



Antarctica - Basecamp

Ushuaia – Ushuaia

10 January 2025 – 22 January 2025

On board *M/V Ortelius*



M/V Ortelius was built in 1989 in Gdynia, Poland as a special-purpose research vessel for the Russian Academy of Science. She was originally named “Marina Svetaeva” after a well-known Russian poet. The vessel was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions in 2011, re-flagged in The Netherlands, and re-named Ortelius. She was extensively re-fitted in 2019 and complies with the latest SOLAS-regulations (Safety Of Life At Sea). *M/V Ortelius* is 90.95 m long, 17.2 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5.4 m. She has ice class UL1 (Equivalent to 1A), 10.5 knots average cruising speed and propulsion is 6 ZL 40/48 SULZER. Ortelius is named after the Dutch cartographer Abraham Ortelius (1527-1598) who published the first modern world atlas, the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (Theatre of the World) in 1570. Her home port is Vlissingen.



Captain Remmert Koster

[Netherlands]

and his international crew of 56

Chief Officer:	Nicolās Dámeto Ordinas	[Spain]
Second Officer:	Warren Gamet Villaneuva	[Philippines]
Third Officer:	Sander Witsenburg	[Netherlands]
Chief Engineer:	Floris Oskam	[Netherlands]
Second Engineer:	Jhunwel Yuzon	[Philippines]
Hotel Manager:	Volodymyr Cherednychenko	[Ukraine]
Assistant Hotel Manager:	Karolina Guziejko	[Poland]
Head Chef:	Ivan Yuriychuk	[Ukraine]
Sous Chef:	Sergei Sklyarov	[Ukraine]
Bosun:	Philip Malang	[Philippines]
Bartender:	Glaiza Loterina	[Philippines]
Ship's doctor:	Elmar Kleimann	[Germany]
Expedition Leader:	Sara Louise Jenner	[United Kingdom]
Assistant Expedition Leader:	Chloe Merchal	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Carina Jasmin Ketterer	[Switzerland]
Expedition Guide:	Hana Spickova	[Czech Republic]
Expedition Guide:	Hazel Marie Pittwood	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Joyce Mulder	[Netherlands]
Camping Guide:	Jose Gonzalo Sabattini	[Argentina]
Camping Guide:	Koen Jongerling	[Netherlands]
Kayaking Guide:	Zet Jonas Freiburghaus	[Sweden]
Mountaineering Leader:	Owain Peter Jones	[United Kingdom]
Mountaineering Guide:	Christopher John Forrest	[United Kingdom]
Photography Guide	Matthew Francis Harold Cheok	[Australia]

WE WELCOME YOU ON BOARD!

Day 1 – Friday 10 January, Ushuaia, Embarkation Day.

16:00 GPS Position: 54°48.6'S / 068°17.8'W

Wind: N force 7/8 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Partly Cloudy • Air temperature: +16°C



The day had finally come! It was time to leave Ushuaia and board the good ship *Ortelius* for our epic expedition. The crew and expedition team had loaded our luggage onboard and delivered it to our cabins earlier in the day. All that remained was for us to take a few photos of *Ortelius*, our home for the next ten days, before heading up the gangway.

We were warmly welcomed by the crew and expedition team who assisted us in finding our cabins. We had some time to explore the ship, get our bearings and grab a coffee in the bar, then it was time to gather in the lecture room for the mandatory ship safety briefing where we met Expedition Leader Sara Jenner, and her team who gave a practical demonstration on how to put on our emergency life jackets.

We practiced the abandon ship drill by putting on our lifejackets and heading outside to see the lifeboats. This is where we realized that we had already cast off from the pier and our journey was underway! Following the drill, we assembled in the bar where Captain Remmert welcomed us with champagne and canapés, Hotel Manager Volodymyr talked about the shipboard services, and Sara gave an overview of the voyage and introduced the expedition team.



It was soon time for our first evening meal, with a delicious buffet selection prepared by Head Chef Ivan and his galley team, served by the friendly dining room staff. After dinner we were called back to the bar so that two more mandatory briefings could be delivered in the sheltered waters of the Beagle Channel. Sara first briefed us on the Antarctic Visitor Guidelines, as laid down by IAATO – the International Association of Antarctic Tour Operators – of which Oceanwide is a founding member, and this was then followed by the Zodiac safety briefing.

With the formalities out of the way, many of us went onto the outside decks to enjoy what remained of the Beagle Channel, marvelling at the spectacular mountains on either side in the evening light, scanning the waters for seabirds, whales and dolphins.

Day 2 – Saturday 11 January, At Sea, Drake Passage

12:00 GPS Position: 57°62.1'S / 065°57.6'W

Wind: NW force 5 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Clear • Air temperature: +8°C

Our first day on the Drake Passage, one of the roughest seas on the planet. Luckily, we were blessed by the weather gods as the waves reached a maximum of 3 meters. Straight after breakfast, each deck was invited to the lecture room to pick up their muck boots. Fortunately, the nickname of this room, Vomitorium, did not become a reality this time.



This day was focused on mandatory briefings on different activities to understand what is expected from us and how to prepare gear. The variety of activities, from mountaineering to kayaking, camping, and photography, created a perfect balance of adventure and learning.

Our mountaineering guides Owain and Chris explained how to avoid falling into a crevasse and rather enjoy spectacular views from mountain tops. The kayak leader Zet recommended avoiding a polar plunge and rather stay balanced inside of the kayak while paddling with whales and penguins.



During our lunchtime, many birds were gliding along the ship. The wildlife sightings, especially the wandering albatross with its impressive wingspan of up to 3.5 meters, were breathtaking. We also saw black-browed albatross, southern giant petrels, and small prions flying around the ship.

In the afternoon, Koen and Gonzalo introduced us to a camping activity; Koen wearing a penguin suit to get everyone excited about camping on the Antarctic continent. What a great way to set the mood!

The informative lectures, like Matt's photography talk and the recap by Koen about the Antarctic convergence and Carina's talk about nautical terms, helped to enrich the overall experience, giving everyone new insights into the unique environment they were exploring.

Day 3 – Sunday 12 January, At sea, Drake Passage

12:00 GPS Position: 62°32.6'S / 065°49.2'W

Wind: SE force 5 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +1°C



The day started with a process of signing up for the day's events. There was a buzz of energy as everyone eagerly lined up to secure spots in their favourite activities. The options were kayaking, mountaineering or camping. We could do all of them, promising days full of adventure.

