



Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery

Ushuaia – Ushuaia

10 March - 21 March, 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 58

Chief Officer:	Sjoerd Van Hoek	[Netherlands]
Second Officer:	Warren Villanueva	[Philippines]
Third Officer:	Sander Witsenburg	[Netherlands]
Chief Engineer:	Aleksandr Bondarev	[Lithuania]
Second Engineer:	Ionut Daraban	[Romania]
Hotel Manager:	Oleksandr Lyebyedyev	[Ukraine]
Assistant Hotel Manager:	Lilianne van Meurs	[Netherlands]
Head Chef:	Heinz Hacker	[Austria]
Sous Chef:	Norman Estrada	[Philippines]
Bosun:	Eniano Agarin	[Philippines]
Bosun:	Lauren Malatag	[Philippines]
Bartender:	Glaiza Loterina	[Philippines]
Ship's doctor:	Chantelle Ni Chróinín	[Ireland]
Expedition Leader:	Sara Jenner	[United Kingdom]
Assistant Expedition Leader:	Allan White	[Falkland Islands]
Expedition Guide:	Charlotte Taplin	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Enric Sangra	[Spain]
Expedition Guide:	Dr. Gary Miller	[Australia]
Expedition Guide:	Jess Owen	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Marco Rosso	[Italy]
Expedition Guide:	Saskia van der Meij	[The Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Tom van Hoof	[The Netherlands]
Dive Team Leader:	Tanja Bayer	[Germany]
Dive Guide:	Clara Lachetti	[Argentina]
Dive Guide:	Dimitrios Sotirakis	[Greece]
Dive Guide:	Duncan McGregor	[United Kingdom]

WE WELCOME YOU ON BOARD!

Day 1 – Monday 10 March. Ushuaia, embarkation day.

08:00 GPS Position: 54°48.4' S / 068°17.6' W

Wind: SW force 6 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Cloudy • Air temperature: +6°C

The day had finally come! It was time to board the good ship *Ortelius* for our Antarctic expedition to the deep south and past the Antarctic Circle. The journey to the bottom



of the world began in Ushuaia, Argentina, the southernmost city on Earth, where the chill in the air felt like an omen of the adventure that lay ahead. Despite the brisk wind that greeted us, it was a glorious sunny day, as we boarded the *MV Ortelius*. A sense of excitement and

anticipation hung in the air. The ship, a sturdy ice-strengthened vessel, was waiting for us at the dock, ready to take us across the Drake Passage and into the icy waters of the Antarctic Peninsula.

We were warmly welcomed by the crew and staff who assisted us with check-in at reception and finding our cabins. We had some time to explore the ship, get our bearings and grab a coffee in the bar. Everyone was on board by 16:45. Then it was time to gather in the bar for a mandatory briefing on ship safety procedures. Once complete, we could sail. We met Expedition Leader Sara Jenner, who introduced the mandatory safety video. Next it was time for an abandon ship drill. Upon hearing the emergency alarm, we went to our cabins, put on something warm, grabbed our lifejackets, and went to the muster station back up in the bar. From there we were guided outside and up to the bridge deck where the lifeboats are located, so we knew where to go in the event of a real emergency.





We went back to our cabins to put away our lifejackets when Sara invited us to join Captain Remmert in the bar for prosecco and canapés, to raise a glass and toast the voyage ahead. This was followed by an introduction to shipboard services by Hotel Manager Oleksandr, and an overview of our expedition by our illustrious leader Sara. The Expedition Team and the ship's doctor also introduced themselves to us.

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

After a long day of travel, it was time for bed and some well-earned rest. What would tomorrow bring? The infamous Southern Ocean lay ahead. We hoped (some prayed) it would be kind.



Day 2 – Tuesday 11 March. At sea, Drake Passage / Southern Ocean.

08:00 GPS Position: 56°12.4' S / 066°08.8' W

Wind: SW force 8 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +7°C

We got our first wake-up call of the trip from Sara, with her trademark – “Good morning, good morning, good morning”. We were out in the Drake Passage now. We felt it already last night around 01:30 as we left the sheltered coastal waters of Argentina and headed out into the mighty Southern Ocean. It definitely was not an



