



Basecamp Antarctica

Ushuaia – Ushuaia

13 February 2025 – 25 February 2025

On board *m/v Plancius*



M/v *Plancius* was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was named “Hr. Ms. *Tydeman*”. The vessel was completely rebuilt as a passenger vessel in 2009 and complies with the latest SOLAS-regulations (Safety Of Life At Sea). M/v *Plancius* is 89 m long, 14.5 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5 m, ice class 1D, 10,5 knots average cruising speed and has 3 Diesel- Electric engines.



Captain Evgeny Levakov (Russia)

and his international crew of 50 sailors

Chief Officer:	Martin Hansson	[Sweden]
Second Officer:	Don Buren	[Netherlands]
Third Officer:	Solina Duguay	[Canada]
Hotel Manager:	Albert Don	[Netherlands]
Ass. Hotel Manager:	Niels Schipper	[Netherlands]
Head Chef:	Khabir Moraes	[India]
Sous Chef:	Sachin Naiks	[India]
Ships doctor:	Aniska Fortuin	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Adam Burke	[UK]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Steffi Liller	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Jakub Malecki	[Poland]
Expedition Guide:	Koen Hoekemeijer	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Martin Anstee	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	Elizabeth Robinson	[USA]
Expedition Guide:	Valeria Herrera	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Brian Veltrop	[Netherlands]
Mountain Leader:	Owain Jones	[UK]
Mountain Guide:	David McKinley	[New Zealand]
Kayak Leader:	Erin Bastian	[UK]

WE WELCOME YOU ON BOARD!

Day 1 – Thursday 13th February, Ushuaia, Embarkation Day

12h00 GPS Position: 54°48.6'S / 068°17.8'W

Wind: SW-5 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Partly Cloudy • Air temperature: +11°C

Today was the day! We all travelled from far away places and made our way to *the end of the world*; Ushuaia. Our adventure onboard M/V Plancius starting here, and we were all very excited to start our Basecamp adventure. Boarding did not start until 16:00 so that gave us time to explore the shops in Ushuaia a bit more, enjoy a coffee with a piece of pie, or buy that last extra hat and pair of gloves.

In the afternoon we made our way down to the port where we soon found the charming and gracious M/V Plancius. Among the large cruise ships, she looked rather small, but that only ignited our enthusiasm even more.



Boarding was smooth and while walking up the gangway we were greeted by the friendly and excited expedition team. Once we all had boarded it was time for a

mandatory abandon ship drill. Chief Officer Martin introduced himself and then explained the procedure. When the alarm was sounded, we made our way to our muster stations and started putting on our bulky orange life jackets. Then the abandon ship order was given, and we all made our way to the lifeboats where Second Officer Don gave us some more information on the procedure. That also ended the drill and now it was time to relax, explore the ship a bit more and enjoy seeing the ropes being loosened for our departure.

At 18:30 captain Evgeny welcomed us on board with inspiring words and together we toasted with a glass of champagne or orange juice. Our expedition had now really started and there was no way back!

Expedition Leader Adam introduced himself and the expedition team and he explained to us what to expect in the coming days. It's a very experienced and passionate team and they we're



all eager to start this journey with us. Hotel Manager Albert then informed us how things work on the ship and where everything can be found.

It was a lot of information to process, but at 19:30 dinner was announced and we relaxed and enjoyed the delicious buffet.

After dinner the doctor had organised a *pill & patch* party for those of us who needed sea sickness medication. Some swells were expected so it was good to prepare the body for this.

While we sailed through the Beagle Channel on our way to Antarctica, the sun slowly set and so did our eyes. Time to sleep! Good night everyone!

Day 2 – Friday 14th February, At the Drake Passage towards Antarctica

12h00 GPS Position: 57°01.5'S / 065°23.9'W

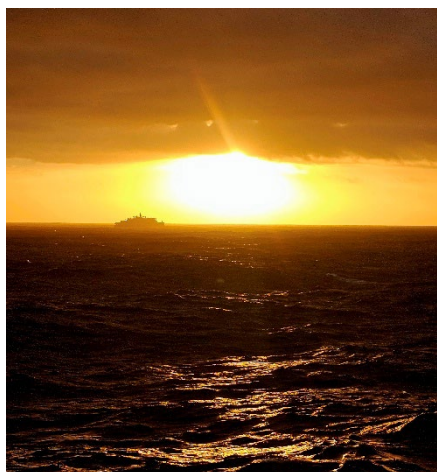
Wind: W-5 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +7°C

The night was interesting as we had been warned that the ship would start rolling around midnight, and sure enough, it did. Some handled it better than others, so breakfast wasn't well attended.

After breakfast, Adam, our expedition leader, gave a series of mandatory briefings. They were fascinating, covering the rules of the Antarctic continent, biosecurity measures to prevent the spread of diseases or invasive species, and perhaps the most exciting - the Zodiac briefing. The Zodiacs are essential for getting off the ship in remote areas without ports.

Most people were grateful that Adam kept the briefings concise, as some of us preferred to spend more time lying down.

In the afternoon, we checked our equipment to ensure we weren't bringing any invasive species along. After thoroughly inspecting and cleaning our gear, we signed a declaration allowing us to enter Antarctica.



Koen, our photo guide, gave us an introduction to wildlife photography, followed by a recap session led by the expedition staff. Adam explained the plans for the next day, Steffi spoke about the significance of the Drake Passage and how the opening of that gap influenced the entire planet, whereas Narly gave us a fascinating look into mountaineering, particularly crevasses.

What a day! It felt like being back in school, but in the best way possible. Learning about the pristine region we're about to visit is truly exciting.

Day 3 – Saturday 15th February, Second day at the Drake Passage

12h00 GPS Position: 61°19.0'S / 062°58.7'W

Wind: E-7 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 0°C

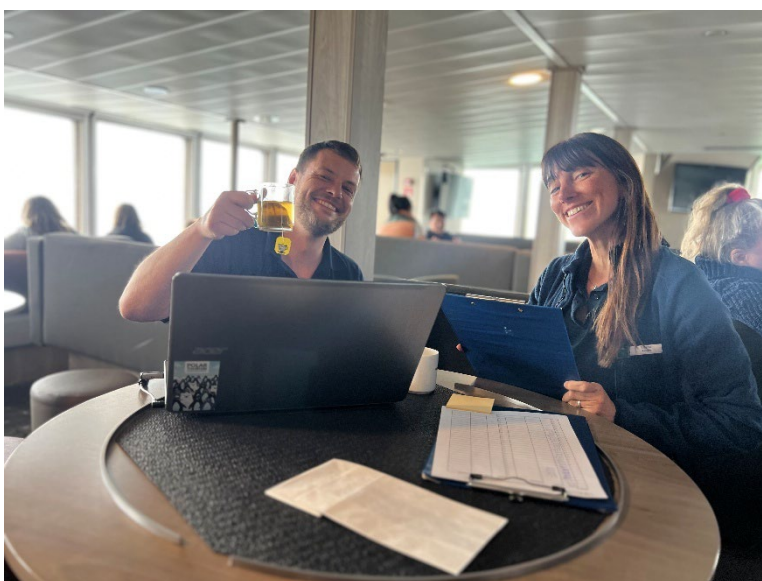
The second day in the Drake Passage was a shaky one! The swell and wind continued from the previous day and some of us were still feeling the motion of the ocean. After a quick breakfast, the plan for the day was preparation for the special activities during our Basecamp trip. We would get the opportunity to participate in six activities: shore landings, zodiac cruises and scenic ships cruises as our *standard*



activities. On top of that we could do mountaineering, kayaking, and camping as well. An action-packed trip and sleeping would probably be done once we arrived back home!

Before we were able to sign up for these activities, mandatory briefings needed to be attended to get important safety information. For some of us, this would be our first time on a zodiac, and mountaineering, kayaking, or camping weren't a huge part of our daily routines back home either. So, these briefings are extra helpful to ensure everyone is safe and on the same page.

The first briefing was from our mountaineering guides. They explained the various equipment needed such as harnesses and crampons, they also shared how to safely transit over potentially crevassed ridden landscapes. The second briefing was for our campers. Valeria and Brian presented the logistics of camping in Antarctica, both with infectious excitement in their voices.



They showed us the kit needed for camping and explained how we would be responsible for digging our own sleeping pit, setting up our sleeping bag. And then they really sold open air camping to us by telling us about falling asleep in the brisk Antarctic night temperatures under a sky full of stars.

The third and final briefing was with Erin for those wanting to kayak. Erin has extensive kayak experience both in Antarctica and all over the world and knows these waters well. We would be in tandem kayaks and get the opportunity to paddle amongst wildlife and towering icebergs.

After a delicious lunch, it was time for the activity sign up. We were divided in 4 different groups and were called up to register our activity dates. Some of us weren't feeling too good, but still put in the effort to make it up to the lounge. Excitement was in the air and anticipation was growing as tomorrow we would see our first penguins and we would start with our cool activities!