Our morning officially began with a fascinating presentation about

whales. Hazel delivered an engaging talk that delved into the life of these magnificent marine mammals. We learned about their behaviour, migration patterns, and unique characteristics of different species.

Not long after the presentation, we had our first wildlife encounter. From the ship's deck, we spotted two fin whales. Seeing these whales in their natural habitat was a humbling and unforgettable experience.

Lunch followed soon after, offering a brief but welcome break. The dining room was filled with chatter about the whales and anticipation for the rest of the day. After lunch, we attended a session on biosecurity. This important briefing ensured that we understood the measures needed to protect the pristine environment we were exploring. We had to clean our gear following strict protocols to prevent introducing any non-native species to these fragile ecosystems.



The afternoon brought another educational opportunity: a lecture about penguins. Carina shared insights into the lives of these iconic Antarctic birds. We learned about their breeding habits, adaptations to extreme cold, and different species found in the region.

The evening began with the daily recap, a cherished tradition where the expedition team reviewed the day's events. We shared stories, answered questions, and got a preview of what was planned for the next day. We learned more about how to identify different animal species and about gigantic and colossal octopuses living in the depths of the ocean.

After dinner, we were invited to watch the brand-new Shackleton movie. It was a perfect way to end the day, surrounded by new friends.

Day 4 – Monday 13 January, Lemaire channel, Port Charcot

12:00 GPS Position: 65°06.8'S / 064°03.0'W

Wind: E force 1 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +2°C



Today was our first full day in Antarctica! Sara woke us up at 06:45. By that time, most of us were already up and outside as our ship was passing through the beautiful Lemaire Channel, offering incredible views of towering cliffs and glaciers.

Our first wildlife encounter came quickly. Watching orcas swimming close to the

ship was a thrilling experience! Watching these powerful creatures glide through the water was amazing and really set the tone for the day.

After breakfast, we were ready to begin our first adventure. Mountaineers and kayakers set off, while the rest of us boarded Zodiacs for a cruise around Pleneau Island. It was incredible to see so much wildlife on our very first day surrounded by huge icebergs. We spotted Weddell seals, elephant seals, leopard seals, and crabeater seals resting on icebergs. There were also many Gentoo penguins waddling around.



At one point, the guides had to jump out of the Zodiac and push it through a shallow part of the water because the tide was going down. It was a fun moment, and we all cheered them on as they worked together to get the boat through.



On our way back, we had an unexpected treat—humpback whales! They were playful and curious, swimming incredibly close to the Zodiacs. We watched them spy-hop, lifting their heads out of the water to get a better look at us.

After lunch, we prepared for a landing at Port Charcot. When we arrived, humpback whales were again close to the shore. Port Charcot is a special place, rich in history and wildlife. We saw a magnetic hut, Gentoo and Chinstrap penguin rookeries, and even a few Adelie penguins. The best part was a hike to a viewpoint where we could see humpback whales all around us, breaching the surface and creating a spectacular sight. The kayakers were having an amazing time, surrounded by whales as they paddled through the water.

Port Charcot is an important spot in Antarctica, not just for its wildlife but for its historical value as well. We were all in awe of the stunning views and the abundance of animals.



Dinner was a time to share our excitement from the day, but the adventure wasn't over yet. After the meal, it was time for the campers to head ashore. They would dig out sleeping pits and spend the night camping under the Antarctic sky.

What a day it was! We saw so many animals on our first day, orcas, humpback whales, seals, and penguins. We can only imagine what the next days will bring—this is just the beginning of our incredible journey in Antarctica.



Day 5 – Tuesday 14 January, Iceberg Graveyard, Petermann Island

12:00 GPS Position: 65°06.3'S / 064°03.0'W

Wind: W force 2/3 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +2°C

We awoke to another beautiful morning in Antarctica with sunshine, very little wind and calm waters - perfect for our Zodiac cruise and other planned activities! The mountaineers were dropped off in the early morning at Hovgaard Island to begin their ascent to the highest point of the island. After a hearty breakfast, other guests embarked the Zodiacs for a cruise near the Southern end of the Lemaire Channel near Pleneau Island. A small group joined kayak leader Zet for a paddle. Everyone out on the water was treated to incredible views of Humpback whales, four young Southern elephant seals sleeping together on rocks, along with Crabeater, Weddell and Leopard seals hauled out resting on ice. For bird life, there were large rafts of Gentoo penguins swimming speedily around and under our Zodiacs and plenty of them ashore in their breeding rookery, with a few Chinstrap penguins among them. In addition to the wildlife, we were in awe of the huge, towering icebergs, admiring their texture, colours and shapes but giving them plenty of space! With so much to look at, the time flew by. Before we knew it, it was time to go back on board for lunch.



In the afternoon, we went ashore at Petermann Island. The kayaking group circumnavigated the island. After Sara's briefing, we manoeuvred out of the Zodiacs, clambered up the rocky shore near the disused Argentine Hut, and followed the marked routes around the landing site. The main highlight of this afternoon was seeing nesting Adélie penguins, and we were happy to hear expedition staff saying that there was a good number of

chicks, and they looked big and healthy. We also enjoyed a leg stretch as we slushed our way through the snow, but with the wind beginning to pick up it was time to head back to the comfort of Ortelius.



Following the daily recap and dinner, the bridge team skilfully navigated back through the Lemaire Channel. By this time the wind had increased significantly and was now accompanied by rainfall, but from the comfort of the lounge we watched humpback whales as we gazed out of the windows. Some people stayed up for a nightcap before bed, but many went to their cabins early to get rest for tomorrow's activities.



Day 6 – Wednesday 15 January, Foyn Harbour, Portal Port

12:00 GPS Position: 64°32.8'S / 061°58.4'W

Wind: S force 7/8 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Snow • Air temperature: +1.3°C

Another adventurous expedition day! After breakfast, we headed out for a Zodiac cruise in Foyn Harbour. Foyn Harbour is a bay with a whaling shipwreck called Governoren that was grounded in 1915 after an accidental fire. Governoren lays in shallow waters and we were able



to see the bow sticking out of the water. Nowadays, it is a nesting place of Antarctic terns. We cruised around hundred-year-old water boats that were left on the shoreline by whalers. Water boats were used to bring snow to ships to supply fresh water. We followed a shoreline of Enterprise Island finding

Antarctic shags and Weddell seals. Cruising around beautiful iceberg sculptures while big snowflakes were slowly falling made it a magical experience.



