls with their icefalls opposite from the landing site were spectacular. We moseyed around the island, drove with the Zodiacs into the brash ice filled bay at the refuge hut and tried to snap photos of porpoising penguins on their way back to the colony. But the Antarctic cold drove us back to the ship where hot drinks and a nice lunch waited for us.

Right after the meal several humpback whales were sighted and the bridge team turned the ship so that we could watch them a bit longer. Under enthusiastic 'Uuhs' and 'Aahs' the whales

showed their backs and even occasionally their flukes. Very timely was Piere's lecture on whales that followed our real-life experience.



An early recap and dinner saw us ready to head out again just after 6pm. This was the most anticipated landing. After many small islands that we set food on, at Meusnier Point we finally stepped on the Antarctic continent itself. Meusnier Point lies in Charlotte Bay, 7 km southeast from Portal Point (where we could 't land due to ice blocking the landing site). When we got ashore, we had a nice, marked circuit that we could walk. The ice cliffs behind the landing site were impressive. After an hour on land, we took to the Zodiacs. Weddel seals, crab eater seals and humpback whales were spotted as well as the elusive snow petrel. Some zodiacs even saw big patches of krill just under the surface. Fantastically shaped icebergs and the continuous falling snow were a constant companion. Slowly the day light faded and when we came back to the ship at half past nine the lights on Hondius were already on. After an interesting and cold outing some visited the bar for some well-earned internal warmth.

Day 14 – Friday 17th January – Port Charcot & Cape Tuxen

08h00 GPS Position: 65°04,3S / 060°02.2'W

Wind: E2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Partial Cloud • Air temperature: +2°C

Our day began early, with a spectacular wake-up call: the navigation of the Lemaire Channel. Emerging from our cabins before breakfast, we were treated to the serene beauty of this iconic Antarctic passage. Towering peaks framed the narrow waterway, their icy faces reflected perfectly in the still, glassy sea. As the ship silently glided through the channel bathed in soft morning light, we felt as though we had stepped into a dreamscape.

After breakfast, we made our way to Port Charcot, a haven of history and wildlife. Onshore, a lively colony of gentoo and Adélie penguins welcomed us, many busy tending to their adorable, downy chicks. Watching these industrious birds waddle about and interact was both heartwarming and entertaining. Nearby, we spotted a leopard seal reclining on an ice floe, its sleek, muscular form commanding attention.

Around Port Charcot, we embarked on a zodiac cruise that brought us even closer to the region's remarkable wildlife. Gliding past icebergs and shimmering floes, we encountered leopard, Weddell, and crabeater seals. Each species



had its unique charm—leopard seals exuded power, crabeaters lounged in small groups, and Weddell seals appeared almost serene, occasionally glancing up as we drifted by.

A visit to the historic magnetic hut, built during Jean-Baptiste Charcot's 1904 French Antarctic expedition, added a profound sense of history to the morning. Standing before the timeworn structure, we imagined the lives of the early explorers who endured unimaginable conditions to advance human knowledge in this remote, icy wilderness.



In the afternoon, we shifted gears with a zodiac cruise at Cape Tuxen, where the waters came alive with the spectacular presence of humpback whales. Their exhalations punctuated the stillness, and we were thrilled by their close

approaches and the sight of their graceful tail flukes. At one moment, a curious whale came so near to our zodiac that we could feel the spray of its breath—a humbling, exhilarating encounter we will never forget.

As the golden light of evening spread across the icy expanse, we reflected on a day filled with unparalleled beauty, wildlife, and history. From navigating the breathtaking Lemaire Channel to the rich experiences at Port Charcot and Cape Tuxen, Antarctica had once again left us in awe.



Day 15 – Saturday 18th January – Crossing the Antarctic Circle & Crystal Sound

08h00 GPS Position: 66°44,5S / 067°06.9'W

Wind: S5 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +1°C

We had another earlier wake up today, but...this time it was different. It wasn't penguins or albatross, petrels or seals, nor whales or spectacular landscapes, which was the reason to jump from our beds quickly and go to the bow.

A very old tradition was about to be part of our lives forever. Hondius was firmly sailing, heading south, further South than is usually possible on these trips. We were going to cross the Antarctic Circle.



There are many important, invisible yet meaningful, lines slicing through the earth. A mysterious line separates the world in two different places. One for the regular people that we used to be and, the second, only preserved for those that want to take risk.

To all the civilizations that lived close to the Mediterranean Sea, the world ended above the Hercules' Columns, which is known as Gibraltar Strait today. Nobody knew what you could find "crossing that line". Dragons spitting fire from their mouths, giant sea serpents capable of coiling around the ship until it sinks, a spheric world resting on the back of Atlas, or a flat planet over a turtle.

Then, to be sure that a new sailor was prepared to face those challenges, the "old salty sea dogs", more experienced seafarers, who had already navigated those dangerous places, used

to perform an initiation rite to test their character, courage, temperance and respect for the other crew members.

Any sailor who did not successfully pass this test would be disembarked at the first opportunity to prevent his weakness from harming the rest of the crew. Neptune or Poseidon was and still is the Lord of the Seas to whom total respect was due. His trident is deadly.

Several years later, other lines joined this tradition, the equator line and the polars circles, and we were crossing one of them. Well done! You did it!

But the day was just starting! In Crystal Sound we had an unforgettable zodiac cruise where a pod of orcas surprised anyone. And also we had time to land on an old piece of sea ice, feeling the wind strength over us. The zodiac explored deep into the sound, soaking up sights of icebergs, elegant snow petrels, and of course for a lucky few, the spectacular killer whales. By the time the zodiacs were back at the ship, which was hiding behind a huge tabular iceberg from the strong winds, we had almost run out of fuel.

We then crossed back over the circle. In the afternoon Chris told us about his time living at Scott Base, the New Zealand Antarctic Research Station, in the Ross Sea.

As George Clooney would say: "What else?"



Day 16 – Sunday 19th January – Laperyrere Bay, Melchior Islands

08h00 GPS Position: 64°21,7S / 063°07.7'W

Wind: S4 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Partial Cloud • Air temperature: +3°C

The sun poured into Laperyrere Bay as we awoke to a brilliant morning, the sky clear and the air crisp. It was the kind of day that promised adventure, and we were eager to make the most of it. After a hearty breakfast that fueled our anticipation, we boarded the zodiacs just after 0900, ready for a full morning of exploration.



As we cruised out from the ship, we immediately spotted them—Humpback Whales. They were "logging," a term for when these majestic creatures rest at the surface of the water, floating peacefully like logs. It was a rare and serene sight to witness these great whales in such a relaxed state.

Our journey took us through brash ice, small chunks of ice that had broken off from glaciers, creating a labyrinth of frozen obstacles in the bay. There, on the ice floes, we saw Crabeater Seals and Leopard Seals, both lounging lazily. Every turn of the zodiac seemed to reveal more whales emerging from the depths, their massive tails breaking the surface in slow, graceful arcs.

The morning wasn't without its challenges, though. As we ventured further out, the wind picked up, sending waves splashing over the side of the zodiacs. We huddled close, gripping the sides as the cold spray hit our faces. Yet, as quickly as the wind had arrived, it faded away, and the sun came out in full force. We felt its warmth on our skin, a welcome contrast to the cold of the sea. It was as if we were lizards basking in the sun's energy, soaking in the rare moments of warmth in the Antarctic wilderness.

By 1330, it was time to return to the ship. We were hungry, tired, and content, our spirits high from the morning's encounters. After a much-needed lunch, we took tactical naps, knowing we'd need our energy for the rest of the day.

Later, Jess gave a lecture that added yet another layer to our experience. She spoke passionately about the importance of whales in the ocean ecosystem, explaining how their poop acts as a natural fertiliser and how their existence helps sequester carbon, making them vital players in



the fight against climate change. It was a fascinating and eye-opening talk that made us appreciate these incredible creatures even more.

As the day ended, we gathered for a delicious dinner and settled in to watch the film *Surf's Up*, a lighthearted way to unwind. Popcorn in hand, we laughed, relaxed and enjoyed this comical movie.



Day 17 – Monday 20th January – At sea, sailing to Ushuaia

08h00 GPS Position: 61°01,5S / 064°59.9'W

Wind: SW5 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Partial Cloud • Air temperature: +0°C



Today marked the beginning of our journey across the Drake Passage. The seas were calm, with only a gentle breeze, which meant we didn't have many sea birds following us. It felt almost surreal, with the quiet stretch of ocean ahead of us, the only sound the occasional lapping of the water against the hull.

After a late breakfast, Gabi invited us to a talk about Sir Francis Drake. It was an enriching experience to learn about his legendary voyages and his role in the exploration of these waters. Her storytelling brought the history to life, and it made us reflect on the brave adventurers who crossed these very seas centuries ago.

The wind died down even further, and the sea was smooth. It was the famous Drake Lake, living up to its reputation. After the storm we weathered during the crossing from South Georgia to Antarctica, we felt we truly deserved this moment of calm. The peaceful waters were a welcome relief.

A few times throughout the day, our expedition team called us outside to witness the majestic wildlife we encountered along the way—whales or albatross paying us a visit.