After all the briefings, it was time for a lecture. Expedition guide Elizabeth gave the first wildlife presentation of the trip. She has been studying whales for the last 10 years and presented on the basics of what is a whale or a dolphin, followed by snapshots of the various species we could see along our voyage. Now we got even more enthusiastic about the chances of seeing cetaceans and after the lecture, guests went outside to start scanning the horizon.

In the evening, Expedition Leader Adam presented the plans for tomorrow; our first activity day. After hearing from Adam, Jakub gave a recap about ice and glaciers as we had spotted our first iceberg of the trip! Coincidentally, shortly after, we also could see land. Land Ahoy! Eager guests got an early sleep to prepare for what tomorrow has in store.

Day 4 – Sunday 16th February, Orne Island & Damoy, Dorian Bay

12h00 GPS Position: 64°39.4'S / 062°38.7'W

Wind: SW-3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 0°C

This morning, we arrived to Antarctica. The excitement had been building over the past two days as we were shown glimpses of what was to come on various briefings. Those that got up early were greeted by icebergs in the fog.

The fog adding to the suspense and mystery of this incredible place. It wasn't so bad that we couldn't see our first whales, Humpback whales in The Gerlache Strait. And as the fog cleared we were treated to some spectacular scenery as well as our first penguins on ice.



As breakfast time neared, we approached Orne Island, our first destination. We passed the spectacular Spigot Point, again with more humpback whales in the waters around the ship.



After breakfast we were invited to set foot onto Orne Island, our first steps onto Antarctica, and as we did it started to snow, adding to the experience. We were excited to see our first penguins up close, Gentoo and Chinstrap penguins with well grown chicks. We watched in amusement as the Gentoo chicks chased the adults around begging for food. The Chinstrap chicks were very vociferous but

a little less active, instead seemingly shouting at the adults to give them food.

Another animal that gave us great entertainment was an Antarctic Fur seal that was wandering around the snow, showing off.

We then had to pull ourselves away to return to the ship for our transit to our next destination. We travelled through more spectacular scenery as we enjoyed another great lunch on board.

After lunch we enjoyed the journey to Damoy Point. Damoy is situated on the Northwest of Wiencke Island. There is a relatively small hut there, Damoy hut, that is maintained as a museum by the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust.

The hut was built in just 8 days by the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) as a small airport *lounge* servicing Rothera Station. Personnel were shipped into Damoy and then flown from there to Rothera. In early and late summer there was too much ice to get the ships any closer to Rothera. The air strip was on top of the glacier nearby. It is a beautiful place to visit with huge mountains all around and a fantastic space to walk around to see the various Gentoo penguin colonies. We also found a snoozing Weddell Seal laying in the snow.



After a good walk and a look around the hut it was time to return to the ship. The weather was sunny and calm as we returned which bode well for this evening.

During recap it was confirmed that this evening would be the first opportunity to go camping. The first group of 56 lucky people excitedly ate dinner and got ready to go camping.



Day 5 – Monday 17th February, Lemaire Channel & Pleneau Island

12h00 GPS Position: 65°06.5'S / 064°02.3'W

Wind: N-3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +7°C

At 7:15 AM Adam woke us up with his soft voice and from the moment we opened our eyes we were excited for another day in Antarctica. The way south towards our next destination lies through one of the most picturesque and impressive geographical objects of the Antarctic Peninsula – the legendary Lemaire Channel!

Before having breakfast, we all dressed up and proceeded to the outside decks to enjoy the beauty of this wonderful channel. The Lemaire channel is only 600 metres wide in some places and on both sides almost a kilometre tall vertical mountain walls were reaching for the sky. This scenery with icebergs, glaciers and calm weather made an unforgettable impression on us all.



After breakfast we prepared for our first activity of this day – landing at Pleneau Island. The island is located near the southern end of Lemaire Channel and it's a small granite outcrop with gentle topography inhabited by a colony of Gentoo penguins. The weather was great today, not too cold, and with

very little wind. Adam welcomed us at the beach as we arrived in the Zodiacs. The expedition team prepared the landing site in advance, so we strolled around the island from one penguin grouping to another along poles inserted into the snow. From the island's viewpoint we observed a beautiful iceberg-packed shallow bay on one side and steep glacier-covered mountains on another. A truly majestic Antarctic landscape.

By 12:30 we were all back on Plancius for lunch. In the meantime, the ship didn't have to change its position as for the afternoon a Zodiac cruise in this area was planned. At 2:30 PM we embarked the Zodiacs hoping to find lots of wildlife and beautiful icebergs! All our guides were driving, and they took us to different parts of the graveyard, the bay and surrounding areas.

Some of us found ourselves observing active and curious humpback whales from up close as they approached our boats.



Others went towards the icebergs where they found Weddell and a good number of big Leopard Seals. The icebergs are all individual pieces of art and it's amazing how nature creates such a variety of beautiful shapes. Despite the cold wind and snow, we stayed out until the end even though the cold had gotten to us eventually.



But we all knew the coffee machine onboard also offered hot chocolate so soon we would be warm again!

Back onboard we joined the expedition team in the lounge for a daily recap where

Adam presented the weather forecast for the evening and the following day. The chances for rain or sleet were too big and with considerable wind speeds camping wasn't going to be feasible so unfortunately it was cancelled. No problem, we'll enjoy the warmth of the ship!

Day 6 – Tuesday 18th February, Port Charcot & Petermann Island

12h00 GPS Position: 65°04.2'S / 064°01.9'W

Wind: SSE-3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 1°C

We awoke early this morning as we were excited to visit our next landing site. We boarded the Zodiacs and made our way to Port Charcot. Port Charcot has an amazing history as it is the location of the second Charcot expedition which overwintered in the bay. They built a magnetic hut where they attempted to execute reliable magnetic measurements and on top of the hill they built a cairn. Unfortunately, a thick fog had



made its way in which prevented us from enjoying the magnificent views over the bay. However, we could hear multiple whale blows and occasionally we managed to see a glimpse of them feeding in the waters below.



On the other side of the landing site, we could visit a Gentoo penguin colony where we often find small numbers of Adelie and Chinstrap penguins as well. Because of the fresh snow our boots didn't get too poopy walking here, contrary to the walk up the hill where we had to cross thick layers of guano. We already prepared for a boot scrubbing session back at the landing location!

After a delicious lunch, we arrived at our second landing of the day: Petermann

Island. This island was discovered by a German expedition in 1873–74, and named by Eduard Dallmann for August Petermann, a noted German geographer and founder of Petermann's Mitteilungen.

Petermann offers beautiful viewpoints over extensive iceberg gardens or graveyards whereas we can also visit an Adelie penguin colony here. The Adelie's have a shorter breeding cycle than e.g. the Gentoo penguins and when we arrived, we only found them in small numbers as most of them had left for the soon arriving winter already. However, with the Adelie's you only need a few to fully enjoy them and with multiple chicks around it was a pleasure to observe them.



After the landing our captain manoeuvred the ship skilfully through the scenic Lemaire Channel heading towards our camping location.

We had a lovely dinner and we enjoyed the warmth and comfort of the ship before preparing for a night out in Antarctica.

The camping night started out nicely with calm weather and dry conditions, but early morning the wind had picked up significantly and we were glad when the Zodiacs arrived to bring us back to the ship. Sleeping in the snow had been a wonderful experience and the ride back to the ship felt like a true expedition. Time to catch a bit more sleep now.

Day 7 – Wednesday 19th February, Paradise Harbour & Stoney Point

12h00 GPS Position: 64°33.0'S / 062°53.7'W

Wind: SE-4 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 3°C

The morning started early for many of us as it had been the second camping night. Most of us had slept very well and needed to be woken up by our camping guides Valeria and Brian. Unfortunately, the wind had picked up, and the weather became a bit unpleasant. Our pick-up team—Koen, Martin, and Steffi—got us back to the ship safely, though most of us ended up getting a *little* wet. Well, I suppose this is all part of the Antarctic experience! It's fascinating how quickly the weather can change. It served as a reminder of how challenging conditions must have been for the first explorers in the early 20th century. They didn't have the luxury of a warm *Plancius* waiting for them with a hot shower and pastries at the bar.

Some of us went back to bed, while others stayed awake. Either way, we all got our daily wake-up call from Adam, and the day officially began.

In the morning, we set off on a lovely Zodiac cruise around Skoncorp Cove, a glaciated bay in Paradise Harbour. This area is also home to Brown Station, a summer-active Argentinian station, where we saw some of the



dirtiest gentoo chicks on the planet! As we cruised by, we enjoyed the stunning views of the ice-filled bay. We spotted several crabeater seals hauling out on the ice, and a few leopard seals rested on the beautiful ice floes, offering us fantastic photo opportunities. We were left speechless as we slowly made our way through the cracking ice, soaking up the scenery. The glaciers had been highly active, filling the bay with ice which made driving through challenging at times. We even witnessed some calving from the surrounding glaciers. What an unforgettable morning!

The galley team surprised us with a fantastic burger menu, and after a tiring, chilly morning, we devoured the delicious lunch, recharging our energy for the afternoon's activities.