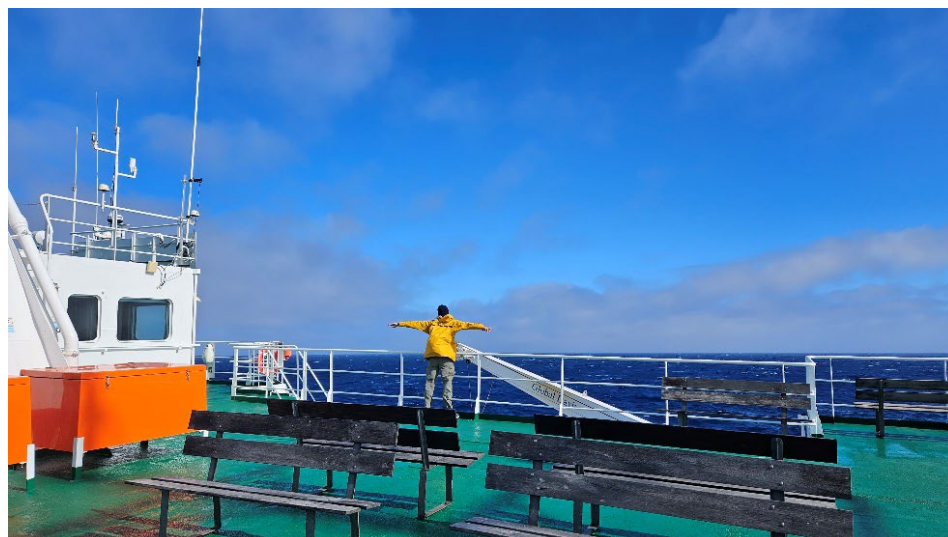
easy start to our trip. The 3-to-4-meter waves that Sara was explaining to us already yesterday were rocking Ortelius from port to starboard, resulting in a sparsely filled dining room over breakfast. Unfortunately, a lot of us weren't feeling well and stayed in our cabins. The programmed muck boot handout at 10:30 to all of us was therefore also postponed. A few of us were at the bridge watching how some of the big waves swallowed the bow of the ship. Several albatross and petrel species delighted us with their presence around the ship, among which was the impressive Wandering albatross, the biggest of them all with a wingspan of up to 3,5 meters.



At 11:30 Dr. Gary Miller kicked off the lecture program with a presentation called 'Seabirds of the Southern Ocean'. He set the scene by explaining why this region is so

rich in seabirds and went on to talk about the species we had already seen, and those we hoped to see during the voyage.

Appropriately, some of these magnificent birds could be seen passing by the bar windows



during Gary's talk. Next on the agenda was a buffet lunch, which was announced soon after the conclusion of the lecture.

After lunch the divers were meeting in the bar for their first mandatory dive briefing given by dive leader Tanja, while the rest of us had some free time to enjoy the birds outside. The sun had come out and because we shifted the course over lunch the ship's movements got a little calmer, so more of us were up and about to enjoy being on the Drake. Now that Gary had introduced us to the seabirds, it was easier for us to recognize them. The most common birds seen throughout the day were Black-browed albatrosses, because 70% of their global population lives in the Falkland Islands to the north of us. Various species of prions and petrels were also seen. Wind and swell both reduced as the afternoon wore on.

At 16:15 marine biologist Jess Owen invited us to the bar for her enthusiastic talk on 'The Whales and Dolphins of the Southern Ocean' that we are hoping to spot in the next few days. There were a few rare species that she had never seen before either and was hoping we could spot them together these upcoming days.



At our first daily recap in the evening, Sara gave us an update on our progress so far and the program for tomorrow. Charlotte talked about the Drake Passage, and Marco explained all about the winds that circle the waters

around Antarctica. Then we went for a lovely 3-course dinner in the dining room, and so ended our first full day on *Ortelius*.

Day 3 – Wednesday 12 March. At sea, Drake Passage /Southern Ocean

08:00 GPS Position: 60°32.9' S / 063°45.3' W

Wind: SW force 5 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +2°C

The day began with the gentle voice of Sara coming out of the ship's intercom, waking us from our slumber with a cheerful morning greeting. Overnight, we had crossed the Antarctic Convergence, the natural boundary where cold Antarctic waters meet warmer sub-Antarctic currents, creating a distinct drop in temperature.

By the time we awoke, we were officially south of 60 degrees latitude and in Antarctic waters. Thankfully, for those who did not feel their best yesterday due to the ship's motion, the waters felt significantly calmer today and we were making good progress, with 11 knots of speed towards Antarctica.



After slowly emerging from our cabins, we made our way to the dining room, where a buffet breakfast awaited us. The tables were filled with an assortment of warm dishes, fresh fruit, and pastries, a welcome start to what would be a full day at sea. Over steaming cups of coffee and tea, we chatted excitedly about the voyage ahead, glancing occasionally out the portholes to see the endless rolling swells of the Southern Ocean. Those who finished breakfast quickly were treated to beautiful views of the elegant Light mantled albatross as it soared by the bridge windows.



The first activity of the day was a lecture by Marco, an introduction to the Antarctic Peninsula, the icy, otherworldly destination that we were slowly approaching. Marco spoke about the region's dramatic landscapes, its history of exploration, and the unique wildlife that thrived in its extreme environment. His passion for Antarctica was contagious, and we all

listened attentively, eager to absorb as much as we could before arriving at this frozen frontier.

After the lecture, we headed down to the lecture room to try on and pick up our muck boots. These sturdy, insulated boots are essential for landings on the continent, where we would encounter icy terrain, snow, and even shallow water when stepping out of the Zodiacs. The room buzzed with excitement as we stomped around to check the fit and exchanged smiles at the thought of our upcoming adventures on solid Antarctic ground.