Later in the morning, Annina took us on a fascinating journey into the world of plankton. We marvelled at these not always microscopic creatures, whose life cycles are as intricate as the ecosystems they support. It was a humbling reminder of the interconnectedness of life, no matter how small or big.

After lunch, we enjoyed a peaceful break, some retreating to the lounge, others taking in the fresh air on the outer decks or relaxing in the comfort of our cabins. The quiet moments were much appreciated after the intensity of the previous days.

In the afternoon, we gathered for Katja's lecture on climate change. Her insights on the environment and the challenges facing our planet were both thought-provoking and sobering. It's impossible not to reflect on the vastness of the ocean surrounding us and how delicate it all is.

As the day passed, we all revelled in the smooth sea and the gentle sun. Some of us even managed to sunbathe on the upper decks, feeling the warmth on our skin—a rare treat in this part of the world.

Eventually, it was time to prepare the dinner. This evening, it was our turn to add a personal touch to the meal, and we were tasked with decorating cupcakes for dessert. A fun and creative way to during the day.

Another unforgettable day in the Antarctic waters, filled with moments of tranquillity and discovery. We're grateful for the beauty and peace that surrounds us.

Day 18 – Tuesday 21st January – At sea, sailing to Ushuaia

08h00 GPS Position: 56°52,6S / 067°01.4'W

Wind: SW2 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Partial Cloud • Air temperature: +6°C

We woke up this morning with mixed feelings, excited for one more full day on board Hondius, but sad that it would be our last. The sea was incredibly silky and smooth.

Pierre began the lecture program by talking about Threats to Cetaceans. It was a good time to start thinking about the conservation issues that marine mammals face, the animals we had been enjoying so much on the trip. We could start thinking about changes we could make in our own lives and ways to help cetaceans when we got home.

Marcelo gave a lecture about the famous Gerlache expedition. We had spent some time sailing through the Gerlache Straight, named after the explorer Adrien de Gerlache.

Before lunch we had one final unexpected treat. We were going to sail past Cape Horn. This is the very Southern tip of South America, infamous amongst seafarers for rough seas that have claimed many lives of sailors. There was once a tradition amongst sailors that once you had sailed around Cape Horn, you could get a tattoo of a ship. Perhaps we could all get one back in Ushuaia.



In the afternoon the Captain gave a talk about Polar navigation. Charlotte then gave an indepth lecture about the breeding habits of whales. Many of the birdwatchers among us spent the day outside soaking up the lat chance to see some of the birds of the Southern ocean.

In the evening we were invited to the lounge for cocktails and to toast

the end of a wonderful journey and experience. We said a thanks to all the departments of the ship who work hard to deliver memorable and educational experiences on the Hondius. We were then in for a real treat, as we settled down to watch a slideshow of our voyage that Sasha had been working tirelessly on throughout the trip. Looking back on the incredibly varied experiences we had really made us thankful for this privileged opportunity to visit these remote locations.

We enjoyed a final dinner all together and got to meet some of the staff that work behind the scenes from different departments. We had our last drinks in the bar, making the most of our remaining time with our new friends before heading for our last sleep on Hondius.



Day 19 – Wednesday 22nd January – Disembarkation Day, Ushuaia

08h00 GPS Position: 54°48,5S / 068°18.10'W

Wind: NW2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +15°C

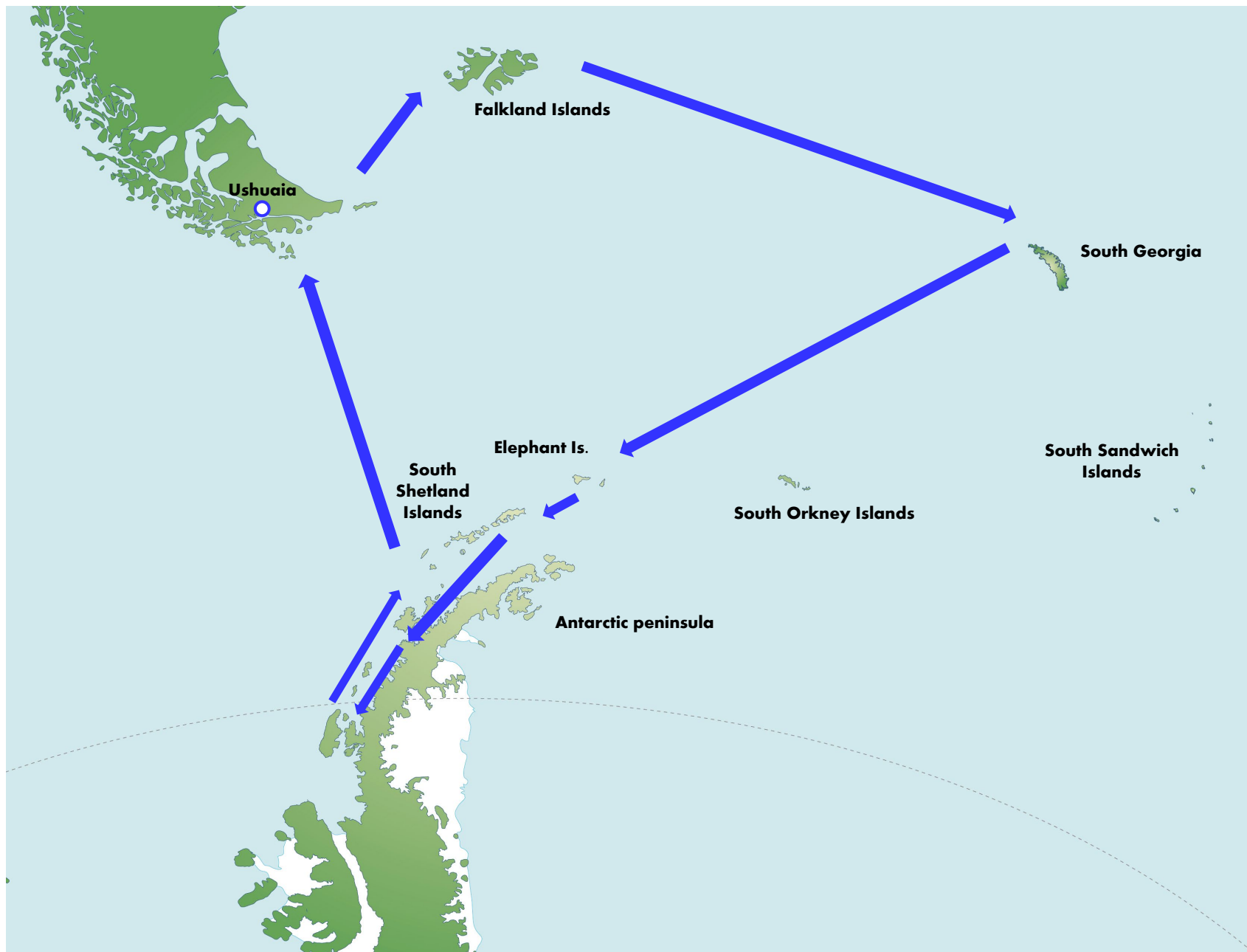
Chris woke us up for the final time and having packed up our bags, we made our way to the restaurant. While we had our final breakfast the expedition team took our luggage down to the pier. We said goodbye to the crew and staff and the new friends we had made and set off. Some of us were heading home and some were moving on to their next travels. Entering the city of Ushuaia was surreal having been in such remote and wild locations for the last nineteen days. We really got to experience the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica in all manner of weathers, and the wild inhabitants of these special places, seals, penguins, whales, and albatrosses, and the mountains and oceans surrounding them, really stole our hearts.

"It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living." David Attenborough.