In the afternoon, the team offered us a split landing at Stoney Point. This meant a quick stop at a fantastic viewpoint overlooking the bay and a short Zodiac cruise to explore the surrounding waters for marine wildlife. The landing was wonderful. From the viewpoint, we could see our fellow travellers out whale

watching, and the panoramic view of the mountains and ice-filled sea was absolutely breathtaking. The Zodiac cruise was equally rewarding, as we were able to find whales that had eluded us earlier in the day. We also had great views of their diving behaviour.

Although the wind had picked up, by now, we were accustomed to the Antarctic conditions and even braved a polar plunge on a windy day! At the end of the afternoon, we gathered at the landing site, stripped down, and took the plunge into the cold, clear Antarctic waters. Holy “bleep”, it was freezing! But everyone appeared to be happy, despite the shock of diving into water just above freezing temperature.



What a day it had been! We were looking forward to the coming days and what the expedition team would show us next in this pristine, untouched part of the world. After a fantastic dinner and some drinks at the bar, most of us went to bed early, but happy.

Day 8 – Thursday 20th February, Danco Island & Neko Harbour

12h00 GPS Position: 64°43.2'S / 062°34.9'W

Wind: S-3 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Partly Cloudy • Air temperature: +2°C

What an incredible morning we had! It all kicked off with a perfectly organized breakfast in the dining room, setting the tone for an unforgettable day. After breakfast, we set foot on Danco Island, and the weather was nothing short of perfect.



The skies were a brilliant blue, and the sun bathed everything in its golden glow. The landscape around us was jaw-dropping, with distant views that seemed to go on forever.

As we made our way up, we passed countless Gentoo penguin colonies, and at times we could see dozens and dozens of fluffy penguin chicks. At the summit, we were treated to a breathtaking 360-degree view of the glaciers that surrounded us on every side.



After our hike, we enjoyed a delicious lunch, feeling recharged and ready for our second continental landing at Neko Harbor. Here, we were once again surrounded by towering, active glaciers, and we witnessed the stunning natural phenomenon of calving up close! The glacier kept calving, and we even saw a few avalanches tumbling down. Everyone was so captivated by the sheer power of nature that we couldn't tear ourselves away as we waited eagerly to see more of this awe-inspiring display.

As we hiked further, we were treated to spectacular views of the Gerlache Strait and the glaciers stretching out before us. And yes, more Gentoo penguin colonies!

On our way back, the tantalizing smell of BBQ wafted through the air, and we could hear the music building in the background. It was time for the BBQ party! After a quick recap and information about next day's adventures, we were invited to the aft deck to enjoy a unique Antarctic BBQ. The energy was electric once dinner was over. The tables were cleared, the music was cranked up, and we all danced and celebrated together, reveling in the beauty of this amazing journey!



Day 9 – Friday 21st February, Foyr Harbour & Portal Point

12h00 GPS Position: 64°33.6'S / 061°39.5'W

Wind: NE-3 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +2°C

This morning our bridge team navigated us wonderfully to our first activity location, Foyr Harbor. Our gracious Plancius was surrounded by towering snow-capped and glaciated peaks, offering views of the harsh, yet pristine, environment which we will be exploring this beautiful morning.

Foyr Harbor is situated on the east side of Enterprise Island and is surrounded by whale filled waters and stunning landscapes. It's also the place where we can see the remains of an old shipwreck, the Governoren.



The Governoren was one of the largest whaling factory ships of its time, as it could catch and process the whales onboard. This design and construction was more economically viable for the whalers. The Governoren was known for producing more than 22,000 gallons of oil and was one of the most technically sophisticated ships of its time.

In 1915 the crew allegedly threw a party to celebrate one of their most successful whaling seasons to date before returning to Norway.

Alcohol was flowing richly, and the crew was dancing below deck when things got out of hand. Someone knocked over an oil lamp off the table and the ship caught fire. As the ship was fully loaded with hundreds of barrels of whale oil, the fire was quickly fuelled and became uncontrollable. To save the lives of the crew the captain decided to steer the ship towards the shore and ran the ship aground. The ship and its valuable load were lost, but all 85 crew members survived. It must have been quite the hangover the next day.



After visiting the Governoren we continued into the bay to see and enjoy beautiful deep blue icebergs, striking towers of glacial walls, and curious humpback whales! The whales were mostly resting, but that gave us lots of time with them and we enjoyed their loud blows and slow

movements. We also saw Weddell seals, Gentoo penguins, Antarctic fur seals and even a couple of Minke Whales.

We had gotten quite cold, but then Hotel Manager Albert came to the rescue with third officer Solina! They offered us hot chocolate with rum and whipped cream. It was a delicious treat, and it warmed us up enough to stay out for at least another hour. What a great morning!



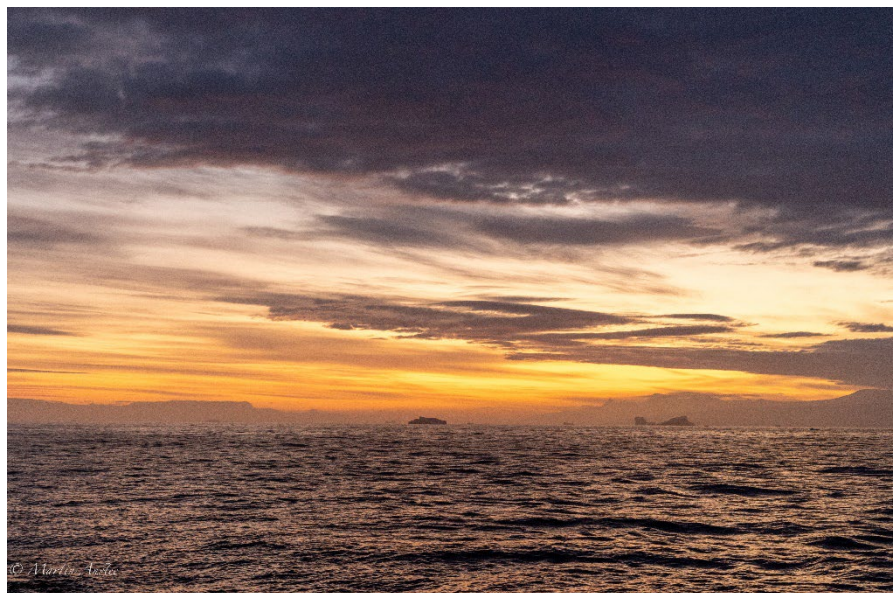
Next, we headed to our last landing in Antarctica and our third continental landing location, Portal Point. Portal Point is on the Reclus Peninsula at the northwestern entrance of Charlotte Bay offering stunning views, a nice leg stretch, and feeding humpback whales close to shore.



Portal Point also has the remains of the British hut Cape Reclus, which was established in 1956 and occupied for survey work from 1957-1958. A research group from Station O at Danco Island, a landing site we previously visited, overwintered here to continue survey work. Additionally, a four-man exploration group led by Wally Herbert completed the first traverse by dog team arriving in Cape Reclus from Hope Bay after 2.5 months of exploring.

Everyone took in the views from Portal Point having been informed this would be our last Antarctic Peninsula landing of the trip. With this in mind, we took time onshore to slow down, contemplate, reflect about the voyage and enjoy our last landing.

Once back onboard we headed north and were accompanied by numerous humpbacks, penguins on icebergs and the evening itself was simply gorgeous with beautiful light and a stunning sunset. A perfect farewell from the Antarctic Peninsula.



Day 10 – Saturday 22nd February, Deception Island & Elephant Point

12h00 GPS Position: 62°56.1'S / 060°28.1'W

Wind: S-2 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Rain • Air temperature: +2°C

This morning Adam's soothing voice woke us up at 6:45 am, the reason being that we were about to transit through Neptunes Bellows, the entrance into Deception Island.

Deception Island is an active volcano which had its last eruption in February 1969 when the British Antarctic Survey base at Whalers Bay was evacuated for the last time.

The Bellows is a narrow gap in the caldera wall which allows sea water to flow into the caldera and such offering a natural harbour and entrance into this active volcano. We were all very excited to be able to transit through with Cape Petrels flying around and Fur Seals playing in the waters around us.



After another fabulous breakfast we were called to board the Zodiacs for our landing at Whalers Bay. It was a mystic and dramatic approach as the old factory buildings, relics of the old whaling times and the research station appeared through the mist and steam. The steam is created by thermal activity, and we could feel the warmth

when we put our hands into the water and into the sand right below.

Once we had explored the buildings, furnaces and storage tanks we walked along the beach, admiring more fur seals and doing our best to avoid those that wanted to *play* with us. We passed long abandoned wooden rowing boats, whale bones and other remains as we walked along towards Neptunes window.





After a steep climb to the 'window' we had a dramatic view out to sea and in the opposite direction stunning views over the whole of Whalers Bay. What a fascinating place!

We returned to Plancius for lunch and the ship made its way out of Deception Island heading towards Elephant Point.