When back on board, we were ready to have a hot drink to warm up. Chloe invited everybody to her lecture about plankton. Her enthusiasm about the microscopic world full of wonders and



beautiful structures motivated us to search for plankton at every occasion during the next few days!

Our afternoon plan was a continental landing at Portal Point. It was snowing heavily. And it was so much fun! The expedition team brought the Antarctic flag for us to take a picture and for many, to confirm landing on their 7th continent. The

team also arranged an area for an Antarctic silence. There we could watch the incredible snowy landscape around us and listen to the sound of Antarctic nature.

The day ended with a daily recap followed by a delicious dinner and a Happy Feet screening movie with popcorn!

Day 7 – Thursday 16 January, Brown Station, Neko Harbour

12:00 GPS Position: 64°52.4'S / 062°52.4'W

Wind: W force 2 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +2°C

We woke up in Paradise Bay, the sun shining brightly over the icy landscape, creating a breathtaking view. The morning air was crisp and fresh, and the excitement of the day ahead filled everyone with energy.



Our first adventure was a Zodiac cruise in Paradise Bay. The boat moved through the calm waters, taking us past towering icebergs and crystal-clear glaciers. We also visited Brown Station, an Argentine research station. The station is situated on the Antarctic Peninsula, and it plays a crucial role in scientific research. It's home to scientists who study the unique ecosystems in the area, including the surrounding wildlife and ice conditions.

After our cruise, it was time for kayaking. The conditions were perfect: the water was smooth and calm, and the skies were clear. As we paddled through the icy waters, we were lucky enough to see some amazing wildlife. A whale surfaced near us its massive body breaking through the surface of the water before disappearing again into the depths. We also spotted crabeater seals lounging on nearby ice floes. It was a truly magical experience being so close to such magnificent creatures.

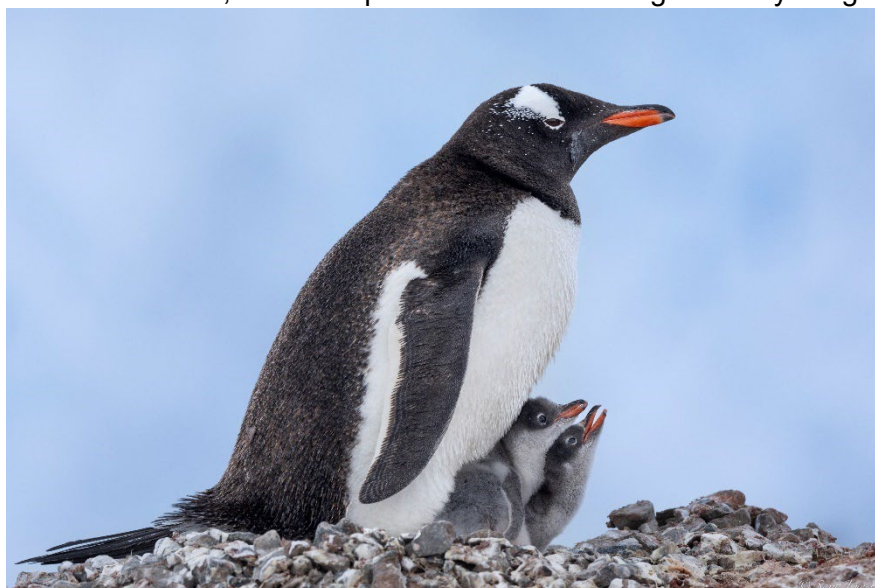


The area around Paradise Bay is known for being rich in whale activity. There was plenty of whale feeding happening nearby, and it was incredible to witness. Watching these creatures feeding in their natural habitat made us appreciate the importance of preserving these beautiful environments. This was truly a highlight of the trip, as whale watching in such an untouched location was a rare and special experience.



Later, we gathered to listen to Koen who gave an informative lecture about sea ice. He explained how sea ice forms and how it plays an essential role in the Antarctic ecosystem. The lecture was fascinating, and it helped us better understand the significance of the environment we were exploring.

In the afternoon, we took part in mountaineering and kayaking at Neko Harbour, another



stunning spot in Antarctica. Neko Harbour is famous for its picturesque scenery and is home to a large colony of gentoo penguins. We hiked up the slopes to enjoy a panoramic view of the bay and surrounding glaciers. At the base of the slopes, we also encountered penguins and their little chicks, which was one of the

most heartwarming sights of the trip. The gentoo penguins waddled around, while some of the chicks huddled close to their parents for warmth.



After our activities, we returned to the ship for a recap of the day's events. Everyone shared their experiences and thoughts on the incredible sights we had witnessed. But the adventure



wasn't over yet! For some, the day ended with a cozy night in their beds, but 40 of us had the opportunity to camp in the cold Antarctic wilderness. We set up tents on the icy landscape, bundled up in layers of warm clothing, and prepared ourselves for a night under the stars. The freezing temperatures made the experience unforgettable, but the unique surroundings and

the sense of adventure made it worth it. As the rest of the group went to bed, those of us camping in Antarctica stayed awake, listening to the sounds of the frozen landscape and feeling incredibly grateful for the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be in such a remote and stunning place.

Day 8 – Friday 17 January, Orne Island, Danco Island

12:00 GPS Position: 64°40.4'S / 062°38.8'W

Wind: NE force 4/5 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Snow • Air temperature: +4°C

Today was the 8th day of our expedition, and once again, we woke up to the stunning beauty of Antarctica. The morning light revealed the ice-covered landscape. There's truly no better way to start the day than with a view like that.



The mountaineers started their day early, meeting at 07:15 in the lecture room to get ready for their climb. Meanwhile, the rest of us slowly woke up and gathered for breakfast at 07:30. The dining room was filled with quiet chatter as everyone enjoyed a hearty meal to start the day.

Unfortunately, the weather didn't cooperate for kayaking today. Strong winds and rough waters meant the activity had to be cancelled. Therefore, the kayakers joined the rest of the group to make a landing at Orne Island instead.

We started by visiting a viewpoint close to where we landed, and from there, we had a great view of a gentoo and chinstrap penguin rookery. It was fun to watch the penguins waddling around and taking care of their nests. After that,



we took a longer, slippery walk to the other side of the island, where we found a colony of chinstrap penguins.



After exploring Orne Island, we returned to the ship for lunch. The warmth inside the ship was a welcome break, and we refuelled with a delicious meal. Then, it was time for a landing at Danco Island, which is known for its amazing views and large population of gentoo penguins. The kayakers first set off to explore the coasts around the island. The rest of us landed, and we were immediately surrounded by these cute penguins and their penguin highways, going about their daily activities. A short hike took us to a spot with incredible views of the bay, and some of us even climbed higher for a more stunning outlook of the area. The scenery was simply beautiful.