Then our first iceberg was spotted and most of us went outside to experience this surreal sight. Its towering, jagged edges loomed like ancient sculptures carved by nature. The deep blue hue contrasted against the icy white, creating a striking spectacle. The calm of the surrounding waters amplified its majesty.

Before lunch there was time for one more lecture, this time by Sara, who gave an engaging talk about penguins. She spoke in detail about their biology, behaviour, and adaptations to the harsh Antarctic environment. Her presentation also included answers to some of the most frequently asked



questions about these charming creatures — how they survive the cold, how they care for their chicks, and whether they really mate for life. By the end of her talk, we all felt like penguin experts and couldn't wait for our first encounters with these iconic birds in the wild.



After lunch we were in the midst of performing biosecurity checks on all the outer gear up in the bar, carefully inspecting for any contamination or hitchhiking pests. The check was interrupted when a pod of long-finned pilot whales appeared in the distance. Their sleek bodies cut through the water and swam towards our starboard side. Their playful behavior drew our attention. It was a breathtaking sight. The ones not busy with the meticulous task ran outside to enjoy this special moment. Later that afternoon, we spent some time out on deck, bundled up against the brisk Antarctic wind.

Freshly baked treats were served in the bar at four o'clock, so we helped ourselves to a warming drink to go with them as we gathered in the bar for a talk by Enric, who spoke about the various types of ice found in Antarctica. His presentation covered everything from towering glaciers to delicate sea



ice, explaining how each type forms, evolves, and plays a crucial role in the region's ecosystem. As he spoke, we realized how much there was to learn about the frozen landscapes ahead, and our appreciation for the icy wilderness grew with each passing slide and anecdote.

Before dinner, we had our second recap of the voyage, where Sara went over the day's events and, more importantly, unveiled the exciting plans for tomorrow. The anticipation in the room was palpable as she described our expected arrival at the Antarctic Peninsula, the possible landings we would attempt including a highly



anticipated continental landing, and the wildlife we might encounter. Everyone listened intently, eager to hear every detail of what lay ahead.

The evening concluded with a special treat—a screening of *Happy Feet*. We settled into our seats with bowls of warm popcorn in hand, ready to enjoy the heartwarming animated tale of a young

emperor penguin who dances to his own rhythm. The laughter and smiles throughout the room showed that even after a full day of scientific lectures and serious discussions, we could still embrace the simple joy of a well-told story.

As the movie ended and we slowly made our way to our cabins, we couldn't help but feel an overwhelming sense of excitement. Tomorrow, we would reach Antarctica. The adventure was just beginning.

Day 4 – Thursday 13 March. Portal Point and Foyn Harbour

08:00 GPS Position: 64°29.4' S / 061°45.9' W

Wind: Variable force 4 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Snow • Air temperature: -1°C

Waking up on our first day in Antarctica, the decks were covered in a layer of snow and while it was still snowing, we witnessed several Humpback whales feeding right in front of the bow of *Ortelius*. Everything felt surreal as we stepped into this frozen wonderland. One of the most highly anticipated moments was our continental



landing at Portal Point, an iconic location on the Peninsula's northern edge. Stepping onto the icy landmass of Antarctica was an unforgettable experience — a rare privilege for anyone to stand on the frozen continent.



Portal Point, a quiet and remote area, greeted us with its stark beauty covered in a haze of mist. The real Antarctic weather. Sara and her team awaited us on shore, where we could hike up the hill to the left, enjoy the landscape and also be able to take photos with the Antarctic flag. With our flag in hand, we proudly captured the moment in photographs — an emblem of human presence in this otherwise untouched, inhospitable world. Or we could choose the completely silent area to the right. The absence of wildlife in the immediate vicinity allowed us to sit and simply absorb the stillness— a profound sense of peace and solitude. The only sounds were the faint crunch of our footsteps in the snow, the occasional gust of wind whispering across the icy expanse and some Humpback whales swimming by. It was an experience that felt like time had paused, as if we had become part of the landscape itself.

After a period of quiet reflection and exploration, it was time for a hearty lunch, prepared by Head Chef Heinz and his dedicated galley team. The meal was a welcome break from the elements and a reminder of the comforts of good food and companionship, even in the most remote corners of the earth. All of us were aware of the privilege of having been in such an extraordinary place.

Following lunch, we set out for an afternoon Zodiac cruise to





© Sam Jones

Enterprise Island, just off the coast of the Peninsula. There were Humpback whales all around us, but our first destination was the site of the historic shipwreck of the *Guvernøren*, a Norwegian whaling ship that met its fate in 1915 after running aground in the icy waters. The wreck was partially submerged and lies in a sheltered bay on the island, and visiting it offered a fascinating

glimpse into Antarctica's history of exploration and exploitation. The Zodiac cruise itself was an adventure. As we skimmed across the glassy surface of the water, the cold air filled our lungs, and the surrounding landscape unfolded before us in all its frozen glory. The towering cliffs and glaciers of Enterprise Island loomed large, and the shipwreck itself stood as a silent testament to the harsh conditions faced by early explorers and whalers in the region.