Elephant Point at Livingston Island is also one of The South Shetland Islands. It is a stunning location with interesting geology, beautiful lichens and mosses, and lots of wildlife. There were Gentoo penguins and Giant petrels in large numbers, but the stars of the afternoon had to be the Elephant seals. They were huge and laying together in large heaps, the steam rising from their warm bodies as they huddled together. Their deep guttural noises were incredible, and we were all in awe.



Sadly, before long, it was time to return to Plancius for the last time. The Zodiacs shuttled us back to the ship and we started preparing for the Drake Passage.

The forecast wasn't too bad, but just to make sure we would be OK, doctor Aneska opened her evening pharmacy for those of us in need of medication.

Day 11 – Sunday 23rd February, At the Drake Passage towards Ushuaia

12h00 GPS Position: 60°15.4'S / 063°26.5'W

Wind: E-2 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +3°C

No wakeup call this morning, and although we enjoyed a bit of a sleep in, we also felt a bit melancholic that we had set sail towards Ushuaia after 7 unforgettable days in Antarctica. The weather forecast hadn't been too bad, and the ship was rocking gently this morning. We were more or less in between weather systems and into the *greens* so nothing we couldn't handle.

Today a full lecture program was scheduled with a good variety of topics. Koen started the day with a presentation on Adobe Lightroom. This is a software program that enables us to get more out of our photos. You can compare it to developing your photos, but then with endless possibilities. With small



adjustments related to contrast, exposure and colour, photos look immediately different and hopefully better ;).

Then it was Jakub's turn. He talked about the state and fate of glaciers and ice sheets. This wasn't a *good news* only presentation and the information Jakub shared made us think more deeply about the future of our planet.

During our expedition we encountered large numbers of humpback whales, and they all made us fall in love with them. Elizabeth shared with us her knowledge about these fantastic gentle giants in her humpback whale lecture. Her passion was infectious, and we felt privileged to have experienced close encounters with these intelligent, social and conscious giants of the oceans.



Brian closed the lecture program with information about wilderness survival. Brian shared interesting stories, and it was clear he feels very much at home out in the wilderness.

During the day the other guides were on the bridge looking for wildlife. Although it was a relatively quiet day, we

did see several species of Albatross and we even had a brief encounter with a pod of pilot whales, unfortunately seen by only a few lucky spotters.

After dinner we spent time in the lounge, chatting and mingling, and maybe working on the thousands of photos we took during our adventure. It was a relaxing day and after 7 intense and very busy days it was nice to relax a bit.

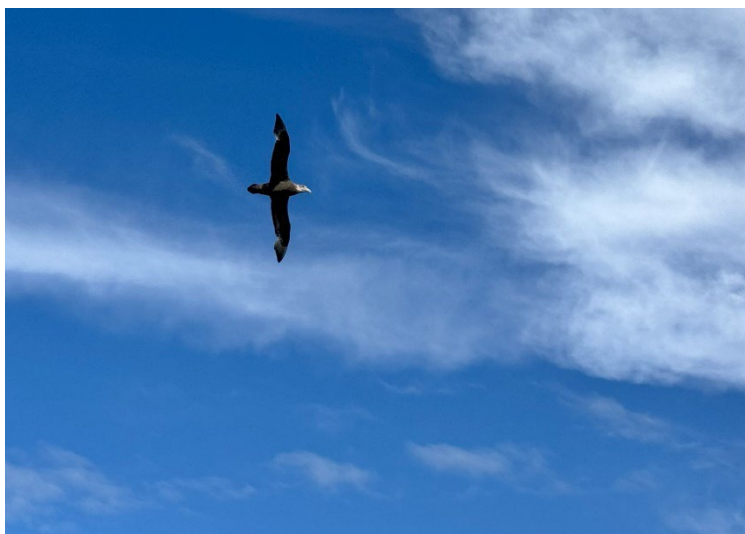
Day 12 – Monday 24th February, Second day at the Drake Passage

12h00 GPS Position: 56°05.2'S / 065°51.5'W

Wind: 4kt • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Partly Cloudy • Air temperature: +8°C

Good morning M/V Plancius! Our second day of sailing on the Drake Passage towards Ushuaia. And again the weather was favourable as the swells weren't much bigger than yesterday and during the day the movement should even decrease. Perfect conditions for having a good breakfast in the restaurant this morning.

Today the expedition team had more lectures scheduled with a good variety of topics. During our 7 days in Antarctica the days were completely filled with activities and that didn't leave time for more extensive lectures. With more time on the *Drake* it was great to get more information about the guides' specialties and passions.

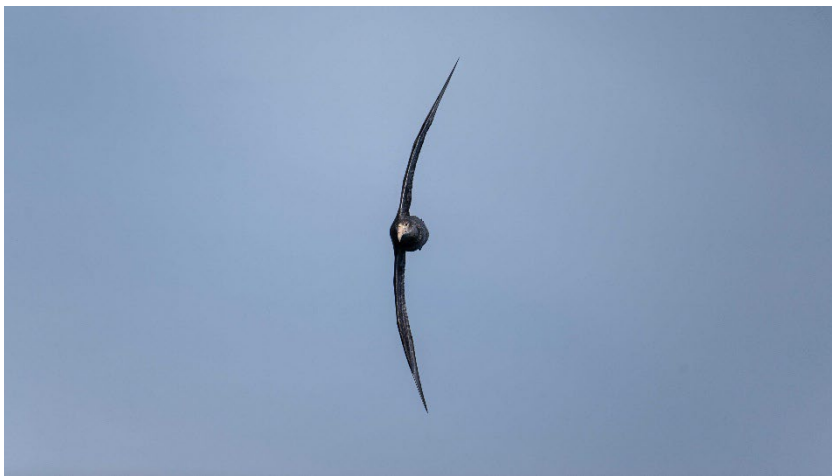


Steffi's lecture was titled "Why penguins don't wear socks" and with such a title our curiosity was immediately triggered so we made our way up to the lounge. It was a very interesting lecture and it is amazing how animals manage to survive the harsh Antarctic conditions and keep themselves warm.

Next it was Martin who shared with us the important role photography plays in relation to conservation. As always Martin delivered his presentation with excitement and wit.

After lunch and for many of us a nap, it was Valeria with a history lecture about the Race to the South pole. The *race* was between Scott and Amundsen who were both very eager to be the first to reach the South pole, but in the end it was Amundsen who managed to be there first.

In the afternoon we started to see land and we were sailing relatively close to Cape Horn. For us to relax a bit more, the expedition team put on a documentary about sailors passing the notorious and infamous Cape Horn and we immediately realized how *easy* our Drake Passage had been compared to what some of the sailors had endured while rounding Cape Horn.



Then it was time to 'dress up' for captain's cocktail. The expedition team were also wearing something a bit fancier than their daily uniforms, and this added to the festive atmosphere in the lounge. We drank champagne and the captain spoke thankful and inspirational words. Then it was Adam's turn to say his

thank you's before we were shown the slide show. The slide show was made by Elizabeth and Valeria with photo and video contributions from the entire expedition team. The slide show was great with funny moments, but also moments that made us tear up. It was a wonderful trip and this slide show is a great souvenir and memory to bring home with us.

Then we had our final diner on board, and it was yet another delicious meal. The dining room was buzzing, and we enjoyed our last night the fullest. Albert then took the microphone to thank his entire hotel crew who did such a magnificent job both in front as well as behind the scenes. What a great team he has!

In the meantime, we had entered the Beagle Channel and the pilot was now in charge of getting us to Ushuaia where we would arrive around midnight. Good night everyone!

Day 13 – Tuesday 25th February, Disembarkation Day Ushuaia

08h00 GPS Position: 56°26.3'S / 065°44.2'W

Wind: S-3 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Cloudy • Air temperature: +4°C

This morning Adam woke us up one last time with his soft and soothing voice. We will surely miss him waking us up. We opened our eyes and realised the ship was no longer moving and when we looked outside we saw we had arrived back in Ushuaia. We made our way to the breakfast restaurant once more and while eating we already started saying our goodbyes to the lovely stewards who had been so good and friendly to us. In the meantime the expedition team had carried out our luggage and then unfortunately Albert announced the ship had been cleared by the authorities and that the buses to the airport had arrived.

We said goodbye to our fellow passengers who had become our friends and with whom we had shared this unforgettable adventure. The expedition team was there as well and we were sad to have to say goodbye to them too. But with firm hugs and big smiles we parted ways while we looked back to our beautiful Plancius one more time. Our expedition had been amazing and we would never forget this great adventure!