The moment everyone was waiting for finally came: the polar plunge! Passengers on land, kayakers, and some staff, all gathered to jump into the freezing Antarctic waters. One by one, we jumped in, feeling cold like never before. Truly a shock at first, but definitely worth it!

After the plunge, we hurried back to the ship to warm up. Hot showers and mugs of hot

chocolate helped us recover from the cold. Later, we gathered in the bar to talk about the day's

events and hear about tomorrow's plans. And with that, another beautiful day in Antarctica had come to an end. And with more adventures to come, we were all excited for what the next day would bring.

Day 9 – Saturday 18 January, Damoy Point, Jougla Point

12:00 GPS Position: 64°49.7'S / 063°30.1'W

Wind: N force 4 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +2°C



Our day began with Sara's soothing voice over the PA system: 'Good morning, good morning, good morning!' We had arrived in the vicinity of Damoy Point the previous evening in truly spectacular conditions and we were eagerly anticipating going ashore there this morning. Snow-covered mountains, towering glaciers, and calm waters awaited us as we finished our breakfast and boarded the zodiacs. Some of us chose to try out snowshoeing whilst we had good snow conditions allowing us the opportunity to do so.

Exploring ashore we followed the marked route around the site, what gave us a good leg stretch. There were numerous Gentoo penguin rookeries, and we looked closely to try to spot chicks nestled warmly beneath a parent bird. We also relished the chance to see two historic huts: Damoy Hut (UK) and Bahía Dorian Hut (Argentina).

Damoy Hut was built by the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) in 1975 and served as a transit station for BAS staff and supplies until 1993. A ski-way above the hut was used as a runway for small aircraft making journeys to and from BAS' Rothera Research Station. Nowadays it is managed by the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust and is kept in a good state of repair, enabling us to step inside and 'go back in time' to the period in history when the hut was in use. Tins of food line the shelves, the kettle is poised over a small stove, sleeping bags line the bunk beds and comics and magazines lie on



the worktop. Informative posters give information on the history of the place, and we enjoyed being able to imagine what it might be like to leave the comfort of our ship and sleep in such a hut.



This was a particularly special morning for two of our guests who got married ashore! With Assistant Expedition Leader Chloe assuming the role of the minister, and with many guests serving as witnesses to the happy occasion, the couple celebrated their love for one another surrounded by the beauty of Antarctica. After another delicious buffet lunch on board, it was time for our afternoon activity zodiac cruising in the vicinity of Jougla Point and Goudier Island.

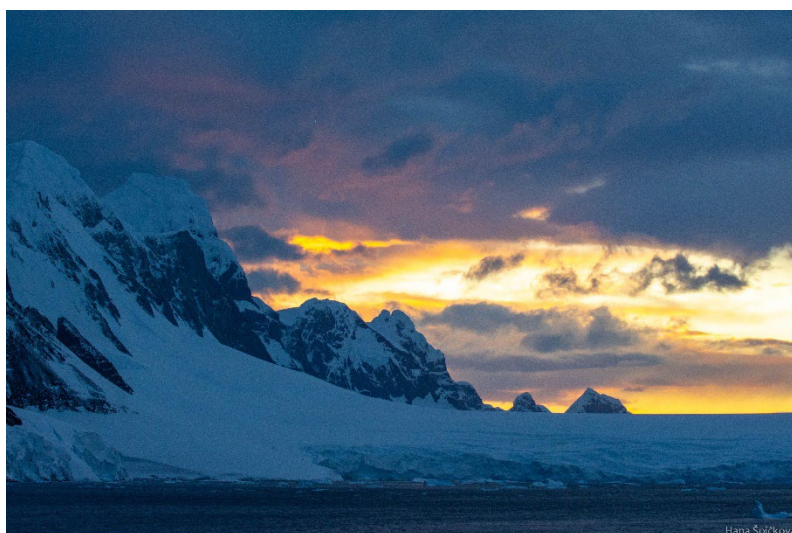


We were interested to see Port Lockroy, aka the Penguin Post Office, the most southerly post office in the world. As our boats passed near to shore at Jougla Point, we saw Weddell seals hauled out resting. The graveyard of whale bones ashore told the story of the area's history as a busy whaling area. As we observed the remains of these majestic ocean giants lying on the shore, we were thankful that the hunting stopped in the Southern Ocean before those



magnificent creatures were lost from the area forever. We marvelled at the mountaineering guides and their group of ice-climbing guests as we saw them ascending an ice wall in the distance. We also enjoyed cruising a glaciated bay nearby before heading back to the ship.

We were happy to return to the comfort of Ortelius to warm up, hear the daily recap and enjoy our evening meal. However, tonight was not just any meal, it was our BBQ celebration dinner served outside on the helicopter deck!



After eating the amazing food lovingly prepared by the galley team and served by the dining crew we enjoyed laughing and dancing the night away, with both old friends and new.

Day 10 – Sunday 19 January, Deception Island

12:00 GPS Position: 62°59.9'S / 060°31.7'W

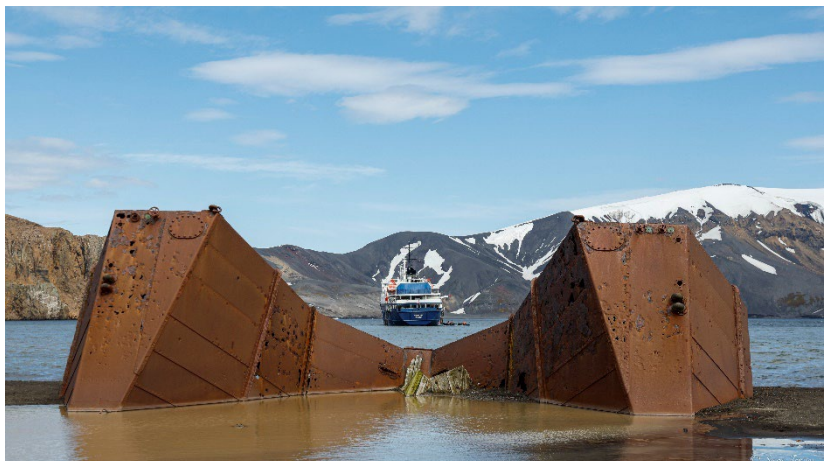
Wind: SW force 5/6 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Clear • Air temperature: +1.5°C

We have seen and experienced a lot so far. What else could we possibly add? What about sailing into an active volcano and visiting one of the largest whaling stations in Antarctic waters?