Our Zodiac drifted close to the wreck, allowing us to observe the ship from different angles. The clear water gave away the part that had sunk and the crumbling hull and broken pieces of its structure were hauntingly beautiful in their decay. The sight evoked a sense of nostalgia for a bygone era of Antarctic exploration.

While the wreck was a definite highlight, the surrounding waters and ice formations added to the awe of the excursion. We passed icebergs in various stages of transformation. The ocean was dotted with small pieces of brash ice, and that's when we heard the whales



trumpeting almost everywhere around us. They were feeding and resting (logging) at the surface. All of us had mind-blowing encounters and were able to take amazing pictures and videos. The whales were curiously spy-hopping beside our zodiacs or swimming underneath. We stayed out for around 3 hours. It was an exceptional afternoon! The pristine, untouched nature of the landscape felt humbling, reminding us once again of the vastness of the Antarctic wilderness and how small we were in comparison.



Back on board we took a warm shower and gathered in the lounge for another recap by expedition leader Sara. She told us about the plans for tomorrow. Charlotte told us about seal identification, followed by Jess giving us some more in-depth information about the Humpback whales. Allan shared a story about the Reclus Hut that was no longer standing at Portal

Point but can be now visited in the museum in Stanley, Falkland Islands. It was used by Wally Herbert, an honourable English explorer from the 1960's, to whom Allan sold milk when he was only 14 years old, back in his own hometown. If he only knew then who Wally Herbert was.

Our first day in Antarctica was an amazing one. We talked about it yet again over a lovely dinner. Curious what tomorrow brings. Good night, everybody.

Day 5 – Friday 14 March. Iceberg Graveyard cruise & Port Charcot.

08:00 GPS Position: 65°05.1' S / 064°01.9' W

Wind: NNW force 6.1 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +1°C

It was 06:45 when we sailed through the stunning Lemaire Channel, a place so breathtaking that even the seasoned crew members couldn't hide their awe. We passed through a natural gateway 600 meters wide and 11 kilometres long, surrounded by jagged mountain peaks and glacial ice. The sheer beauty of it all was overwhelming, and for a moment, we found ourselves speechless, simply taking in the scene before us.





After breakfast, we suited up for our next adventure: a three-hour Zodiac cruise through the Iceberg Graveyard in Salpêtrière Bay. The anticipation was palpable as we stepped onto the small, rubber boats. We left the ship, and it wasn't long before several Humpback whales came to check us out. They were feeding in the bay

and curiously swam around us in an area where icebergs were looming at the horizon like ancient, frozen giants.

The Iceberg Graveyard was aptly named. Everywhere we looked, enormous, sculptural chunks of ice floated serenely on the water, some with sharp, angular edges, others rounded and smooth. Each one was unique, a masterpiece of nature's artistry. The true magic of the morning, besides the icebergs, was the amount of wildlife. We were fortunate enough to witness a series of incredible encounters that made the experience even more extraordinary. As we floated silently through the graveyard, a group of Humpback whales appeared. With each dive, we could see the Humpbacks gliding gracefully just beneath the surface of the water. It was awe-inspiring to be so close to such magnificent creatures, their sheer size and power leaving us all in silent admiration.



As we drifted further into the waters, we were surrounded by hundreds of Gentoo penguins, their tuxedoed bodies bobbing in the water. It was like a scene out of a



nature documentary, only it was real. The penguins swam effortlessly around us, darting through the water with playful energy. They came close to the boat, their curious eyes peering up at us as they passed by. The sheer number of penguins was staggering - rafts of them, all moving in perfect synchrony. As if that wasn't enough, we were also lucky enough to spot a Minke whale. The whale surfaced quite close to several Zodiacs. It lingered for just a moment before diving again.

But the morning wasn't over yet. As we continued on, we spotted a Leopard seal swimming near the shoreline of Booth Island, checking out the penguins that were getting into the water. Nearby, a Crabeater seal was lying sleepy on a bolder on the shoreline, occasionally popping its head up.





The entire experience was nothing short of phenomenal. We were surrounded by nature in its rawest form, a landscape and ecosystem so unique that it felt as if we had stepped

into another world. The three hours flew by in the blink of an eye, but the memories will stay with us forever. As we made our way back to the ship, we couldn't help but feel an overwhelming sense of gratitude for having witnessed such incredible moments.

After lunch, we stayed in the same bay and were brought by zodiac to the landing site of Port Charcot. Port Charcot is a sheltered bay named after the French explorer Jean Charcot, who was a prominent figure in Antarctic exploration. Upon arrival, we found ourselves walking among colonies of Gentoo penguins. The penguins were unfazed by our presence, allowing us to observe them closely. We saw chicks, some still covered in their soft, downy feathers, as they eagerly followed their parents. The penguins' behaviour was fascinating, and their interactions with each other created a lively atmosphere on the beach.