Total distance sailed on our voyage: 1708 nm
Southernmost position: 65°04.2'S / 064°01.9'W

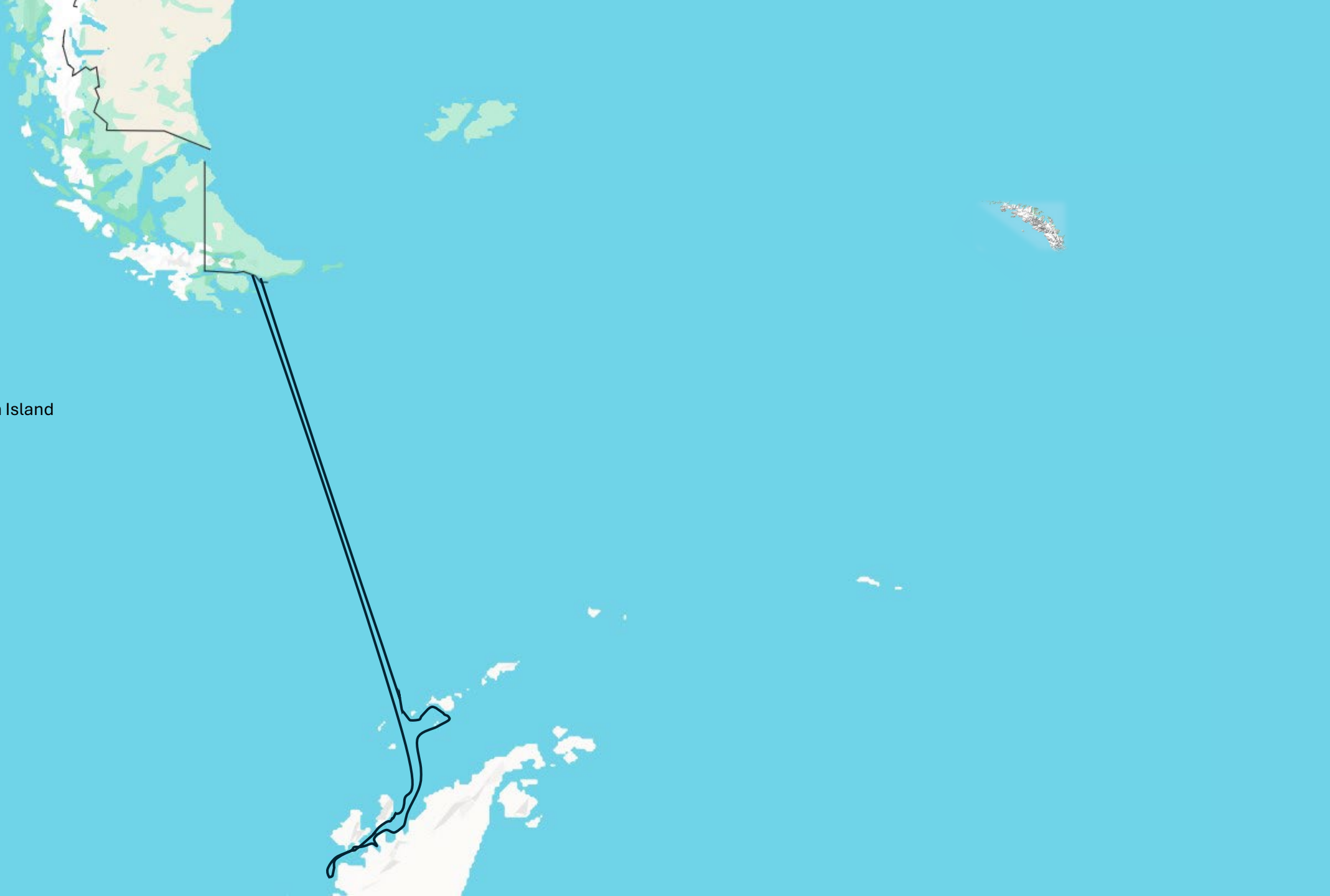
On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, the Captain, Crew and Expedition staff we would like to thank you for a wonderful time, it has been a pleasure sailing with you.



1. Orne Island
2. Damoy Point
3. Lemaire Channel
4. Pleneau Island
5. Hovgaard Island
6. Port Charcot
7. Petermann Island
8. Damoy Point
9. Paradise Harbour
10. Stony Point
11. Danco Island
12. Neko Harbour
13. Foyn Harbour
14. Whalers Bay- Deception Island
15. Elephant Point

Total Distance Travelled:

- 1708nM
- 3160 km
- 1965 miles



14

Deception Island- Whalers Bay

Landing

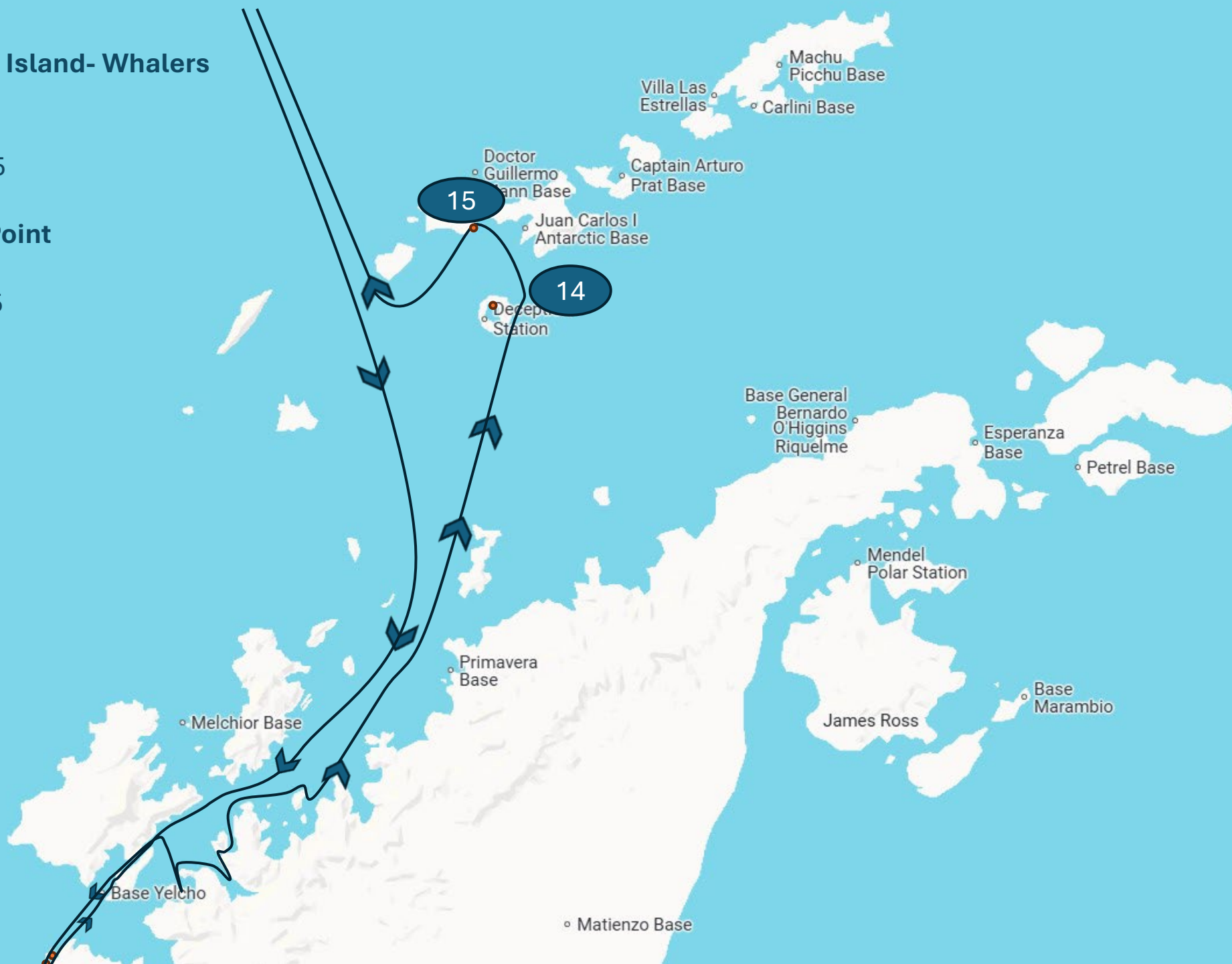
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Elephant Point