We came from the far south after having enjoyed our BBQ on the Neumayer Channel. Our morning activity was a ship's cruise through the Gerlache strait northwards. It was a beautiful day with great views of the surrounding mountains. Sara invited us to her lecture about Marine threats in the Southern Ocean. A lecture that is close to her heart and shows in detail how we are affecting the Southern Ocean by our presence.

At 12:00 we navigated through a spectacular Neptune's Bellows which is a narrow entrance into the caldera of the Deception Island volcano. When we entered the caldera, we could see the whaling station on our starboard side. After a quick lunch, the expedition team was ready to receive the first people. Arriving at the beach, we stepped into a sulfuric mist that was coming from a hot sand on



the shoreline. We hiked towards Neptune's Window; a gap in the caldera that was used by whalers as a viewpoint to spot whales. It gave us a chance to enjoy a view of the beautiful Bransfield Strait and its colourful volcanic rocks.



The whaling station itself was an interesting site to visit. A large machinery and several houses are still there. Graves at the back of the whaling station remind us how harsh the conditions must have been. The sulphuric steam, the sun shining through the mist and large buildings in the background really made for an unforgettable experience.



When we were back on the ship, the expedition team invited everyone for a hot chocolate with rum on the bow on our way back through Neptune's Bellows. Leaving the active volcano behind, on a sunny day while drinking a hot chocolate with rum was certainly a great way to say goodbye to our Antarctic experience.

Day 11 – Monday 20 January, At sea, Drake Passage

12:00 GPS Position: 60°07.9'S / 063°31.8'W

Wind: NE force 6 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Partly cloudy • Air temperature: 2.1°C

We woke up slightly apprehensive. Today is one of our two-day crossings of 'The Drake', one of the most hyped 'so-called notorious' sea areas in the world.

But when we checked the movement, it was not as expected. Nothing even remotely like the infamous "Drake Shake"! A pleasant gentle slow rolling and only the reassuring powerful sound of our ever-reliable engines.

We could go safely to a leisurely breakfast! This was a Drake Lake!!! It felt like a holiday as we had just a relaxing programme of lectures.



Hana delivered her lecture "How to observe the ocean under 400m thick ice shelf in Antarctica", describing research and logistics at one of the Norwegian research bases in Antarctica.

Koen followed mid-morning with a thoroughly researched early days of Antarctic exploration. What drove these heroic sailors to venture into the unknown, to risk danger in this icy vastness?

It was a stimulating presentation that encouraged us to read more about this enormous continent.

At 4.00pm, just after we had been enticed to the lounge by promises of a cake and coffee, Carina delivered her lecture "Ortelius and pictures from behind the scenes", describing Ortelius and life onboard and how they treat the sea water onboard with the method of reverse osmosis.

During the recap, questions were answered and then we went to have a plated dinner.

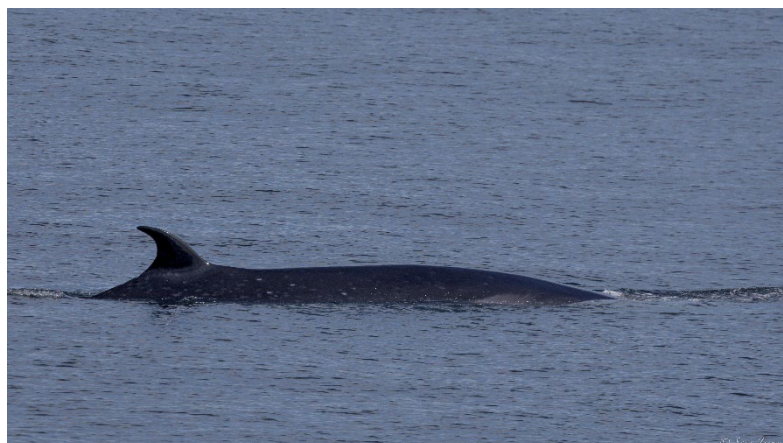
A surprisingly relaxing first day in the 'Drake ended with a relaxing atmosphere in the bar, filled with a mix of familiar voices, and the occasional burst of laughter.

Day 12 – Tuesday 21 January, At sea

12:00 GPS Position: 55°33.3'S / 066°66.3'W

Wind: NW force 2 • Sea: Glassy • Weather: Sunny • Air temperature: +10°C

We awoke to another sunny day on our final day at sea. The coast of South America soon appeared on the horizon and the brilliant numbers of Southern Royal and Wandering Albatrosses gliding serenely around the ship. They were giving amazing views as they cruised effortlessly on the wind behind the ship, often within a few metres.



The days programme started soon after, with Joyce giving a presentation about life on the deep seabed, followed by Hazel's talk about the Seabirds of the Drake Passage.

After lunch we had numerous sightings of feeding Sei Whales, the third largest baleen whale in the world.

It was a quiet lounge in the afternoon as many chose to sunbathe on the top deck or catch up on lost sleep in their cabins. Later in the afternoon Sara gave a presentation of some of the



other Oceanwide voyages planned for the Arctic and Antarctic and showed when the best time of year is to see the various species in the polar regions.

Then it was time for Captain Cocktails in the bar, a presentation of the trip's slideshow, put together by Matt, a fantastic final dinner and time to reflect on a wonderful expedition!

Day 13 – Wednesday 22 January, Ushuaia, disembarkation day

08:00 GPS Position: 54°48.6'S / 068°17.9'W

Wind: N force 2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Cloudy • Air temperature: +10°C

We woke up in the harbour of Ushuaia early morning. It was a calm morning with surrounding mountains covered by a thin layer of clouds.