We could also hike up to the cairn — an iconic rock structure often used by explorers to mark significant spots. From the summit, the panoramic view was simply stunning. Later in the afternoon the mist rolled in, but still it was a great place to visit and to be able to stretch our legs while being off the ship. The bay below stretched out before us filled with small



pieces of brash ice. It was a perfect combination of nature, wildlife, and adventure in one of the most remote and awe-inspiring places on Earth.

Back on board we headed south again and passed by several of the immense icebergs we had seen before today. The sun was shining through the clouds just enough to put a mystical glare over the ice. We had another recap with information for the next day, which would be a proper expedition day as we didn't know yet what to expect with ice conditions. We also learned the time for tomorrow's breakfast and listened to Gary

passionately telling us about the brushtail penguins over recap, followed by a lovely three-course dinner.

Day 6 – Saturday 15 March. Expedition day at sea

08:00 GPS Position: 66°39.9' S / 067°17.3' W

Wind: NE force 7 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Snow • Air temperature: +1.1°C



The night was a restless one, with the sea churning beneath the ship as we cruised south, steadily making our way toward the Antarctic Circle. The winds were relentless, and the air was cold, biting at any exposed skin, yet there was

something undeniably exhilarating about this deep-south adventure. We crossed the Antarctic Circle at 07:00, it was a milestone on this trip. The sea was a mix of glassy calm and sudden, jarring swells that added a challenging edge to the night's journey.

By morning, we were further south, approaching Detaille Island, a tiny speck of land with a rich history. Yet, despite our proximity, the strong winds — gusting up to 40 knots — forced us to abandon any plans for an operation or landing. The conditions were simply too treacherous for a safe approach. The thought of standing on the icy shores of Detaille Island was tantalizing, but the weather had other plans. It was a reminder of the unforgiving nature of the Southern Ocean, where every moment is subject to the whims of the elements.

Undeterred by the change of plans, the morning continued with intellectual nourishment. At 08:45, Charlotte gave an engaging lecture on seals, those fascinating creatures that roam the icy waters of the Antarctic. She spoke about their adaptation to the harsh environment, their behaviours, and the intricate ecosystems they support. The group listened intently, captivated by the depth of her knowledge and the stunning images of seals in their natural habitat.

As the morning progressed, we gathered



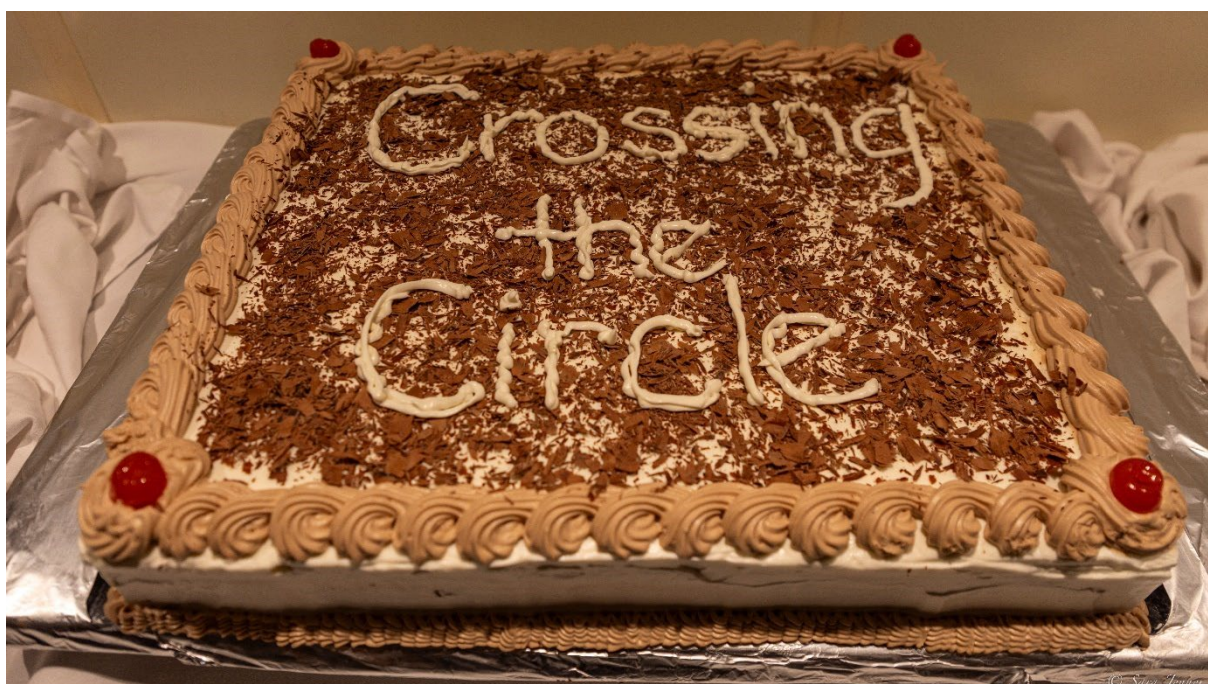


again at 11:30 for another lecture. This time, it was Saskia who shared the gripping story of the Belgian Antarctic Expedition led by Adrien de Gerlache. Her recounting brought to life the perilous voyage

of the Belgica, which became icebound in the pack ice for an entire winter. The harrowing conditions and the challenges the explorers faced were vividly brought to life, offering a window into the early days of Antarctic exploration.