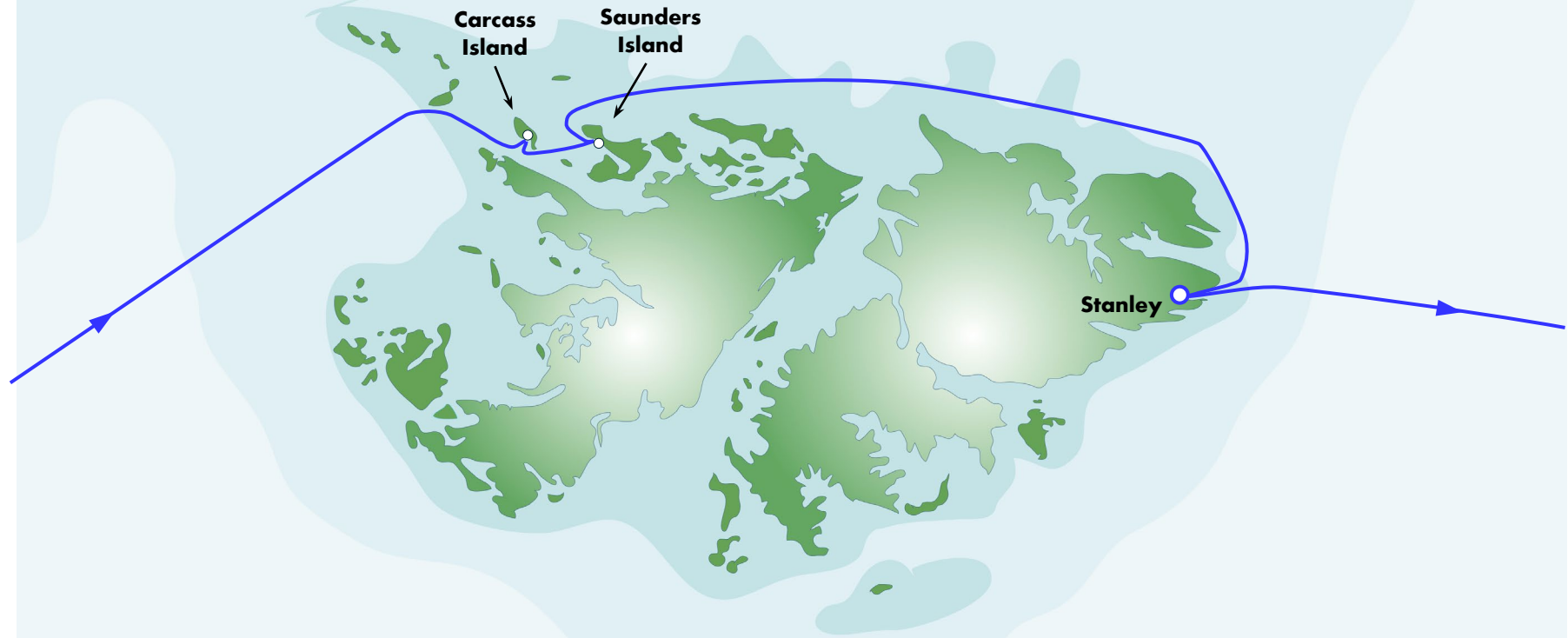


Total distance sailed on our voyage: 3,719 nautical miles
Southernmost position: 66°44.5'S, 067°06.9'W (Crystal Sound)

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Hans Soderholm, Expedition Leader Chris Long, Hotel Manager Jeroen William Barnes and all the crew and staff of M/V Hondius, it has been a pleasure travelling with you.

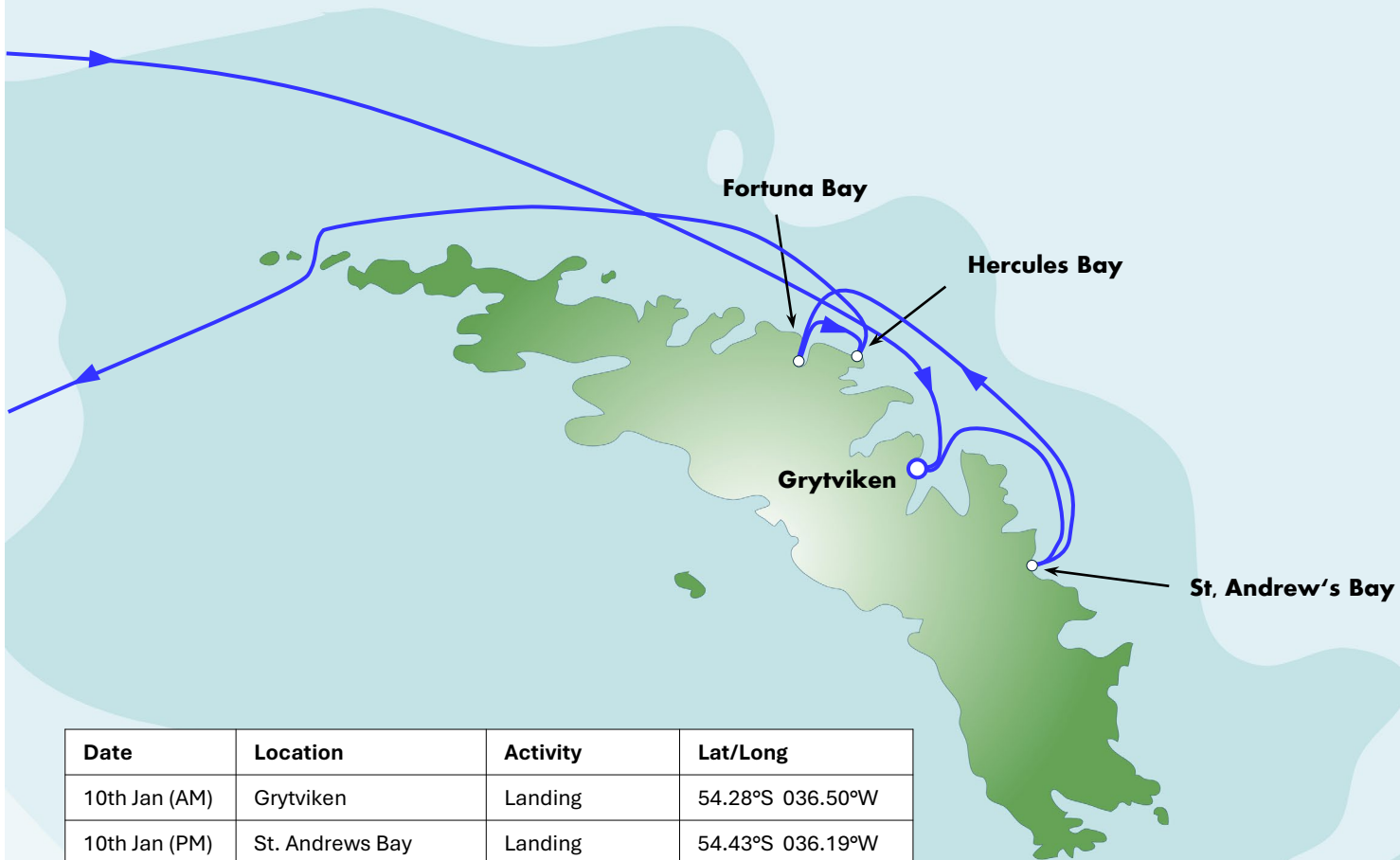


Falkland Islands



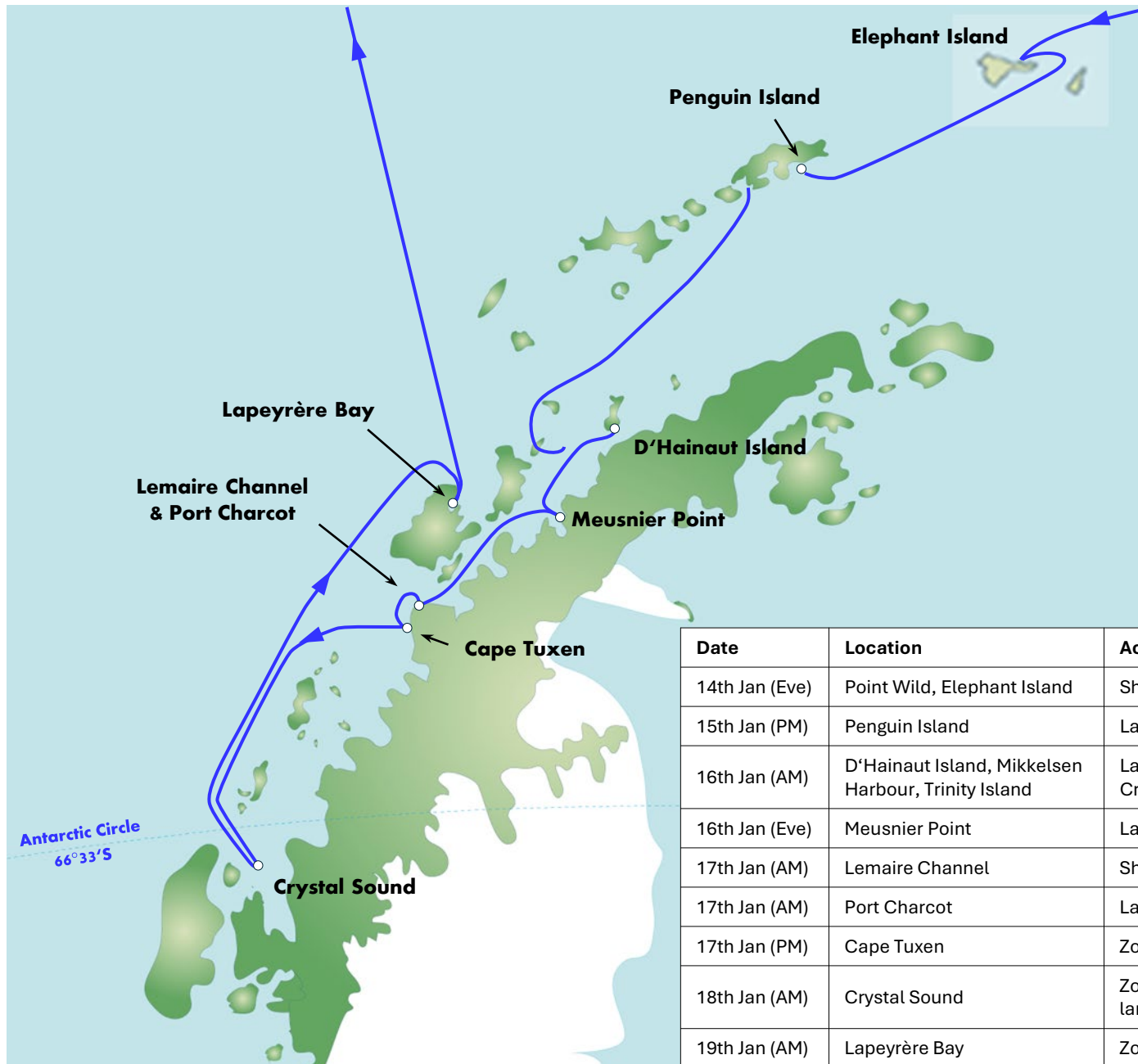
Date	Location	Activity	Lat/Long
6th Jan (AM)	Carcass Island	Landing	51.31°S 060.53°W
6th Jan (PM)	Saunders Island	Landing	51.31°S 060.24°W
7th Jan (AM)	Stanley	Landing	51.69°S 057.86°W