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

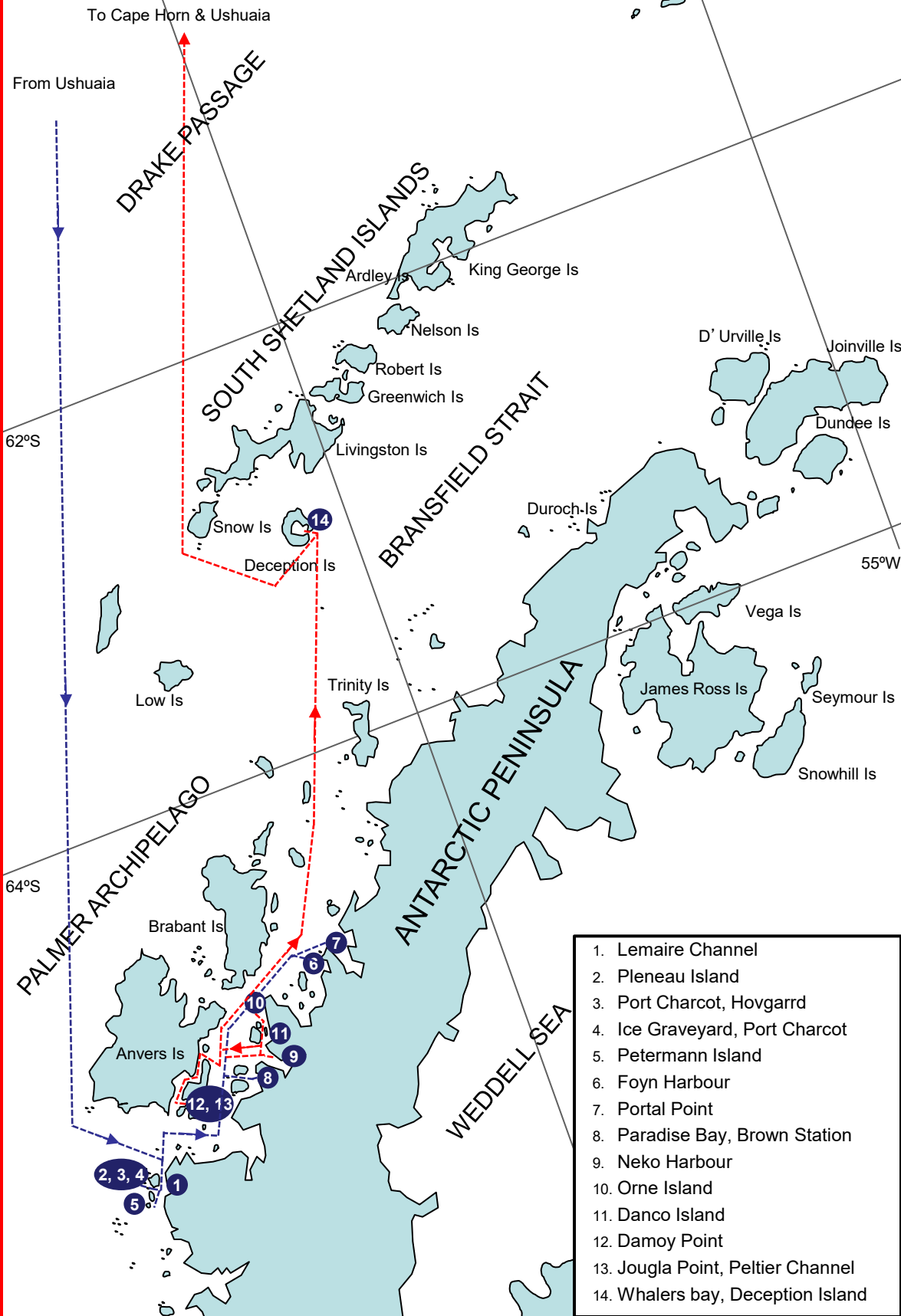
Total distance sailed on our voyage: 1716 nautical miles.
Southernmost position: 65°08.0'S / 064°03.4'W (Salpetriere Bay).

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

Your Oceanwide Expeditions Team



Basecamp M/V Ortelius
10 - 22 Jan 2025



[illegible]

Sara Jenner – Expedition Leader



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

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

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

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

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

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

Chloé Maréchal – Asst.Exp. Leader



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

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

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

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

Carina Ketterer – Expedition Guide



This is Carina, she grew up in the Swiss capital of Bern far away from the sea. Her studies in renewable energies and environmental engineering gave her a curiosity in energy production and civil engineering. She would like to share this curiosity with you! Carina is a sports nut and runs triathlons in her spare time. But don't worry, she has vowed to slow down the tours to half-tempo.

Carinas favorite animal since childhood, was the penguin. In 2019 she finally hopped on a boat to the Antarctic to see them in their natural habitat. That journey bore in her a new fascination

with these cute animals and their dominion.

Being the happiest outside, Carina chose to make the world her workplace and to become an international guide for Oceanwide Expeditions.

Carina is a passionate and optimistic person who always likes to learn new things and has a broad interest in geography, history, archaeology, the arts and the natural sciences. As the cheesy Instagram posts say: "The journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step". So step up and let Carina share her passion for civil engineering and penguins with you and take part in your once in a lifetime adventure!

Hana Spickova – Expedition Guide



Hana is a chemist who is working the last two years at the University Centre on Svalbard. She comes originally from the Czech Republic and has spent the last 11 years in Norway.

Her love for nature and outdoor life brought her first to Tromsø in Northern Norway where she did her master degree while working as a northern light guide, photographer, dog sledding guide and dog handler. She likes to spend her free time in the mountains skiing, hiking, kayaking and diving. She spent two years traveling to Asia, Africa, South America and Patagonia. She worked as

a volunteer in rescue stations for wild animals in Bolivia and Peru and as a humanitarian helper in Iraq, Rwanda and Ethiopia. After finishing her studies, she has been working as an analytical chemist in Norway. Her curiosity and enthusiasm for outdoor life brought her all the way to Svalbard where she enjoys ski touring, dog sledding and exploring new places on a snowmobile. She speaks Czech, English and Norwegian.

Hazel Pittwood – Expedition Guide



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

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

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

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

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

Joyce Mulder – Expedition Guide



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

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

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

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

Koen Jongerling - Expedition Guide



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

Combining his love for nature and the desire to learn more, he started guiding expeditions through the mountain ranges of Patagonia. Travelling back and forth to Europe for additional mountain courses - every time feeling more at home in the rough conditions of

Patagonia. In 2017 he started his own guide company, introducing travellers to the beauty of Southern Chile.

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

He started to work in Antarctica in 2018 working as a camping and snowshoe guide. An area where he felt very comfortable. Teaching people about the incredible stories that have been written in Antarctica and trying to explain the importance of this magical place by interactive learning. With lots of enthusiasm and passion he will show you that every day is a new adventure with many surprises as long as you do your part and be outside as much you can.

Zet Freiburghaus – Kayak Leader



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

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

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

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

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

Owain Jones – Mountain Leader



Owain is a fully certified IFMGA Mountain Guide and full member of the British Association of Mountain Guides.