After lunch, we had some free time to relax and take in the mesmerizing sight of the ocean. The ship's bow cut through the waves, and the big swells crashed dramatically against it, sending sprays of water high into the air. It was a breathtaking display of nature's power, and the sound of the waves was both thrilling and calming. As we watched, a few seabirds soared gracefully overhead—Grey-headed Albatross and Black-browed Albatross, their wings stretched wide, effortlessly gliding on the wind. The sheer elegance of these birds in such a wild environment was captivating, and their presence added to the sense of awe that surrounded us.

At 16:30, Clara gave a fascinating lecture on krill. She explained their crucial role in the Antarctic ecosystem, feeding everything from seals to whales, and highlighted their importance in maintaining the delicate balance of life in these cold, remote waters.



After successfully crossing the Antarctic Circle today, we were handed a glass of prosecco to celebrate that over the recap. Expedition leader Sara then gathered us to share the program for the following day, outlining the exciting plans and experiences that awaited us. This was followed by a session where various questions from the question box were answered. Afterward, we enjoyed another delicious meal. In the evening, we gathered in the bar to watch the new Shackleton movie, a fitting tribute to the legendary explorer's spirit, adding a touch of history and inspiration to the end of our exciting day.

Day 7 – Sunday 16 March. Damoy Point & Jougla Island.

08:00 GPS Position: 64°49.0' S / 063°31.9' W

Wind: NNW force 2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Hazy • Air temperature: +1°C

We began our day with a spectacular landing at Damoy Point, a place with rich history, home to the iconic hut and the remnants of an old runway. Damoy Hut, built in 1975 as a refuge for British Antarctic Survey personnel, was one of the few manned structures in this



remote region. It had played an important role as a “pit stop” for expeditions in the Antarctic Peninsula. The air was crisp, and the scenery was breathtaking — an untouched, vast landscape stretching in every direction. We disembarked from the vessel, eager to stretch our legs and explore. The route was only 2.5 kilometres, but each step felt like a journey through a world unlike any other. We walked with a sense of reverence for the land, each footfall reminding us of how remote and wild this part of the world truly was. In the afternoon, we set sail toward Jougla Point. The wind was biting at first, and snowflakes danced in the air, but as we neared land, the weather



began to ease. We then made our way to Port Lockroy, the most southerly post office in the world, still manned by the British. It was a quaint and surreal place, and standing there, we felt like time had slowed down.



But the day's most unforgettable moment came when our guides spotted something in the distance — a Leopard Seal, gliding through the icy waters with eerie grace. We watched in awe as it had caught a penguin, dragging it beneath the surface. We all held our breath as the predator expertly played with its prey. For over an hour, the seal caught and toyed with the penguin, its movements both beautiful and haunting. We couldn't help but feel a mix of sadness and amazement at the scene unfolding before us. The penguins fought in vain, their lives quickly coming to an end in nature's brutal cycle.

As we watched, the leopard seal, seemingly unbothered by our presence, swam closer to the Zodiacs, flaunting its catch. Its cold, unblinking eyes seemed to challenge us as it presented the lifeless penguin next to an iceberg. We couldn't look away as it slowly began to consume its meal, the weight of the moment sinking in. We stood in silence, each of us processing the rawness of what we had just witnessed.

The cruelty of nature was undeniable, yet so was the majesty of the seal's power and



skill. We had just witnessed a rare and unforgettable glimpse into the harsh realities of the wild — a reminder that life in this frigid part of the world is ruled by survival, beauty, and the inevitable cycle of life and death.

The day finished with a fantastic BBQ on the helideck, all of us got involved in the dancing, whether it was right in the middle of the circle or at the sidelines. The light was stunning as yellows and oranges shone on the mountains. What an incredible day!

The day finished with a fantastic BBQ on the



Day 8 – Monday 17 March. Danco Island & Melchior Islands

08:00 GPS Position: 64°47.1' S / 062°36.6' W

Wind: VAR force 1 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +2°C



Our morning landing at Danco Island started early, as we set off to avoid the worst of the incoming weather. While we boarded the Zodiacs, a Humpback whale popped up just beside *Ortelius*. We then made our way to the beach, where the scene that awaited us was nothing short of magical. As we landed on the shore, we