South Georgia



Date	Location	Activity	Lat/Long
10th Jan (AM)	Grytviken	Landing	54.28°S 036.50°W
10th Jan (PM)	St. Andrews Bay	Landing	54.43°S 036.19°W
11th Jan (AM)	Fortuna Bay	Landing/ Zodiac Cruise	54.15°S 036.82°W
11th Jan (PM)	Hercules Bay	Zodiac Cruise /BBQ	54.12°S 036.67°W

Antarctic Peninsula



Date	Location	Activity	Lat/Long
14th Jan (Eve)	Point Wild, Elephant Island	Ship Cruise	61.10°S 054.87°W
15th Jan (PM)	Penguin Island	Landing	62.10°S 057.93°W
16th Jan (AM)	D'Hainaut Island, Mikkelsen Harbour, Trinity Island	Landing/Zodiac Cruise/Polar Plunge	63.90°S 060.79°W
16th Jan (Eve)	Meusnier Point	Landing	64.53°S 061.61°W
17th Jan (AM)	Lemaire Channel	Ship Cruise	65.10°S 063.99°W
17th Jan (AM)	Port Charcot	Landing/Zodiac Cruise	65.07°S 064.03°W
17th Jan (PM)	Cape Tuxen	Zodiac Cruise	65.36°S 064.18°W
18th Jan (AM)	Crystal Sound	Zodiac Cruise/ Ice floe landing	66.78°S 067.05°W
19th Jan (AM)	Lapeyrère Bay	Zodiac Cruise	64.38°S 063.21°W

Birds and Marine Mammals of the Antarctic region including Falkland Islands and South Georgia

						4-jan	5-jan	6-jan	7-jan	8-jan	9-jan	10-jan	11-jan	12-jan	13-jan	14-jan	15-jan	16-jan	17-jan	18-jan	19-jan	20-jan	21-jan	22-jan
English	Latin	German	French	Dutch																				
Emperor Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes forsteri</i>	Kaiserpinguin	Manchot Empereur	Keizerpinguin																				
King Penguin	<i>Aptenodytes patagonicus</i>	Königspinguin	Manchot royal	Koningspinguin				X				X	X											
Adélie Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis adellae</i>	Addeliepinguin	Manchot Adélie	Adélie-pinguin													X		X					
Gentoo Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis papua papua</i>	Eselspinguin	Manchot Papou	Ezelspinguin				X				X	X				X	X	X		X			
Chinstrap Penguin	<i>Pygoscelis antarctica</i>	Kehlstreifpinguin (Zügelpinguin)	Manchot à jugulaire	Kinbandpinguin													X	X	X		X			
Macaroni Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysolophus</i>	Goldschopfpinguin	Gorfou doré	Macaroniepinguin								X	X				X	X	X		X		X	
Magellanic Penguin	<i>Spheniscus magellanicus</i>	Magellanpinguin	Manchot de Magellan	Magelhaenpinguin	X			X															X	
Wandering Albatross	<i>Diomedea exulans</i>	Wanderalbatros	Albatros hurleur	Grote albatros						X		X		X						X		X		
Northern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea sanfordi</i>	Nördlicher Königsalbatros	Albatros royal du Nord	Noordelijke koningsalbatros																				
Southern Royal Albatross	<i>Diomedea epomophora</i>	Königsalbatros	Albatros royal du Sud	Zuidelijke koningsalbatros			X			X													X	
Black-browed Albatross	<i>Diomedea melanophris</i>	Schwarzbrauenalbatros	Albatros à sourcils noirs	Wenkbrauwalbatros	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X			X		X	X	
Grey-Headed Albatross	<i>Diomedea chrysostoma</i>	Graukopfalbatros	Albatros à tête grise	Grijskopalbatros							X			X								X	X	
Light-Mantled Sooty Albatross	<i>Phoebastria palpebrata</i>	Graumantel-Rußalbatros	Albatros fuligineux	Roetkopalbatros									X	X		X								
Northern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes halli</i>	Noordelijke Riesensturmvogel	Pétrel de Hall	Noordelijke reuzenstormvogel	X	X			X			X	X	X								X		
Southern Giant-Petrel	<i>Macronectes giganteus</i>	Südlicher Riesensturmvogel	Pétrel géant	Zuidelijke reuzenstormvogel	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X		X			X	
Southern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Silbersturmvogel	Fulmar argenté	Zuidelijke stormvogel													X			X	X			
Cape Petrel (Pintado)	<i>Daption capensis</i>	Kapsturmvogel	Damier du Cap	Kaapse duif								X	X	X		X	X	X		X		X		
Antarctic Petrel	<i>Thalassoica antarctica</i>	Weißflügelsturmvogel	Pétrel Antarctique	Antarctische stormvogel																				
Snow Petrel	<i>Pagodroma nivea</i>	Schneesturmvogel	Pétrel des neiges	Sneeuwstormvogel									X					X		X	X			
Blue Petrel	<i>Halobaena caerulea</i>	Blausturmvogel	Pétrel bleu	Blauwe stormvogel							X			X		X						X		
White-chinned Petrel	<i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i>	Weißkinnsturmvogel	Puffin à menton blanc	Witkinstormvogel; Witkeelstormvogel		X			X	X	X	X	X	X			X			X		X	X	
Soft-Plumaged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma mollis</i>	Weichfedersturmvogel	Pétrel Soyeux	Donsstormvogel					X	X						X							X	
Great-winged Petrel	<i>Pterodroma macroptera</i>	Langflügel-Sturmvogel	Pétrel noir																					
Atlantic Petrel	<i>Pterodroma incerta</i>	Schlegelsturmvogel	Pétrel de Schlegel																					
Kerguelen Petrel	<i>Aphrodroma neglecta</i>													X										
Grey Petrel										X														
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	Dunkelsturmtaucher	Puffin fuligineux	Grauwe pijlstormvogel			X		X		X												X	
Great Shearwater	<i>Puffinus gravis</i>	Großer Sturmtaucher	Puffin majeur	Grote pijlstormvogel		X			X	X	X												X	
Antarctic Prion	<i>Pachyptila desolata</i>	Taubensturmvogel	Prion de la désolation	Antarctische prion					X	X	X	X	X	X		X					X	X		
Fairy Prion	<i>Pachyptila turtur</i>	Feensturmvogel	Le Prion colombe	Duifprion																				
Slender-billed Prion	<i>Pachyptila belcheri</i>	Belcher-Sturmvogel	Le Prion de Belcher	Dunbekprion			X																	
Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>	Buntfußsturmschwalbe	Océanite de Wilson	Wilson stormvogeltje			X		X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>	Schwarzbauchmeerläufer	Océanite à ventre noir	Zwartbuikstormvogeltje					X	X				X		X	X							
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>	Graurücken-Sturmschwalbe	Océanite néréide	Grijsrugstormvogeltje																				
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides (urinatrix) berard</i>	Lummensturmvogel	Puffinure plongeur	Alkstormvogeltje			X							X										
Magellanic Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>	Magellan-Lummensturmvogel	Puffinure de Magellan	Magelhaen Alkstormvogeltje																			X	
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	Blauaugenscharbe	Cormoran impérial	Keizeraalscholver; Blauwoogaalscholver	X		X	X															X	
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>	Antarktikscharbe	Cormoran (impérial) antarctique	Keizeraalscholver; Blauwoogaalscholver													X	X	X					
Snowy (Pale-faced) Sheatbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>	Weißgesicht-Scheidenschwabel	Chionis – Bec en fourreau	Poolkip								X						X	X					
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	Chileskua	Labbe du Chili	Chileense skua		X																	X	
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta macormicki</i>	Südpolarskua	Labbe de Mac Cormick	Zuidpooljager																				
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta lonnbergi</i>	Braune Skua (Subantarktikskua)	Labbe brun	Subantarktische Grote Jager					X			X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X				
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	Blutschnabelmöwe	Goéland de Scoresby	Dolfinmeeuw	X		X	X																
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	Dominikanermöwe	Goéland dominican	Kelpmeeuw	X	X	X	X				X	X					X	X		X			
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	Falklandseeschwalbe	Sterne hirundinacée	Zuid-Amerikaanse visdief	X		X	X															X	
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>	Antarktiseseeschwalbe (Antipoden-)	Sterne couronnée	Zuidpoolstern								X	X				X	X	X	X	X			
Arctic tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Küstenseeschwalbe	Sterne arctique	Noordse stern																				
Specific to Falkland Islands						4-jan	5-jan	6-jan	7-jan	8-jan	9-jan	10-jan	11-jan	12-jan	13-jan	14-jan	15-jan	16-jan	17-jan	18-jan	19-jan	20-jan	21-jan	22-jan
Rockhopper Penguin	<i>Eudyptes chrysocome</i>	Felsenpinguin	Gorfour sauteur	Zuidelijke Rotspinguin				X															X	
Rock Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax magellanicus</i>	Felsenscharbe	Cormoran de Magellan	Magelhaenaalscholver		X		X																
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax falklandicus</i>	Nachtreiher	Bihoraux gris des Falkland	Falkland Kwak		X																		
White-tufted Grebe	<i>Rollandia rolland</i>																							
Upland Goose	<i>Chloephaga picta</i>	Magellangans	Ouette de Magellan	Magelhaengans				X																
Kelp Goose	<i>Chloephaga hybrida</i>	Kelpgans	Ouette marine	Kelpgans				X																
Ruddy-headed Goose	<i>Chloephaga rubidiceps</i>	Rotkopfgans	Ouette à tête rousse	Roodkopgans				X																
Flying Steamer Duck	<i>Tachyeres patachonicus</i>	Langflügel-Dampfschiffente	Brassemer de Patagonie	Vliegende booteend																				
Falkland Flightless Steamer Duck	<i>Tachyeres brachypterus</i>	Falkland-Dampfschiffente	Brassemer des Malouines	Falklandbooteend					X															
Crested Duck	<i>Lophonetta specularioides</i>	Schopfente	Canard huppé	Andeseend						X														
Chiloe Wiglon	<i>Anas sibilatrix</i>	Chilepfelfente	Canard de Chiloe	Chileense smient																				
Speckled Teal	<i>Anas flavirostris</i>	Chile-Krickente (Andenente)	Sarcelle tachetée	Chileense taling				X																
Silver Teal	<i>Spatula versicolor</i>																							
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Truthahngeier	Urubu à tête rouge	Falkland Kalkoengier		X		X																
Red-backed Hawk	<i>Buteo polyosoma</i>	Rotrückenhussard	Buse tricolore	Roodrugbuiszard																				
Striated Caracara	<i>Phalcoboenus australis</i>	Falklandkarakara	Caracara austral	Falklandcaracara					X															
Crested Caracara	<i>Caracara plancus</i>	Schopfkarakara	Caracara huppé	Zuidelijke Kuifcaracara																				