Owain started climbing and mountaineering with his father at the age of nine and the passion continues to this day. He has led several mountaineering expeditions and glacial treks in the Indian and Nepalese Himalaya. On ski he has led remote first ascents in East Greenland.

His experience as a mountain guide in the European Alps, on foot and ski, spans many seasons and includes more than fifty successful summits of Mont Blanc with his clients.

Rock climbing and ice climbing are his foremost passions, and he has made several first ascents across these disciplines in the United Kingdom. Owain takes great pride in helping others fully experience the mountain environment; not just leading but using every available opportunity to share his knowledge and top tips!

In addition to his work as a Mountain Guide, Owain is a professionally qualified youth worker and safety consultant for outdoor educational activities with young people in the United Kingdom.

Chris Forrest – Mountain Guide



Chris has retired from the Joint Services Mountain Training as chief instructor.

He was a former senior instructor at Plas y Brenin and an instructor at Glenmore Lodge.

Chris is an UIAGM guide, Level 5 kayak and canoe coach, climber, skier, paddler and family man.

His motivation is developing people to enjoy the outdoor environment whether it is in the mountains, sea or journeying down rivers.

His career has taken him to the far corners of the globe, yet he still enjoys discovering new places.

Matt Cheok – Expedition Guide



Matt is an adventure photographer and videographer from Sydney, Australia.

His work has taken him to some of the planet's most remote and captivating destinations – from the polar regions of Antarctica, Svalbard and Greenland to the majestic African savannah, landlocked steppe countries of Central Asia, and rugged mountains of South America.

In Antarctica, Matt's favourite subjects to capture are the playful gentoo penguins and the dramatic polar landscapes in the late afternoon light.

As a photography educator, Matt enjoys sharing his expertise with fellow travellers and inspiring them to connect with the natural world.

Matt's career path has been full of surprises. He previously worked as a commercial and insurance lawyer in Sydney, but he's now much happier pursuing his passion for photography and adventure.

When he's not guiding, Matt spends much of his time camping, thru-hiking, drinking lots of Bialetti coffee, and exploring the outdoors, having recently returned from the Fann Mountains in Tajikistan.

Onboard, you'll find Matt out on deck, cameras in hand. Don't hesitate to approach him with any photography questions or just for a friendly chat!

Elmar Kleimann – Ships Doctor



Elmar Kleimann, a specialist in surgery with a focus on visceral surgery and emergency medicine, began his medical career after completing his medical studies at the universities of Marburg and Aachen. His professional journey led him to different hospitals in Oldenburg, in Mönchengladbach and in Cologne, where he worked as a Consultant Surgeon and Head of the department of Surgery at the St. Franziskus-Hospital for the last 21 years.

Dr. Kleimann acquired numerous qualifications, including specialist titles in surgery, visceral surgery, and

emergency medicine. His expertise extends beyond surgery to include sonography, radiation protection, and maritime medicine.

Outside of his medical activities, Dr. Kleimann is an avid sailor and has undertaken numerous voyages on the North Sea, Baltic Sea, English Channel, Irish Sea, Mediterranean, and North Atlantic, including an Atlantic crossing, and has successfully completed challenging regattas such as the Rolex Fastnet Race. He shares his expertise also as a lecturer for "Medicine at Sea".

Away from the sea, Dr. Kleimann is a passionate globetrotter and nature lover. He has traveled to many places in Europe, the USA, Central America, Africa, the Indian Ocean, and Australia.

Dr. Kleimann started working with Oceanwide Expeditions in summer 2024 when he joined several voyages to Svalbard and Greenland in the Arctic Season. As a ship's doctor on expedition trips, Dr. Kleimann combines his medical expertise with his deep connection to the sea. His experience as a specialist in surgery and emergency medicine, as well as his knowledge in maritime medicine, enables him to ensure the health and safety of crew members and passengers



Antarctic Basecamp Welcome aboard!

Date: 10 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

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

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

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



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 11 January 2025

Day 2: Drake Passage - At Sea

- 07:45 Wake-up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 09:15 The Expedition team will hand out your rubber boots. You will be called, deck-by-deck to the Lecture Room, so please listen to announcements. Bring your thick socks to find the best-sized boots for you!
- 10:00 Please join Owain and Chris in the Bar for the **Mandatory Mountaineering briefing**.
- 12:00 Please join Zet in the Bar for the **Mandatory Kayak briefing**.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 14:00 Please join Koen and Gonzalo for the **Mandatory Camping Briefing** in the Bar.
- Please note that we will be checking attendance to all the mandatory activity briefings, if you do not attend, you will not be able to participate in the activity. Unfortunately, we cannot make any exceptions to this rule.**
- 16:15 Please join Matt in the Bar for a presentation about Photography - Tips on how to take great photos.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap, this is a daily event where we go through what we have seen during the day and plans for tomorrow.
- 19:00 Plated dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

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

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



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 12 January 2025

Day 3: Approaching Antarctica

- 07:45 Wake-up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 09:00+ Please join the activity group leaders in the Bar, you will be called in small groups, please listen to announcements. If you have your own mountaineering boots, please bring them with you and your completed mountaineering questionnaire.
- 11:30 Please join Hazel in the Bar for her lecture about Whales of the Southern Ocean.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the dining room on Deck 4.
- 13:30+ During the afternoon we will call you deck by deck for the **MANDATORY IATTO Biosecurity** in the **Bar**. When called, please bring all your outer garments, bags, boots, life jackets etc. that you plan to use in Antarctica for the Expedition Staff to check. Please ensure everything is clean before proceeding to the Lecture room and ensure you sign the self-declaration form once you have been approved by the Expedition Team.
- 16:15 Carina invites you to join her in the Bar for a lecture about Penguins.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap.
- 19:00 Plated dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 20:30 There will be a screening of the new Shackleton Movie in the Bar.

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



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 13 January 2025

Day 4: Lemaire Channel, Pleneau Island and Port Charcot

06:45 Wake-up call.

Before breakfast we will transit down the Lemaire Channel, nicknamed Kodiak Gap, as it is considered one of the most photographic parts of the Antarctica Peninsula.

07:30-08:30 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

08:00 We hope to take the **Mountaineering Group** ashore, please meet in the Lecture Room, fully dressed, with your appropriate boots.

08:45 Please could the **Kayak Group 1** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.

08:45+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** to the gangway for a Zodiac cruise around Pleneau Island.

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

13:15 We hope to take the **Mountaineering Group** ashore, please meet in the Lecture Room, fully dressed, with your appropriate boots.