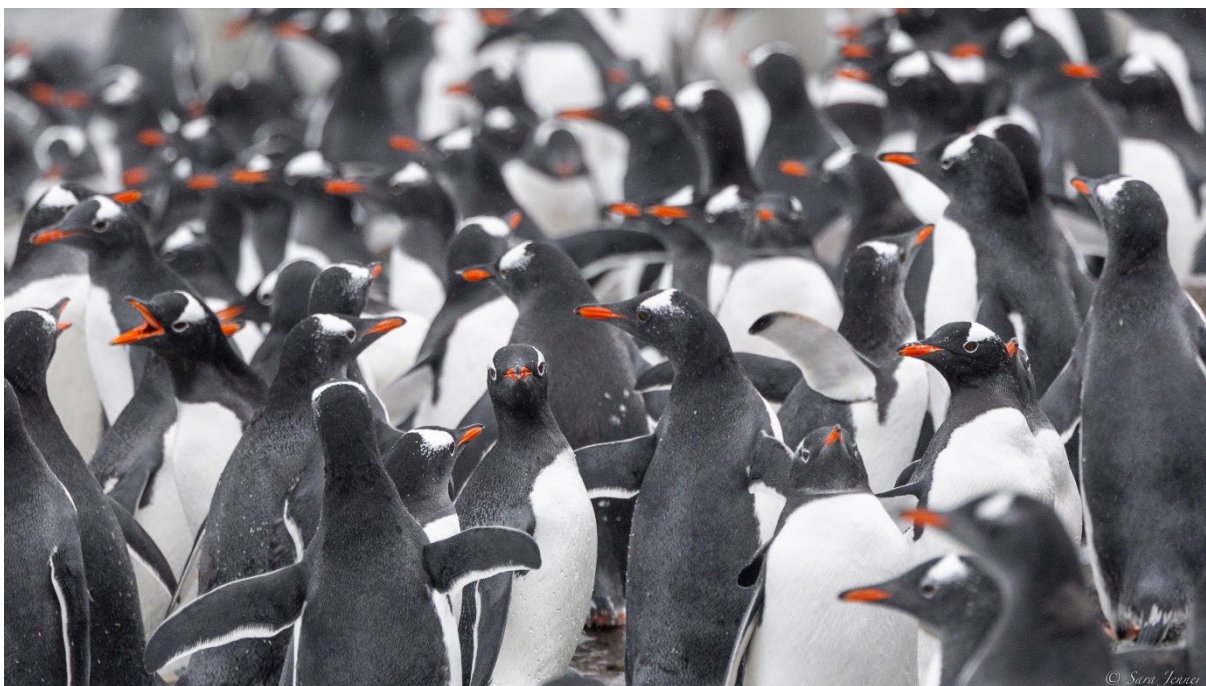
were immediately greeted by a bustling colony of Gentoo penguins. The parents were out at sea and it was all the chicks from around two and a half months old that were there hanging out together. Some of them were completely moulted, but others still had a fluffy, funny mohawk haircut. The chicks, awkwardly waddling and chirping, were a comical and heartwarming sight. Their energy was contagious, as they were running like fools after each other and stumbling over pieces of ice and rocks. They were bringing smiles to everyone's faces. The first of us to arrive on shore witnessed a leopard seal trying to catch a penguin from the beach. But he or she was unsuccessful. Bad for the seal, lucky for the little penguin. There were also several curious fur seals around who were poking their heads up out of the water.



After spending some time observing the adorable clustering of chicks, we embarked on a hike up the hill. The climb was steep, but the zigzag route made it a little easier. The reward was well worth it: from the top, we were treated to a panoramic view of the bay below. The water, dotted with enormous icebergs, stretched as far as the eye could see, creating a stunning contrast against the grey sky. We could also spot several humpback whales swimming slowly through the icy waters, their massive forms barely breaking the surface as they moved gracefully between the ice floes. The call from the whales was so loud that you could hear it from far away. It was a sight that made the whole hike worthwhile — another true moment of awe in the heart of the Antarctic wilderness.



As we descended from the hill and returned to the beach, the clouds began to part, and a brief patch of sunshine illuminated the landscape in an almost magical way. The sunlight, though brief, created a surreal atmosphere, and with the cold air invigorating our senses, we decided to take part in the famous polar plunge. Half of us, filled with a sense of adventure and perhaps a bit of madness, eagerly ran into the icy waters. The shock of the freezing temperature was immediate and intense, but it only heightened the sense of exhilaration. We quickly returned to the warmth of the ship, our bodies still tingling from the icy plunge.



After a hearty lunch back on board, our expedition leader, Sara, gave a fascinating lecture on 'Marine Threats.' She covered the challenges the Southern Ocean faces, from the effects of climate change to the impact of overfishing and pollution. Her talk was a sobering reminder of the delicate balance that allows these ecosystems to thrive and of how fragile they are in the face of human activity.

By the afternoon, the weather had started to deteriorate, just as predicted. We sailed on to the Melchior Islands, which were meant to be the best spot for operations on the whole peninsula. But we embarked on a Zodiac cruise in rainy and snowy conditions. The harsh weather didn't deter us; if anything, it made the experience feel more adventurous. We were rewarded with sightings of Humpback whales and many groups of Fur seals lounging on the rocky shores, seemingly unfazed by the elements.