[illegible]

Chris Long – Expedition Leader



Chris grew up as a part of New Zealand's remotest family two long days hike from the nearest road at a place called Gorge River, on the South Islands West Coast, New Zealand.

His family lives as self-sufficiently as possible in a small cabin surrounded by the jungled rainforest, the rough rugged coastline, and an emerald green river. Most of their food came from a huge vegetable garden or was fished from the ocean. This wild untouched natural corner of New Zealand was Chris's home for the first 17 years of his life, until, one day, he set out to explore

what the rest of the world had to offer.

Since leaving Gorge River Chris has set out to see, explore and experience as much of the globe as possible. This constant search for adventure has seen him travel to over 60 countries on all seven continents. Along this journey, he spent two full summer seasons living and working as a field trainer at Scott Base, a New Zealand research station in Antarctica, as well as multiple voyages to the Ross Sea and East Antarctica.

Chris is also no stranger to the arctic. He once sailed the notorious northwest passage across the top of Greenland, Canada, and Alaska and spent much of the covid pandemic living with 150 husky dogs in Tromso, northern Norway, enduring two long cold dark arctic winters training for long distance dog races.

Since recently returning to New Zealand, he has published an autobiography and is training for his commercial fixed-wing pilot's license.

Pierre Gallego – Asst. Exp. Leader



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

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

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

Jerry Zhao – Asst. Exp. Leader



Jerry has been in love with nature and wildlife and traveling all his life. Soon after completed his degree in Business Administration at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Jerry began a career in the travel industry. Jerry first started as an international travel consultant and tour leader and led exclusive small high-end groups throughout Europe.

He then became partner in an international traveling consulting firm and focused on route planning and employee training.

As he searched for more adventure, He collected skills and knowledge while he traveled around to world. Finally, his step stopped at Polar regions, and joined Oceanwide Expeditions as Expeditions Guides, He has guided expeditions to the North Pole, Svalbard, Greenland, Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia many times.

Along the way as he spent more time in polar regions, learns more about polar regions, he is more interested in polar regions. He has self-studied the geography, wildlife and history of the Polar regions. He is beginning to learn wildlife photography.

When he is not in polar regions, he likes to spend his time in the forest, dessert, and plains in Northwestern part of China. He loves nature, wildlife, and he loves to share all that he knows to everyone who comes across.

Katja Riedel – Expedition Guide



Katja Riedel grew up in Germany where she studied and completed a Phd in Atmospheric Chemistry. For her research she overwintered 1997 at the German Antarctic Base Neumayer where she was responsible for the Atmospheric Observatory.

Since then she has been on several scientific expeditions to Antarctica, for example measuring ozone at Scott Base, drilling ice cores at Law Dome and taking samples of 120,000 years old ice on Taylor Glacier in the Dry Valleys.

She completed a course in Antarctic studies and worked for more than 12 years as a research scientist in Wellington, New Zealand. Her research interests were greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and in ice cores. Since 2011 she works as a guide and lecturer on expedition cruises in the Arctic and Antarctic.

The Polar Regions have always fascinated Katja. On private adventures she skied over 220 km through Svalbard, sailed in a small yacht to Antarctica, kayaked icy waters and worked as a science assistance in Western Greenland. Her fondest memories of Antarctica are building a 24h sundial and sledging from Hut Point to the Erebus Ice Tongue. Most recently she skated 250 km across the frozen Lake Baikal in Siberia. Life is an adventure for Katja and whenever she can she travels, hikes, cycles, sea-kayaks and skis to the remote and beautiful places on earth.

When not traveling Katja lives in New Zealand and works as a freelance guide, science communicator and photographer. She speaks fluently English and German.

Ashleigh Kitchiner – Exp. Guide



Ashleigh is a passionate marine biologist and environmental advocate. She is educated formally with a BSc. (Hons) Biology and MRes. Marine Mammal Genetics from the University of Chester, UK. She conducted research utilising stranding data to compile population genetics of long-finned pilot whales (*Globicephala melas*) across the British Isles.

Since university she has been fortunate enough to work in the energy, charity and tourism sectors, working offshore internationally, in various roles. She has previously worked offshore monitoring marine mammal acoustics in real-time and as a consultant where she completed impact assessments for energy projects. During her career she has gained an in-depth understanding of underwater noise, bioacoustics, noise model interpretation and disturbance modelling.

Her main areas of expertise are marine mammal ecology, policy and legislation, impact assessments and acoustics. Ashleigh is a research-driven individual and would like to bring her experience to the Oceanwide team to deliver an informative engaging acoustics workshop.

Rose Li Hong - Expedition Guide



Originally from China, Rose Li Graduated from Wuhan college with a major in Interior Design. She has worked on well-known international cruise ships since 2014 as an expedition guide and in Asia as a VIP services shift leader and Head cruise ambassador on a Mediterranean cruise line.

She has worked in the polar regions since 2017, as expedition guide, Zodiac driver, Chinese interpreter and guest services manager.

She has many talents such as dancing, drawing, skiing, hosting, and loves creating new activities. Her two academic passions are history and geology.

During her spare time, she has continued to develop her passion for traveling, and has visited more than 40 countries and looks forward to visiting many others in the near future.

Jess Owen – Expedition Guide



Jess is from England and has recently been living on the Isle of Skye in Scotland. Since graduating from a degree in Wildlife and Media, Jess has been working in environmental research and education roles with wildlife conservation charities in the UK, with a focus on marine mammals and birds. Jess is a passionate science communicator, wildlife guide, and nature enthusiast. She has delivered lectures, workshops, tours, school lessons, and training courses to a wide variety of audiences on subjects such as birds, insects, marine mammals, marine and terrestrial conservation,

citizen science, and gardening for wildlife. She is particularly passionate about citizen science and helping inspire people to become connected to wildlife and active in its conservation.

Jess now specialises in whales, dolphins, and porpoises, having worked as a marine mammal surveyor and whale watching guide since 2015. This work has taken her to the Bay of Biscay, the West Coast of Scotland, the Southern Ocean, the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, Svalbard, Greenland, and the Antarctic Peninsula. She is very excited to be returning to work with Oceanwide Expeditions for another season in the polar regions.

When she is not out at sea, Jess spends her time gardening, reading, making films, snorkelling, and bird watching. She loves to spend time with her nieces and nephew and likes travelling in her beloved campervan.