14:00 Please could the **Kayak Group 2** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.

14:00+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** to the gangway for a landing at Port Charcot

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

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

Depending on weather conditions, we hope to take campers ashore for a night on the ice. This would take place after dinner, more information regarding timings will be given at daily recap.

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



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 14 January 2025

Day 5: Iceberg Graveyard and Petermann Island.

- 06:00+/- Pick up campers
- 06:30 We hope to take the **Mountaineering Group** ashore, please meet in the Lecture Room, fully dressed, with your appropriate boots. There will be a light breakfast served for you in the Bar from 06:00.
- 07:15 Wake-up call.
- 07:30-08:30 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 08:45 Please could **Kayak Group 3** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 08:45+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** to the gangway for a Zodiac cruise of the Iceberg Graveyard.
- 12:00-13:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the dining room on Deck 4.
- 14:00 Please could the **Kayak Group 4** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 14:00+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** to the gangway for a landing at Petermann Island.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- After dinner we will transit back down the Lemaire Channel.

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



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 15 January 2025

Day 6: Foyn Harbour and Portal Point

- 07:15 Wake-up call.
- 07:30 We hope to take the **Mountaineering Group** ashore, please meet in the Lecture Room, fully dressed, with your appropriate boots. There will be a light breakfast served for you in the Bar from 07:00.
- 07:30-08:30 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 08:45 Please could the **Kayak Group 5** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 08:45+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** to the gangway for a Zodiac cruise of Foyn Harbour
- 11:15 Chloe invites you to a presentation about 'Drifting Life' (Plankton).
- 12:00-13:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the dining room on Deck 4.
- 13:00 Matt invites you to a trouble shooting and editing drop-in session in the bar, please bring your images on your chosen device that you want to learn to edit on.
- 14:30 Please could the **Kayak Group 6** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 14:30+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** to the gangway for a continental landing at Portal Point.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap.
- 19:00 Buffet dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 20:15 We will show the Movie Happy 1 Feet in the Bar, with popcorn.

*"The difficult is what takes a little time; the impossible is what takes a little longer –
Fridtjof Nansen*



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 16 January 2025

Day 7: Paradise Harbour, Brown Station and Neko Harbour.

- 07:15 Wake-up call.
- 07:30-08:30 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 08:30+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** for a Zodaic cruise to see Brown Station and explore Paradise Harbour.
- 08:30 Please could the **Kayak Group 7** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 11:45 Koen will give a lecture about the ecological importance of Sea Ice.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the dining room on Deck 4.
- 14:00 We hope to take the **Mountaineering** ashore, please meet in the Lecture Room, fully dressed, with your appropriate boots.
- 14:30 Please could the **Kayak Group 8** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 14:30+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** to the gangway for a landing at Neko Harbour.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap.
- 19:00 Buffet dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

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



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 17 January 2025

Day 8: Orne Island and Danco Island.

- 07:15 Wake-up call.
- 07:15 We hope to take the **Mountaineering Group** ashore, please meet in the Lecture Room, fully dressed, with your appropriate boots. There will be a light breakfast served for you in the Bar from 06:45.
- 07:30-08:30 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 08:45 Please could the **Kayak Group 9** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 08:45+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** for a landing at Orne Island.
- 12:00-13:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the dining room on Deck 4.
- 13:00 We hope to take the **Mountaineering Group** ashore, please meet in the Lecture Room, fully dressed, with your appropriate boots.
- 14:00 Please could the **Kayak Group 10** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 14:00+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** for a landing at Danco Island.
- We hope to offer a **polar plunge** at the end of the landing so wear your swim wear underneath your expedition clothing. We will provide the towels, so please do not bring them from your cabin.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap.
- 19:00 Buffet dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

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



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 18 January 2025

Day 9: Damoy Point and Jougla Point.

- 07:15 Wake-up call.
- 07:30-08:30 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 08:00 We hope to take the **Mountaineering Group** ashore, please meet in the Lecture Room, fully dressed, with your appropriate boots.
- 08:45 Please could the **Kayak Group 11** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 08:45+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** for a landing at Damoy Point, where you will have opportunity to try snow shoeing.
- 12:00-13:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the dining room on Deck 4.
- 13:00 We hope to take the **Mountaineering Group** ashore, please meet in the Lecture Room, fully dressed, with your appropriate boots.
- 13:45+/- We would like to **invite all other guests** for a Zodiac cruise of Goudier Island and Jougla Point.
- 13:45 Please could the **Last remaining Kayak Group** meet Zet in the Heli Hanger on Deck 6. Please be dressed in your base layer and have any bags, cameras, water bottle etc. you wish to take with you.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served outside, please dress warmly!

"Mystery creates wonder, and wonder is the basis of man's desire to understand."

-Neil Armstrong



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 19 January 2025

Day 10: Deception Island.

07:45 Wake-up call.

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

10:00 Sara invites you to a presentation about Marine Threats in the Bar.

11:30 We will show a short film (10 mins) about the last eruption of Deception Island and its whaling history.

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

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

13:45+/- We hope to take you all ashore at Whalers Bay in Deception Island.

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

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

20:15 A screening of the movie Happy Feet 2 will be given in the Bar.

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.

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



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 20 January 2025

Day 11: Drake Passage.

- 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 Hana in the Bar for a lecture about 'How to observe the ocean below a 400m thick ice shelf in Antarctica'.
- 11:15 Koen invites you to the Bar for a presentation titled 'Exploration of Antarctica until 1900'.
- 12:15 We will call you to the Lecture Room to return your Muck boots and hire rental clothing, please listen for announcements.
- 12:30-13:30 A buffet lunch is served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.
- 16:15 Carina invites you to the Bar for a lecture about M/V Ortelius, a look behind the scenes.
- 18:15 Join the Expedition Staff in the Bar for recap! There will be some important information given about disembarkation, settling accounts etc. therefore, we encourage at least one person from each group to attend.
- 19:00 Plated 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.

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



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 21 January 2025

Day 12: 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.

09:30 Please join Joyce in the Bar for her presentation titled 'Antarctica below: Life on the deep seabed'.

11:30 Hazel welcomes you to the Bar for a presentation about Seabirds of the Drake Passage.

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

16:15 Sara would like you to join her in the Bar for a presentation about Oceanwides' other destinations.

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

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

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

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



Antarctic Basecamp

Date: 22 January 2025

Day 13: Ushuaia.

07:15 Wake-up call.

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

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

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

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

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

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