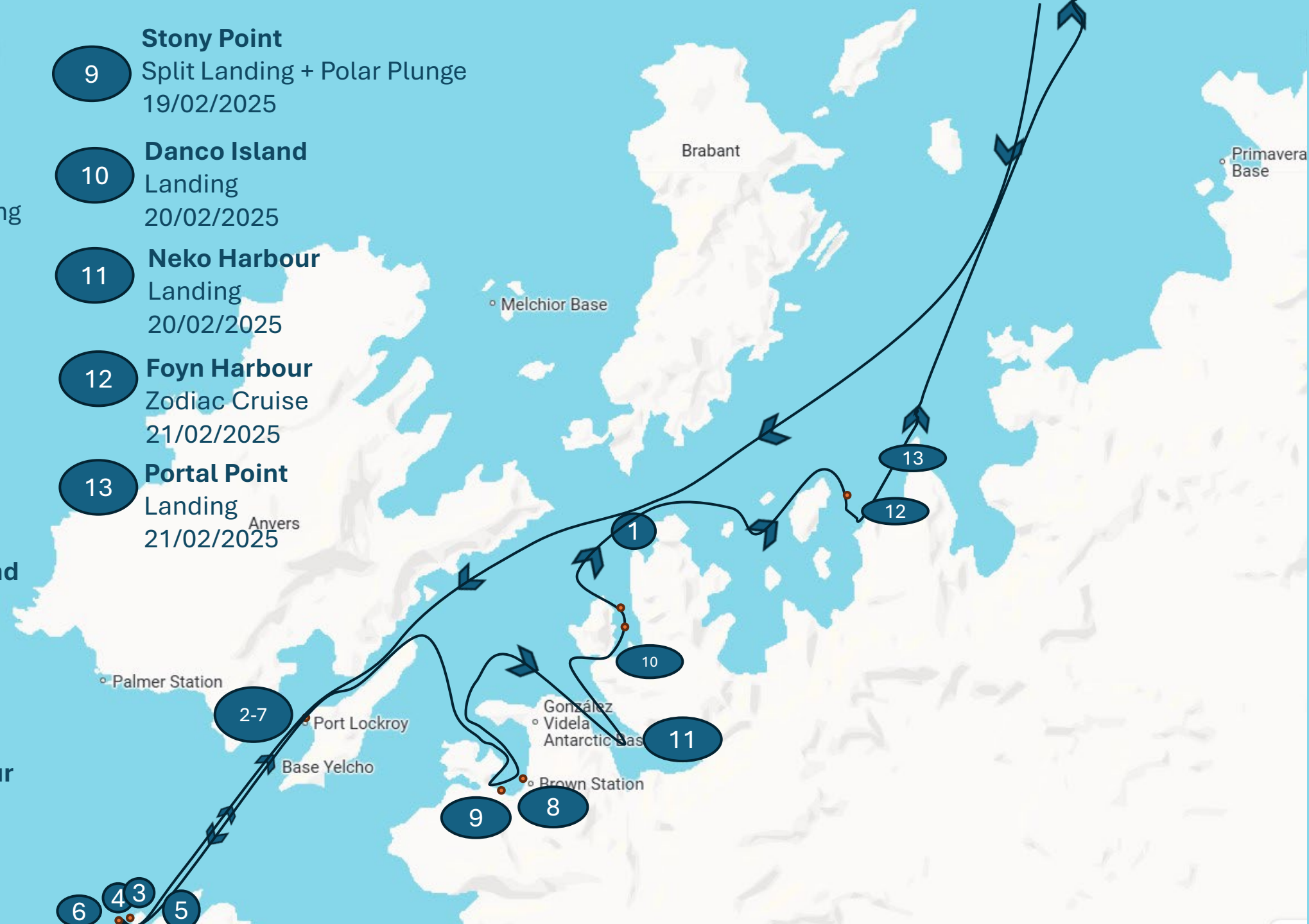
Landing

22/02/2025



- 1 **Orne Island**
Landing
16/02/2025
- 2 **Damoy Point**
Landing - Camping
16/02/2025
- 3 **Pleneau Island**
Landing
17/02/2025
- 4 **Hovgaard Island**
Zodiac Cruise
07/02/2025
- 5 **Port Charcot**
Landing
18/02/2025
- 6 **Petermann Island**
Landing
18/02/2025
- 7 **Damoy Point**
Camping
18/02/2025
- 8 **Paradise Harbour**
Zodiac Cruise
19/02/2025

- 9 **Stony Point**
Split Landing + Polar Plunge
19/02/2025
- 10 **Danco Island**
Landing
20/02/2025
- 11 **Neko Harbour**
Landing
20/02/2025
- 12 **Foyn Harbour**
Zodiac Cruise
21/02/2025
- 13 **Portal Point**
Landing
21/02/2025



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Adam Burke – Expedition Leader



Adam has always had a love of the outdoors and adventure, from an early age he dreamt of visiting exotic places and immersing himself in other cultures.

This love of the outdoors led him to work teaching adventurous activities and for over fifteen years this pursuit has given him the opportunity to live and work all over the globe. He has taught sailing in Australia, paddle sports on Europe's rivers and led expeditions in Africa.

After spending five years teaching white water safety & rescue and boat handling techniques to the fire brigade, he moved

on to providing marine science support in Antarctica. He has spent over five years living between the Antarctic continent and the island of South Georgia, including overwintering twice.

Whilst providing science support he spent his time in Antarctica managing boating operations and helming RIBs for diving operations. This covered understanding environmental changes and its effects, wildlife monitoring and counting as well as water sampling for a long-term data collection.

Adam enjoys travelling with his partner who shares the same values and love of the outdoors. This has taken them from deserts to rain forests and ultramarathons in the mountains.

Stefanie Liller – Asst. Exp. Leader



Steffi Liller was born in Offenbach, Germany in 1978. After completing her apprenticeship as a biology lab technician at the Paul-Ehrlich Institute in Langen, Germany, she earned a degree in Biology and Meteorology at the Universities of Darmstadt and Freiburg in Germany. Alongside her studies and her love of nature, Stefanie developed an interest in and a passion for skydiving. This eventually changed from being a hobby to her profession. While working at drop-zones and indoor skydiving facilities throughout central Europe, Stefanie enjoyed sharing her passion for the sport with other people.

A large part of her career was spent as a coach. It was always very important to her to make her own skills available to people curious and interested, and to look after their safety and lasting enjoyment in the sport. Starting in 2011 she managed several indoor skydiving facilities in Germany and Austria. In addition to her professional career, Stefanie is an avid world-traveller by foot or public transport. While exploring various landscapes and communities on all seven continents, she enjoys sharing her experiences and unique moments with others. Since 2017 Stefanie has been working as an independent coach in skydiving and indoor skydiving and guide or lector on several vessels in remote areas. Stefanie has chosen Vienna, Austria as her home base, and lives there in between trips.

Jakub Małecki – Expedition Guide



Jakub was born in Poland in 1985. As a kid, he dreamed of becoming an astronaut, but later his focus shifted towards astronomy. Eventually, he obtained a masters and doctoral degree in Earth Sciences and became a glaciologist. As he puts it, researching remote, glacier-covered regions is almost like landing on another planet, so the childhood dream has partly come true.

Since 2007 Jakub has been studying glaciers across the world, either directly or remotely, i.e., using satellite or aerial images. His main interest is

how glaciers respond to changing climate in different environmental settings. Most of his glaciology work Jakub carries out on Svalbard, the arctic archipelago located midway between Norway and the north pole, where he fell in love with ice. Since then, Jakub joins expeditions to remote regions on an every-year basis.

Jakub considers public education by the science community at least as important as delivering new knowledge, so he is a keen glaciology communicator, book author and a frequent guest to the Polish media outlets and science festivals where he comments on polar and mountain affairs. Apart from glaciology, Jakub is a huge enthusiast of planetary sciences and space exploration and tries to play the ukulele.

Koen Hoekemeijer – Exp. Guide



Koen Hoekemeijer was born in 1974 in The Netherlands. When it comes to nature and wildlife Koen was quite a late bloomer as he had always been more into nightlife and sunny beaches. But that all changed when he discovered his passion for wildlife and photography in 2009 in Costa Rica. It was during this trip that Koen saw his first humpback whales and he fell in love with them instantly. Not only did it make him eager to see more and different types of whales in locations all over the world, but he also wanted to learn to take better photos of these amazing creatures. And with the love for whales

and photography, came a broader passion for all sorts of wildlife.

Since that memorable vacation in 2009, Koen has been travelling the planet to see and photograph the world's most beautiful places. Usually from boats, jeeps or simply face down in the mud, but since 2016 also underwater. Snorkeling in the presence of whales and orcas is bringing Koen pure happiness.

Among his favourite animals are whales, orcas, penguins, tigers and jaguars. But in between safaris, he also likes to do street photography and capture life and portraits of people all over the world.

Koen believes that travelling does not only enrich your life, it also makes you more humble, more appreciative and it provides new levels of perspective and understanding. Koen has won the prestigious WWF Frans Lanting Photo contest, and in 2020 he won the Ellen Fitzgibbon Memorial Photography competition. It's Koen's dream to one day have a Vizsla dog and own a small cabin somewhere in northern Norway surrounded by snow and trees ;).

Martin Anstee – Expedition Guide



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

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

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

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

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

This is also where Martin started his career as a guide, he enjoys sharing his knowledge of the Islands and the wildlife which he continues to do to this day. Martin has also guided in The Arctic, Antarctica and some of the sub-antarctic Islands as well as some of the least visited Islands in The Atlantic such as Tristan da Cunha.

Elizabeth Robinson – Exp. Guide



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

She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Mammalogy, accompanied by additional degrees in Psychology, English Writing and Environmental Studies. Her undergraduate research focused on

African elephants and squirrels. Recently, she graduated from the University of Bristol (UK) with a Master of Science degree in Global Wildlife Health and Conservation. Her dissertation focused on cetacean conservation and understanding how policy is integrated within conservation efforts.