Charlotte Taplin – Expedition Guide



Charlotte grew up by the Coast in Cornwall, United Kingdom. From a young age she has always been fascinated by wildlife and the ocean. She studied Wildlife Conservation at University and then spent the next 10 years travelling through South America, Australasia and Africa. Charlotte's love for boats began in 2013 where she worked on research and dive vessels visiting remote regions of the Great Barrier Reef. Her interest in Marine Biology grew in Australia and New Zealand while studying Humpback, Minke and Sperm Whales.

After driving overland in a land rover from South Africa to Jordan she then moved to Mozambique in 2018 where she started her own backpacker hostel. In her spare time Charlotte worked as a Researcher studying Whale sharks and Manta Rays along the Coast of Mozambique. During 2020-2022 she worked as a Deckhand/Divemaster on superyachts and ice breaker explorer vessels. Her hobbies include scuba-diving, surfing, free-diving and hiking. Being surrounded by the ocean is Charlotte's favourite place to be and she is so excited to have started her first season with Oceanwide in 2022.

Gabi Kolodko – Expedition Guide



Having been exposed to the pristine wilderness of Alaska, Canada, and Lapland before turning ten, Gabi developed a deep-rooted passion for cold climates and the great outdoors. Each summer, she devoted herself to sailing, and in 2012, her adventures included crossing the Baltic Sea from Poland to Scandinavia and back aboard the Zawisza Czarny, a historic 42-meter vessel originally built in 1952.

With a Master's in Fine Arts and a fascination for art, culture, and history, Gabi's curiosity led her to explore the unique human-animal relationships in polar regions, combining her interest in zooanthropology with the stories of Antarctica's early exploration and modern conservation. Her first journey to Antarctica in 2019 only deepened her connection to the continent's striking landscapes and rich history.

Gabi's enthusiasm for the cold extends beyond her travels; she actively practices the Wim Hof method and regularly takes on ice baths, walrusing, and cryotherapy throughout the year. A memorable encounter with a herd of Musk Oxen in 1993 at Herschel Island off the Canadian Arctic coast sparked her love for Arctic wildlife, with the Gentoo Penguin now topping her list of favorites in Antarctica.

She loves being part of life-changing voyages, rediscovering the polar regions with each new group of guests. Driven by a passion for adventure and a genuine desire to share the wonders of the poles, Gabi aims to inspire awe and respect for these breathtaking and fragile landscapes, offering others a transformative glimpse into the natural world.

Mark Whiffin - Mountain Guide



Mark holds a Master's Degree in Conservation Biology and is an ornithologist and birder with extensive field experience. His passion for birds and travelling started from a very young age in East Sussex, England and expanded from there.

After finishing studying at university, he participated in, and led numerous expeditions and scientific research projects to remote areas of the world in search of birds with a particular emphasis on threatened and endemic species.

Mark first visited Antarctica in 2018 employed by the British Antarctic Survey, and subsequently spent five years living and working on Bird Island, South Georgia as a Zoological Field Assistant working with the penguins and petrels. He developed a deep love for the Southern Ocean, its scenery and the birds that call it home, "seeing the first Cape Petrels on any trip always gives a feeling of arriving home".

In his free time Mark enjoys trekking, running or cycling. He is also a keen photographer and videographer who enjoys documenting and sharing his passion for birds, travel and wild places, his images have been used various NGOs, employers, newspapers and online. He looks forward to sharing your expedition with you.

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.

Annina Scholl – Expedition Guide



Annina is a biologist with a passion for remote destinations and marine life – especially plankton, one of the most essential groups of creatures on our planet.

After dreaming of everything alive and wild during her childhood, she studied biology at the TU Darmstadt, where she graduated with a PhD in cell biology. More specifically, she studied how genetic material, DNA, is packed and organized within the cell nucleus.

During her bachelor and master studies however, Annina decided to deepen her understanding and knowledge in marine biology when she worked at the Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI) in Bremerhaven, Germany in the research group “Antarctic krill”. Her master thesis focused on how the annual light conditions in Antarctica influence the metabolism of Antarctic krill, which is the very centre of the food web.

In 2018 her dream of the polar regions became true when she started working as an expedition guide. Since then, Annina has worked in some of the wildest and remotest environments on earth - from the high Arctic down to Antarctica. While it is easy to infect guests with the polar bug in these unique places, it is important to Annina that this happens in a passionate but respectful manner. It is a privilege to visit, and it is our responsibility to protect these environments and all its inhabitants.

In her free time, Annina enjoys spending time outdoors especially hiking, horseback riding and photography.

Marcelo Tarapow – Expedition Guide



Marcelo Tarapow has a Master's degree in Social Sciences, specialized in History from the National University of Quilmes, retired Rear Admiral of the Argentine Navy, Honorary Professor at the Nikola Vaptsarov Academy (Bulgaria) and Graduate in Naval Systems.

He participated in twelve expeditions to Antarctica between 1988 and 2017, occupying different roles until being the leader on his last two occasions, spending around 900 days in Antarctic activity.

He has also carried out studies in Environmental Preservation, Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Tourism.

He has been a professor in pre-Antarctic courses taught in Argentina, Colombia and Bulgaria, especially on navigation, meteorology, the Antarctic Treaty and the Madrid Protocol.

He is the President of the Academy of Antarctica, a lecturer and researcher especially on topics related to the White Continent, having presented on historical Antarctic expeditions in Argentina, Belgium, Bulgaria, Colombia, France and Romania.

He is a member of the Council at Polar Educators International for the 2024-2025 biennium.

His main hobbies are swimming, cycling, tango, reading, an enthusiastic collector of ancient objects linked to Antarctic history and an amateur photographer.

Always ready to learn from other cultures, listen to stories, passionately share their experiences and care for the environment.

Andi Schwertz – Expedition Guide



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

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

Alexander Romanovskiy – Exp. Guide



Alexander Romanovskiy comes from Saint-Petersburg, the Northern capital of Russia. He was born in 1981. After having graduated from the boarding school Alexander entered Saint-Petersburg State University, where he spent 5 years studying physical geography, ecology, regional geography and international tourism. Afterwards he was working on his PhD thesis in Herzen State Pedagogical University of Russia, doing geoecological researches.

In the year of 2011 however, Alexander decided to pause his scientific career and start doing something completely

different, which means working in tourism and traveling the world. He spent 2 seasons working as a trekking guide in Fann mountains (Tajikistan), 1 season on Novolazarevskaya Antarctic scientific station (Queen Maud Land, Antarctica) working as a member of a guesthouse crew.

Since February of 2012 most part of the year he spends on Svalbard. For five seasons in a row Alexander has been living and working as a guide in a ghost town of Pyramiden. In 2016 a new page in Alexander's guiding career was opened: he started working as a naturalist guide on cruise ships in polar regions of the world – Svalbard and Antarctica.

3 to 4 months a year Alexander dedicates to his main passion – traveling the world. No public transport, no hotels, only hitch-hiking and staying overnight with locals or sleeping in a tent. This way he has already visited almost all Soviet republics, Middle East (Iran, Turkey), Asia (China), South America (Argentina, Chile, Paraguay), and it is hopefully far not the end! The world is big, friendly and interesting to explore!

Anneke Planting – Ships Doctor



Anneke, originally from Friesland in the north of the Netherlands, now resides in the Algarve, Portugal. She is a vascular surgeon and currently works as a locum in surgery departments and emergency medicine in Germany, balancing her professional expertise with her passion for travel and adventure.

Anneke's connection to the sea is profound. As a ship's doctor, she has completed numerous transatlantic voyages aboard tall ships, living the timeless art of traditional sailing. Now embarking on her second season in

the Antarctic, Anneke thrives in this remote and breathtaking environment, where her medical expertise and adventurous spirit come together seamlessly. South Georgia and the Falkland Islands, with their wild and mysterious landscapes, continue to captivate her, drawing her back time and again. Anneke developed a fascination with the history of whaling, remnants of which remain visible in these regions, connecting us to the past and the stories of those who ventured into these remote corners of the world.

For Anneke, these journeys are not only about the extraordinary natural beauty but also about the incredible people she meets along the way. The camaraderie of the crew and the inspiring stories of the guests create an atmosphere of connection and shared adventure, making every trip even more meaningful and unforgettable. As the ship's doctor, Anneke is dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of all crew members and guests. She is always there to provide care, support, and reassurance, creating an environment where everyone feels secure and looked after.



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Welcome aboard!

Date: 4th January 2025

Day 1: Ushuaia - Embarkation

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

- 17:15+/- Ship safety briefing, in the **Observation Lounge on deck 5**. 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 STATIONS**.
- 18:15+/- Please join the Expedition Team and Captain in the **Observation Lounge on deck 5** 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.
- 19:15 Buffet dinner in the **Restaurant on Deck 4**.

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



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 5th January 2025

Day 2: At Sea, heading towards the Falkland Islands.

- 07:45 Wake-up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the **Dining Room on Deck 4**.
- 09:30 Gabi invites you to the **Observation Lounge on deck 5** for her “Introduction to Whales” that we might see during this voyage.
- 11:00 Please join Chris, the Expedition Leader, in the **Observation lounge** for the **Mandatory IAATO and Zodiac Briefing** and to hear more about plans for the forthcoming days. Attendance will be checked and is **mandatory**.
- As we are headed to the Falklands we ask that everyone takes some time to check and clean your shore equipment. There will be brushes and paperclips available at reception for you to sign out and use for this. Please make sure all your equipment is clean before we go ashore in Falklands.*
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 15:00 You will be called deck by deck down to the **zodiac boarding area on Deck 3** to collect your **Muck Boots**, please bring your thick socks so you can try them for size.
- 16:15 Gabi invites you to the **Observation Lounge on deck 5** for her presentation all about Falkland Islands.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the **Observation Lounge on deck 5** 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 the ship at all times. Shut all doors firmly and keep fingers away from door frames.

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



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 6th January 2025

Day 3: Carcass and Saunders Island

06:45 Wake-up call.

07:00-08:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

*This morning we hope to do a landing at Carcass Island. We will visit some penguin colonies on the eastern end of the island before taking a 4km hike along a muddy/grassy farm track to the Carcass island settlement where we will enjoy smoko starting from **10:00**, a true Falkland island tradition! We will return to the ship for lunch. Anyone wanting to miss the hike and go straight to the settlement can do so. Please be the **very last people** at the zodiac boarding area and we will shuttle you directly to the settlement.*

08:15 We hope to invite the **Red Group** to the zodiac boarding area on deck 3 for a landing at Carcass Island. **Please have your key card ready to scan out of the ship!!**

08:45 We hope to invite the **Blue Group** to the zodiac boarding area on deck 3 for a landing at Carcass Island. **Please have your key card ready to scan out of the ship!!**

12:00-13:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

This afternoon we hope to land at Saunders Island. Here we will hike across the local farm to see King, Gentoo, Magellanic penguins and up above the cliffs overlooking Black-browed albatross and rockhopper penguin and shag colonies.

14:00 We hope to invite the **Blue Group** to the zodiac boarding area on deck 3 for a landing at Saunders Island. **Please have your key card ready to scan out of the ship.**

14:15 We hope to invite the **Red Group** to the zodiac boarding area on deck 3 for a landing at Saunders Island. **Please have your key card ready to scan out of the ship.**

Gentle reminder – Avian Influenza is a critical threat to wildlife in the Falklands. Please do not kneel/lie down/sit or put anything on the ground. Please keep a 5-metre distance from any wildlife.

19:00 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge on deck 5 for daily recap.

19:30 Plated dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

"The greatest adventure of all is life itself" - Bertrand Piccard.



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 7th January 2025

Day 4: Stanley

We encourage you to be on the outside decks to enjoy our final approach towards Stanley Harbour, as we navigate through The Narrows.

06:45 Wake-up call.

07:00-08:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

08:15 We hope to take you ashore in Stanley, the capital of the Falkland Islands.

We will land at the jetty which is close to the centre of town. Maps and other information leaflets are available in the Tourist Centre, which is very close to the jetty. The admission price to the museum is included in your visit, just show your **room card key** at the entrance. The local currency is Pounds Sterling, but you can use Euros and Dollars in most shops. Debit and Credit cards are also widely accepted. Please remember, **no food to be taken ashore**, you may be inspected by a government officer on disembarkation. This is the only landing of the voyage where **you may wear your own shoes to go ashore in the zodiacs**.

The last Zodiac will leave at 12:45 - PLEASE DO NOT BE LATE!

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

15:00 We will show a short video about the Falklands War in the observation lounge.

16:15 **MANDATORY** South Georgia and Biosecurity Briefing in the Bar. Attendance will be checked, please be on time.

18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the **Observation Lounge on deck 5** for daily recap.

19:00 Plated dinner will be served in the **Dining Room on Deck 4**.

"It is not the mountain we conquer, but ourselves" - Edmund Hillary



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 8th January 2025

Day 5: Scotia Sea

07:45 Wake-up call.

08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

09:15 Katja invites you to the Bar for her lecture titled 'The Southern Ocean'.

11:00 Mark welcomes you to the Bar for his presentation about Albatross and Petrels.

PLEASE NOTE - At midday the clocks will go forward 1 hour.

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

16:15 Marcelo welcomes you to join him in the Observation Lounge for a presentation about South Georgia History.

18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.

19:00 Plated dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

Please take time during the day to start bio securing your outer clothing, Muck boots and bags in preparation for visiting South Georgia. Brushes, cloth rags and paper clips are available at reception to borrow, please return them as soon as you have finished with them for the next people to use.

20:30 We will be doing a screening of the latest Shackleton Movie, 'Endurance', with popcorn! This will be in the Lecture Room on deck 5.

"A journey is a person, 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



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 9th January 2025

Day 6: Approaching South Georgia

- 07:45 Wake-up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 09:15 Please join Ashleigh for a presentation in the Observation Lounge – “ID by Sound”.
- 11:15 Julian invites you to the Observation Lounge for a presentation about Geology of South Georgia.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 13:30+/- We will call you deck by deck for the **MANDATORY South Georgia Biosecurity**. When called, please bring all your outer garments, bags, boots, life jackets, tripods, etc. that you plan to use in South Georgia for the expedition staff to check. Please make sure everything is extremely clean before proceeding to the Observation Lounge and ensure you sign the self-declaration form once you have approved by the Expedition Team.
- 16:15 Please join Charlotte for a lecture in the Observation Lounge all about SealsP.
- 17:45 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.
- 18:30 Plated dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

As we enter the South Georgia special protection area, we must minimise the light pollution to prevent birds striking the ship. **PLEASE PUT ALL THE BLINDS IN YOUR CABINS DOWN BEFORE DINNER!**

- 20:00+/- Please join Victoria in the Observation Lounge for a Pub Quiz!

“The most beautiful thing in the world is, of course, the world itself” – Wallace Stevens



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 10th January 2025

Day 7: Grytviken and St Andrews

06:45 Wake-up call.

07:00-08:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

On arrival we have to clear customs with the Government Officer. During this time there will be a short presentation in the lounge by the South Georgia Heritage Team about their recent work and the rat eradication project.

Before going ashore, we will be individually inspected at the shell doors. This can be a timely process so please be patient, we will call the **Blue** group first, followed by the **Red**. We hope to land you near the two shipwrecks in front of the museum, you can then visit the church, museum, post office, and gallery. Before entering any of these buildings, you must walk through the Virkon disinfecting solution provided at the entrance and again when you leave.

IMPORTANT:

- Do not enter any of the old whaling buildings.
- You can only use credit or debit cards.
- Please do not take tripods or monopods ashore.
- If you would like to make a toast to Sir Ernest Shackleton, please be at the cemetery either at 10:00 or 11:00.

12:00-13:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

14:45 We would like to invite the **RED** group for a landing at St Andrews Bay.

17:30 Buffet dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4 for the **BLUE** group. The **RED** group will join dinner once they return from their landing.

18:30 We would like to invite the **BLUE** group for a zodiac landing at St Andrews Bay

21:30 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge to discuss plans for the next day.

PLEASE PUT THE BLINDS DOWN IN YOUR CABINS BEFORE DINNER! DECK 3 & 4 PORTHOLES MUST REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL WE LEAVE SOUTH GEORGIA!



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 11th January 2025

Day 8: Fortuna Bay and Hercules

06:45 Wake-up call.

07:00-08:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

This morning we hope to land and zodiac cruise at Fortuna Bay. Here you will see a King Penguin colony, Fur & Elephant Seals, and many more birds and wildlife.

08:00 We would like to invite the **RED** group for a zodiac landing at Fortuna Bay King penguin Colony. Dress warmly as after visiting the colony we will offer a zodiac cruise to all passengers.

08:15 We would like to invite the **BLUE** group for a zodiac cruise at Fortuna Bay. Please dress warmly for the zodiac cruise as it will be around two hours long exploring the coast of Fortuna Bay.

The groups will change over half way through the morning so all people get the chance for a cruise and all get the chance for a landing

13:30-14:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

In the afternoon we will do a zodiac cruise in Hercules Bay, home of the Macaroni Penguins, fur seals, some king penguins and elephant seals. Please dress warmly for the zodiac cruise so we can stay out as long as possible

15:15 We would like to invite the **BLUE** group for a zodiac cruise at Hercules Bay

15:30 We would like to invite the **RED** group for a zodiac cruise at Hercules Bay

18:30 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.

**PLEASE PUT THE BLINDS DOWN IN YOUR CABINS BEFORE
DINNER! DECK 3 & 4 PORTHOLES MUST REMAIN CLOSED UNTIL
WE LEAVE SOUTH GEORGIA**

19:00 BBQ dinner will be served outside on the back of Deck 5. Dress warmly and come and enjoy the cool outside air while eating BBQ!

Visually and emotionally, the island of South Georgia overwhelms. At first glance, it resembles the far south Atlantic branch of Dr Doolittle's fantastic zoo: a profusion of captivating animals that quickly transforms even the most discriminating observer into a raving anthropomorphic. - Ron Naveen



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 12th January 2025

Day 9: At Sea heading towards Antarctica

07:45 Wake-up call.

Please note the clocks will have gone back 1 hour overnight.