Elizabeth has lived and studied whales in many places such as Hawaii, British Columbia, Alaska, Norway, and the UK. She has previously worked as an orca kayak guide, a snorkel guide in Hawaii, a wildlife documentary co-producer, and a marine mammal researcher. She has spent the last eight years studying species such as orcas, humpback whales, right whales, porpoises, and pinnipeds. She is passionate about cetacean conservation, specifically endangered species. Elizabeth is very proud to have recently received her United States Coast Guard 100-ton Master Captains license and sailboat endorsement! She currently calls both the US and the UK home and is happiest at sea.

Valeria Sainz Herrera – Exp. guide



Valeria Sainz Herrera is an Argentine photographer. She grew up in Buenos Aires, capital of Argentina. Throughout the years she has found that one of her greatest passions is to travel to the wildest and remotest places around the world. So, traveling as much as she could, she found in the photography, a profession that gives her the freedom to know and live in different locations.

Nowadays she spends her life between “the poles”, working as a guide for Oceanwide Expeditions, and during the rest of the year you could find her in a beautiful island names Ilhabela in Brazil,

working in tourism area.

Living in different countries allows her to learn and practice many activities that she enjoys, especially in natural environments, like rock climbing and skiing in the Argentinian Patagonian Andes or camping and hiking in the central region of Argentina and, in Brazil, she learned other kinds of sports like scuba diving, kayaking and sailing.

She is also particularly interested in the history of the expeditions that discovered and mapped some of the places we are about to visit. This gives her the chance to share fascinating stories on board.

The Antarctic and The Arctic were always a dream of her, and now are part of her life.

Brian Veltrop – Expedition Guide



This is Brian, he is 31 years young and lives in the Netherlands.

Brian is a true nature lover. He has been in nature since he was little and has really found his passion for it in recent years.

In recent years, Brian has completed various courses in the outdoor world. In 2021 he started the training as a hike & survival instructor, hike & backpacking guide, international wilderness guide lvl 1. He trained for this in the Netherlands, France and Canada. He also followed the training of BICO, Baby it's cold outside and

Mountain 101 (University of Alberta, Canada).

After completing these courses, he entered the specialization and completed the training as a wilderness guide lvl 2 and the winter travel & survival lvl 3 in Winter Canada.

As an examination for this, he had to endure a 48 hour solo in -30 (Celsius).

Furthermore, Brian is very passionate about identifying Flora & Fauna. He likes to look for animal tracks & signs and talk about them.

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

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.

David McKinley – Mountain Guide



Dave McKinley is an IFMGA Climbing and Ski Guide with 25 years of professional experience.

He lives in the small town of Twizel, just south of Aoraki/Mt Cook with his wife, 3 kids (when they're home) and 4 dogs and spends much of the year sharing adventures in the NZ Southern Alps with guests. Either mountaineering or Heliskiing/touring.

Dave has worked and climbed in NZ, Europe, Alaska, Nepal, Tibet and South America including ascents of Everest, Lhotse, Manaslu, Denali (which with his

last name of McKinley originates his nickname of "Narly") and Aconcagua amongst many others. He is passionate about sharing his experience and joy in exploring the more remote parts of our world with people and, having a previous life as a chef, he has a belief that guiding is a part of the "hospitality" industry at its heart. Dave has also been involved in the Search and Rescue aspect of the outdoors environment, and in particular with the use and deployment of dogs in Avalanche and wilderness/Open Area searching. Dave is a guide with a strong skill-set and an even stronger desire to enable and assist others to engage and learn from our natural and wild spaces.

Erin Bastian – Kayak Guide



Erin is a UKCC level 3 Sea Kayak Coach and BCU 5* sea kayak leader.

Erin is a passionate sea kayaker with over 15 years experience leading expeditions around the world, from the icy fjords of Patagonia, Greenland, and Arctic Norway, to the warm waters of the Mediterranean, circumnavigating the islands of Sardinia, Corsica, and Menorca. In 2019 Erin crossed the Aegean sea by kayak, planning a route which linked 17 Greek islands and making 16 significant open water crossings.

Erin's keen sense for adventure and love for the ocean inspired her to row across the Atlantic ocean in 2021. Making the 3000 mile crossing from La Gomera to Antigua, as part of a team of 4 women, in 40 days.

Erin finds herself drawn to the colder waters of the poles, where exploring by kayak allows her to enjoy the incredible wildlife, navigate between enormous icebergs and watch glaciers calve into the ocean. Erin has a real love for introducing others to the sport of kayaking with its freedom to explore and ability to get people closer to nature.

Aniska Fortuin – Ships Doctor



Aniska is a 33 year old emergency physician who has been working in emergency medicine for 6 years. During this time, she has worked in different kinds of hospitals, from a small rural centre to a big, urban trauma centre. This has familiarised her with the different aspects of emergency medicine.

In addition, she works as a first responder at different kinds of events, like football matches or music festivals. Therefore, she also knows what it is like to perform emergency medicine outside the hospital.

She is happily married and lives in a small village near Rotterdam, the Netherlands. Her native language is Dutch, but she also speaks fluent English and a little bit of German.

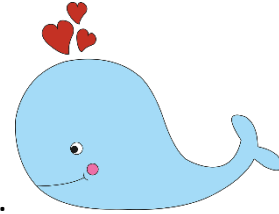
Her hobbies are playing tennis, board games, and karaoke. She loves to travel, both for skiing holidays as well as the tropics, to enjoy the beach and sun.

She is excited to carry out her profession onboard the Plancius, surrounded by the beautiful sceneries of Antarctica. But she would rather meet you in the dining hall or during one of the thrilling expeditions this trip has to offer, than in the sickbay.

See you soon aboard the Plancius!

- 1600 **Welcome on board!** Your luggage should be in your cabin when you arrive. Please check carefully to see if you are missing any luggage and if there is luggage in your cabin that does not belong to you then please let one of the staff know. Please feel free to explore the ship.
Tea and coffee are available in the Lounge on Deck 5.
- >1700 **Mandatory Safety and Lifeboat Instruction** in the Lounge. **ALL PASSENGERS** are required to participate in this very important instruction.
- 1800 Departure from the pier.
- 1845 Please join us in the Lounge for an **introduction to the ship** from your Hotel Manager Albert.
This will be followed by **Captain's Cocktails**, a chance to meet your Captain, Evgeny Levakov and then you will meet with your Expedition Leader Adam Burke. He will explain the plans for the coming days, and it will be a chance to meet with your Expedition Team.
- 1930 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant on Deck 3 behind the reception desk.
Enjoy your meal.

Tonight we will be sailing in open water and expect the ship to move. Please make sure that all your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are properly stowed in your cabin to avoid accidents. Always use the railings and handholds when moving around on the ship, especially in rough seas. Always one hand for the ship and one hand for yourself. Thank you.



- 0745 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Adam.
- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **Zodiac, IAATO and Biosecurity Briefing.** During our seadays we have to take part in some mandatory briefing for our visit to Antarctica. Join Adam in the lounge for these obligatory briefings.
- 1130 **Boots.** We will hand out the boots you will use throughout the trip. We will call you by deck. The Bootroom is on deck 3 forward.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1430 **Biosecurity.** Followed by the briefing on biosecurity in the morning, we will call you by deck to bring all your outer gear, boots, tripods and walking poles you plan to use during your time of the trip. We will inspect them with you and take care we are not bringing any invasive species or diseases to the places we would like to visit.
- 1700 **Photography.** Our Photo guide Koen will offer a series of short Photo lectures throughout the trip. Please join him in the lounge for “10 tips for Wildlife Photography”
- 1830 **Recap** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for recap and learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal.

We will be sailing in open water and expect the ship to move. Please make sure that all your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are properly stowed in your cabin to avoid accidents. Always use the railings and handholds when moving around on the ship, especially in rough seas. Always one hand for the ship and one hand for yourself. Thank you.

0745 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Adam.

0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.

Activity Briefings. If you would like to take part in one of the additional activities like Mountaineering, Kayaking or Camping, please join the Activity guides in the lounge. These briefings are mandatory, if you would like to join the activity.

0930 **Mountaineering.** Please meet your Mountain Guides Owain and David in the lounge.

1030 **Camping.** Please come and join Valeria and Brian in the lounge for your camping briefing.

1130 **Kayaking.** Please meet your Kayakguide Erin in the lounge.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

In the afternoon we will offer the mandatory briefing and biosecurity for those who missed it. Time depends on sea conditions, please listen to announcements.

1430 **Activity Sign ups.** If you would like to take part in one of the additional activities during the trip. We will call you by groups that are posted on the entrance of the lounge on the wall.

1700 **Cetaceans** Along our Voyage. Elizabeth will talk about the whales we expect to see. Please join her in the lounge.

1830 **Recap** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for recap and learn of our plans for tomorrow.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal.

We will be sailing in open water and expect the ship to move. Please make sure that all your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are properly stowed in your cabin to avoid accidents. Always use the railings and handholds when moving around on the ship, especially in rough seas. Always one hand for the ship and one hand for yourself. Thank you.

Antarctica – Base Camp

Orne Island & Damoy Point

Sunday 16th February 2025

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Adam.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- TBA Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at Orne Island. You will get the chance to see gentoos penguins and also chinstrap penguins call this place home. The views over the Gerlache Strait and Ronge Island are beautiful.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1445 **Mountaineers**, please meet Owain and Narly ***dressed up and ready to go*** on deck 3 forward outside on starboard side.
- 1515 **Kayakers**, please meet Erin at the bootroom.
- 1530 **Everyone not joining an extra activity.** Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at Damoy Point. Gentoo penguins are nesting around the hill, the views are amazing. You have the chance for a walk following the poles and there is also a historic hut.
- 1830 **Recap** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for recap and learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal.
- 2030 Camper be ready for the night. **Please listen to the announcements!**

Antarctica – Base Camp

Pleneau Island & Hovgaard Island

Monday 17th February 2025

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Adam.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- +/- 0800 Lemaire Channel
- 0845 **Mountaineers**, please meet Owain and Narly ***dressed up and ready to go*** on deck 3 forward outside on starboard side.
- 0915 **Kayakers**, please meet Erin at the bootroom.
- 0930 **Everyone not joining an extra activity.** Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at Pleneau Island. We try to give you the chance to walk onto the small slope of Pleneau Island, you will get great views onto the Iceberg graveyard on the other side and enjoy gentoo penguins which are nesting there.
- 1300 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1345 **Mountaineers**, please meet Owain and Narly ***dressed up and ready to go*** on deck 3 forward outside on starboard side.
- 1415 **Kayakers**, please meet Erin at the bootroom.
- 1430 **Everyone not joining an extra activity.** Please join the Expedition Team for a Zodiac cruise around the area. We would like to explore the area with the Zodiacs in search of marine wildlife and amazing ice formations.
- 1830 **Recap** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for recap and learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal.
- 2030 Camper be ready for the night. **Please listen to the announcements!**

Antarctica – Base Camp

Port Charcot & Petermann Island

Tuesday 18th February 2025

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Adam.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0815 **Mountaineers**, please meet Owain and Narly ***dressed up and ready to go*** on deck 3 forward outside on starboard side.
- 0845 **Kayakers**, please meet Erin at the bootroom.
- 0900 **Everyone not joining an extra activity.** Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at Port Charcot. We hope to give you the chance to walk up to the top of the little peninsula and enjoy the views about the surroundings islands and icebergs.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1345 **Mountaineers**, please meet Owain and Narly ***dressed up and ready to go*** on deck 3 forward outside on starboard side.
- 1415 **Kayakers**, please meet Erin at the bootroom.
- 1430 **Everyone not joining an extra activity.** Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at Petermann Island. Here you have great views over the Penola Strait and the great mountains of the Antarctic peninsula. We hope also to see our 3rd penguin species: the Adelie penguin.
- 1830 **Recap** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for recap and learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal.

Antarctica – Base Camp

Paradise Bay & Stoney Point
Wednesday 19th February 2025

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Adam.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0845 **Mountaineers**, please meet Owain and Narly ***dressed up and ready to go*** on deck 3 forward outside on starboard side.
- 0915 **Kayakers**, please meet Erin at the bootroom.
- 0930 **Everyone not joining an extra activity.** Please join the Expedition Team for a cruise at Paradise Bay. The Bay has the name for a reason, it is protected by incoming weather and beautiful on top of it. We hope to find a lot of wildlife with you.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1415 **Kayakers**, please meet Erin at the bootroom.
- 1430 **Everyone not joining an extra activity.** Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at Stoney Point. We will offer a Zodiac Cruise and a short landing. The first boats will go to land and the following boats will go cruising, we will swap after half of the time.
At the end of our afternoon activity, we offer you the chance to make a polar plunge. We meet all at the landing site for our swim.
Please bring the courage, we will bring the towels.
- 1830 **Recap** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for recap and learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal.

Antarctica – Base Camp

Danco Island & Neko Harbour

Thursday 20th February 2025

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Adam.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0845 **Kayakers**, please meet Erin at the bootroom.
- 0900 **Mountaineers**, please arrive at the landing site with the regular guests. Please try to be in one of the first boats and do not forget your equipment!
- 0900 **Everyone not joining an extra activity.** Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at Danco Island which is situated in the scenic Errera Channel. We hope to offer you a walk to the top of the mountain and enjoy the views and the gentoos nesting on that island.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1345 **Mountaineers**, please meet Owain and Narly on deck 3, dressed and ready to go.
- 1415 **Kayakers**, please meet Erin at the bootroom.
- 1430 **Everyone not joining an extra activity.** Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at Neko Harbour. Neko Harbour is your second continental landing. The view on the neighbouring glacier is great and the penguins will entertain you as well.
- 1830 **Recap** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for recap and learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 Be ready for a **special dinner**, dress warm and listen to the announcements.

Antarctica – Base Camp

Foyn Harbour & Portal Point

Friday 21st February 2025

- 0715 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Adam.
- 0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0815 **Mountaineers**, please meet Owain and Narly on deck 3, dressed and ready to go.
- 0845 **Kayakers**, please meet Erin at the bootroom.
- 0900 **Everyone not joining an extra activity.** Please join the Expedition Team for a Zodiac Cruise around Foyn Harbour. We will get the opportunity to see a shipwreck from the whaling period and we hope to find many whales that recovered well from this period and enjoy the waters of Antarctica.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1430 Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at Portal Point which is offering us another step onto the continent of Antarctica. The views over Charlotte Bay are great and often we have seals.
- 1830 **Recap** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for recap and learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal.

Antarctica – Base Camp

Deception Island & Elephant Point

Saturday 22nd February 2025

- 0645 Wake up call from your Expedition Leader Adam.
- 0700 We will pass the Neptunes Bellows and enter the caldera of Deception island. Do not miss the sail through the narrow passage.
- 0700 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0800 Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at **Deception Island**. We will land at Whalers Bay where you can find the remains of an old whaling station. The landscape is completely different from what you experienced so far.
- 1200 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1330 Please join the Expedition Team for a landing at **Elephant Point** on Livingston Island. We hope to see many elephant seals and other wildlife.
- 1830 **Recap** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for recap and learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal.

Tonight, we will be sailing in open water and expect the ship to move. Please make sure that all your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) are properly stowed in your cabin to avoid accidents.

Always use the railings and handholds when moving around on the ship, especially in rough seas. Always one hand for the ship and one hand for yourself. Thank you.

Antarctica – Base Camp

Drake Passage, heading north
Sunday 23rd of February 2025

There will be no wake up call, but you will get called for breakfast anyway.

- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 **Photography.** We took many pictures during the trip. If you would like to know more about post-processing your memories, join Koen in the lounge.
- 1100
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1500 We all enjoyed the **humpbacks**, we saw throughout the trip. Join Elizabeth in the lounge to learn more about these charismatic marine mammals.
- 1700 We spent seven incredible days in Antarctica. When you got in love with the cold environment, join Brian in the lounge and he will tell you more about **travelling in winter**.
- 1815 **Recap** Please join the expedition team in the Lounge for recap and learn of our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal.

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Antarctica – Base Camp

Drake Passage, heading north
Monday 24th of February 2025

There will be no wake up call, but you will get called for breakfast anyway.

- 0800 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.
- 0930 If you like to find out **why penguins do not wear socks**, join Steffi in the lounge and she will tell you more about the adaptation that the animals developed to be able to survive in the cold waters of Antarctica.
- 1100 **Photography** plays an important role in **conservation**. Please join Martin in the lounge to learn more how our picture can help to protect wildlife,
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- We collect your boots at some point in the day. We will call you by deck. At this time you can also return your rental equipment.*
- 1500 The exploration of Antarctica tells many great stories. Join Valeria in the lounge to learn more about **the Race to the Southpole**.
- 1630 **Around Cape Horn**. We will stream a documentary about old sailors passing the waters around Cape Horn.
- 1800 **Captain's Cocktails**. Please join the Expedition team and Captain Evgeny Levakov in the Lounge to toast our successful voyage.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Restaurant. Enjoy your meal.

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0700 Your final wake up call from Adam! Good Morning everyone, Good Morning!

Before breakfast at 0730 please could you put your large check in luggage outside your cabin so that we can get it onto the pier for you. If you are taking a bus from the ship straight to the airport, please make sure your luggage has an **ORANGE label on it.**

If you do not fly out in the morning, you can leave your luggage in the luggage storage until 14:00.

If you have other arrangements to stay in Ushuaia you can take your luggage and walk to the port entrance where you will find a taxi.

Please identify your luggage on the pier and make sure it goes to the airport bus, the luggage storage or you take it with you!!!!

Keep your hand luggage in your cabin or take it to the Lounge.

0730 **Breakfast buffet** will be available in the Dining Room for 1 hour.

0830/0900 It is time to leave the Little Blue Ship, Plancius. Please make sure you have all your belongings with you and that you have taken your key card holder back to Reception.

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, the Captain, Crew and Expedition staff would like to thank you for travelling with us and wish you a very safe journey home.