08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

09:15 Annina invites you to the Observation Lounge for her lecture all about Krill

11:15 Katja invites you to the Observation Lounge for her lecture: Introduction to Antarctica

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

13:30 We will call you deck by deck for the **MANDATORY** IAATO Biosecurity, in preparation for our activities in Antarctica. When called, please bring all your outer garments, bags, boots, life jackets, tripods, etc. that you plan to use in Antarctica for the expedition staff to check. Please make sure everything is clean before proceeding to the Bar and ensure you sign the self-declaration form once you have approved by the Expedition Team. **You can also collect your passports, they will be available to collect on the table in the middle of the lounge.**

16:15 Sasha invites you to the lounge for his lecture/story about: How to get to Antarctica.

18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.

19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

20:30 Movie time! Weather permitting: we will be screening the movie Happy Feet, in the lecture room.

"The ice and the long moonlit polar nights, with all their yearning, seemed like a far-off dream from another world, a dream that has come and passed away. But what would life be without dreams?" - Fridtjof Nansen



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 13th January 2025

Day 10: Heading towards Antarctica

*We anticipate to be experiencing heavy swells today. Please secure your cabins, use one, or two hands for the ship at all times. And if you don't feel it is safe to leave your beds, or cabins then please don't do so. If you need some snacks delivered to your rooms due to heavy the rolling of the ship and not feeling **safe** to move around the stair swells please call reception. Thank you and please think about safety at all times.*

07:45+/- Wake- up call.

08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

09:15 Please join Mark for his lecture about Penguins weather permitting

11:15 Please join Charlotte for her lecture about the Feeding Techniques of Whales

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

16:15 Please join Rose in the Observation Lounge for her lecture all about Antarctic Geology!

18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.

19:00 Buffet dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

"We have probed the earth, excavated it, burned it, ripped things from it, buried things in it. That does not fit my definition of a good tenant. If we were here on a month-to-month basis, we would have been evicted long ago."

- Rose Elizabeth Bird



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 14th January 2025

Day 11: Heading towards Antarctica

- 07:45 Wake - up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 09:30 Please join Charlotte for her lecture about the Feeding Techniques of Whales
- 11:15 Please join Mark for his lecture about Penguins weather permitting
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 14:15 Marcello invites you to the Observation Lounge for his lecture about the Shackleton Endurance Expedition.
- 16:15 Please join Chris in the Observation Lounge for his lecture all about different types of ice that we will see during this voyage.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

"Half the fascination an Antarctic expedition possesses is to be found in the sharpness of the contrasts experienced during its course, for it appears to be true that a hell one day is liable to make a heaven the next." - Raymond Priestley.



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 15th January 2025

Day 12: Penguin Island

07:45 Wake-up call.

08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

09:15 Rose invites you to the Observation Lounge for her lecture about Antarctic Geology

10:45 Katja invites you to the Observation Lounge for her presentation about Overwintering in Antarctica, including many stories and photos.

12:00-13:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

13:30+/- We would like to invite the **RED** group for a landing at Penguin Island

13:45+/- We would like to invite **BLUE** group for a zodiac cruise at Penguin Island

Halfway through the afternoon we will swap around so all passengers get the chance to go cruising, and landing.

18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.

18:45 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

20:30 South Georgia Heritage Trust Auction in the Observation Lounge. We will be auctioning off a selection of unique items and experiences, please donate generously.

"I have often had the impression that, to penguins, man is just another penguin – different, less predictable, occasionally violent, but tolerable company when he sits still and minds his own business." - Bernard Stonehouse



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 16th January 2025

Day 13: Mikkelsen Harbour and Portal Point

06:45 Wake-up call.

07:00-08:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

08:15+/- We would like to invite the **BLUE** group for a landing at Mikkelsen Harbour

0830+/- We would like to invite the **RED** group for a zodiac cruise at Mikkelsen Harbour

Halfway through the morning we will swap around so all passengers get the chance to go cruising, and landing.

We will also be doing a Polar Plunge! So please wear your swimsuit under your expedition gear. We will provide the towels and the polar plunge will be from the beach at the end of our landing.

12:00-13:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

14:30 Piere invites you to the Observation Lounge for his lecture about Humpback Whales

17:00 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.

17:30 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

18:45+/- We would like to invite the **RED** group for an evening **continental landing** at Portal Point

19:00+/- We would like to invite the **BLUE** group for an evening zodiac cruise at Portal Point

*Halfway through the evening we will swap around so all passengers get the chance to go cruising, and a **continental landing**.*

"I have often had the impression that, to penguins, man is just another penguin – different, less predictable, occasionally violent, but tolerable company when he sits still and minds his own business." - Bernard Stonehouse



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 17th January 2025

Day 14: Lemaire Channel, Port Charcot and Cape Tuxen

06:15 Wake-up call.

This morning, we hope to transit through the Lemaire Channel at around 0630. A beautifully scenic narrow passage on the Antarctic Peninsula known as the 'kodak gap'.

In the morning, we hope to take you on a landing and zodiac cruise at Port Charcot and Iceberg Graveyard looking for lots of icebergs, Gentoo Penguins, Seals and Whales and a small hike.

07:00-08:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

08:00 We would like to invite the **RED** group for a landing at Port Charcot

08:15+/- We would like to invite the **BLUE** group for a zodiac cruise at Port Charcot

Groups will swap halfway through the morning on the shore so everyone gets the chance to do both activities

12:00-13:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

In the afternoon we plan to zodiac cruise around Cape Tuxen, we will be looking out for penguins, seals, and whales.

13:30 We would like to invite the **BLUE** group for a zodiac cruise at Cape Tuxen

13:45 We would like to invite the **RED** group for a zodiac cruise at Cape Tuxen

18:00 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.

19:00 Dinner will be served in the dining room on deck 4.

"When your feet are cold, cover your head." - Inuit proverb



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 18th January 2025

Day 15: Ice edge south of the Antarctic Circle!

06:15 Wake-up call.

This morning will be a true expedition morning. We will be crossing the Antarctic Circle at 6:30am and we will wake you for this iconic crossing for all to enjoy! We hope to invite everyone for a zodiac cruise in the sea ice south of the Antarctic Circle after breakfast. Standby for announcements as we search for a suitable place to do so and we encourage you to be out on deck as we sail into Crystal Sound.

07:00-08:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

TBD We would like to invite the **BLUE** group for a zodiac cruise in the sea ice south of the Antarctic circle

TBD We would like to invite the **RED** group for a zodiac cruise in the sea ice south of the Antarctic circle

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

Expedition Afternoon - sailing north.

16:15 Please join Chris for his lecture: Calling Antarctica Home, about his time living at Scott Base in the Ross Sea.

18:00 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.

19:00 Dinner will be served in the dining room on deck 4.

"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



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 19th January 2025

Day 16: Lapererere Bay

07:45 Wake-up call.

Please if you would like bus service from the ship to the airport on disembarkation, sign up for this in the reception by tonight 9pm.

08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4

TBD We would like to invite the **RED** group for a zodiac cruise in Lapererere Bay

TBD We would like to invite the **BLUE** group for a zodiac cruise in Lapererere Bay

14:00-15:00 Buffet lunch will be served.

15:00+/- We will call you to the zodiac boarding area on deck 3 to return your Muck boots and hire rental clothing, please listen for announcements

16:15 Jess invites you to the Observation Lounge for her lecture about "What whales do for us"

18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Observation Lounge for recap.

19:00 Plated dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

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!

"We must always remember with gratitude and admiration the first sailors who steered their vessels through storms and mists and increased our knowledge of the lands of ice in the South." - Roald Amundsen



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 20th January 2025

Day 17: Drake Passage

- 07:45 Wake-up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 09:15 Please join Gabi for her lecture about Sir Frances Drake, as we sail through the passage named after the man himself.
- 11:15 Annina invites you to the Observation Lounge for her lecture about Plankton
- 12:30-13:30 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.
- 13:30-14:30 Please come to the Lecture Room to do your payments for the South Georgia Auction
- 14:30 Victoria invites you to the dining room for a fun activity of Cake Icing!
- 16:15 Katja invites you to the Observation Lounge for her lecture about Climate Change
- 18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Observation Lounge 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 Plated dinner is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

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



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 21st January 2025

Day 18: 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 Pierre in the Observation Lounge for a lecture about Threats to cetaceans.

11:15 Marcello invites you to the Observation Lounge for his lecture about The Gerlache Expedition.

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

14:15 Please join Captain Hans in the Observation Lounge for a lecture about Polar Navigation.

16:15 Charlotte invites you to the observation Lounge for her lecture about the Breeding of Whales

18:00 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 Farewell 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.

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



Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica

Date: 22nd January 2025

Day 19: Ushuaia

07:15 Wake-up call.

Please ensure your luggage is outside your room before 07:30am.

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

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

PLEASE NOTE: Upon arrival in Ushuaia, we will provide free busses to the airport for morning flights only, at 09:00 a.m. 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. 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.

From all the Expedition Team and Crew on board the MV Hondius, we wish you safe onward travel, and thank you for sharing this incredible voyage with us. We look forward to sailing with you again in the future.

"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