Back on board the ship, Sara welcomed us with hot chocolate and a splash of rum—just the remedy for the cold, wet conditions. After a hot shower we all gathered in the bar for the daily recap and just as Sara wanted to start a whale breached just beside the ship on the portside. What a treat. Marco shared some interesting information in a funny, but clear presentation about icebergs and their shapes. Due to a question in the question box about whether domestic animals were ever taken to Antarctica, Allan provided some detailed information on dogs, cats, pigs, and horses that were taken on expeditions or to scientific research stations over the years. As we settled in for dinner, the ship began to pitch more heavily in the wind and waves, a reminder of the power of the Southern Ocean. Later, in the bar, a brief video about the eruption at Deception Island was shown to prepare us for the next day's landing. Let's see what tomorrow brings again!

Day 9 – Tuesday 18 March. Deception Island / Whalers Bay.

08:00 GPS Position: 62°59.2' S / 060°34.0' W

Wind: E force 7 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +3°C



At 06:45 Sara woke us up and highly encouraged us to get out on deck as we had arrived at Deception Island, part of the South Shetland Islands, our destination from this morning. Deception Island is one of the few places in the world where we can witness the raw power of nature up close. The caldera is a vast, circular basin, the result of a

massive volcanic eruption that formed a safe harbor for ships. We were about to enter this stunning volcanic caldera.

Navigation through Neptune's Bellows, the narrow passage to the caldera, is always challenging. The entrance is only 230 meters (755 feet) wide, but it creates an awe-inspiring sight that we admired as we carefully manoeuvred through the narrow opening. The Bellows have earned a reputation of being particularly tricky to navigate, especially considering the hidden danger that lies within the waters — the infamous Ravn Rock. This submerged rock sits just 2.5 meters (8.2 feet) below the waterline in the middle of the channel. Its location has made it a notorious hazard for sailors over the years, and it's easy to understand why navigating these waters requires utmost precision. Once we successfully navigated the Bellows, the sky started to clear, and the rising sun painted the thin

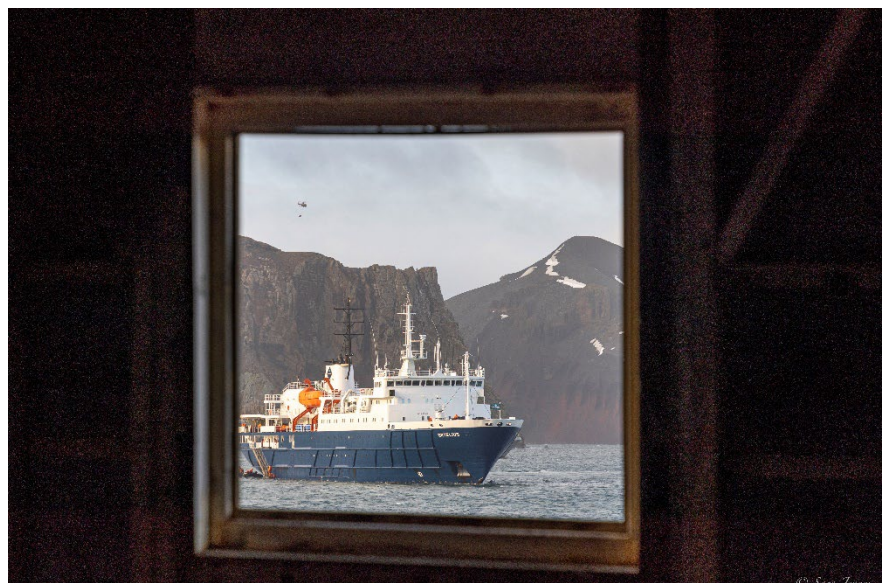




layer of clouds pinkish. We turned into the bay immediately on the right, named Whalers Bay. The bridge team was checking the best anchoring spot, whilst a helicopter was taking off from a Chilean Navy vessel that was already in the bay, probably to drop supplies for seismic measuring devices they were installing.

After breakfast we made ourselves ready to go in the Zodiacs to be dropped on land where Sara welcomed us and told us about the options we had. To the left we immersed ourselves in the old days, wandering within the remains of the former Base B from the British Antarctic Survey that they established in 1944. Over time, the station played a key role in Antarctic research, particularly in the fields of geology, glaciology, and environmental science. The station was eventually closed in 1967 after a volcanic eruption that severely damaged the infrastructure.

But even before that, it already had a rich history in the whaling industry. In the early 20th century, it became a major whaling station, with the first facilities established by Norway in 1906. The



bay's sheltered harbour made it an ideal location for processing whale oil. The station operated until the 1930s, after which the whaling industry declined. The remains of the last century still stand today, serving as a historical site.



Walking out to the right we hiked the 2-kilometre black sandy beach towards Neptune's Window. Along the way we encountered quite a few of the local residents, fur seals. Most of them were napping and only opened one eye when they heard our footsteps in the sand. But there

were some feisty ones that wanted to show us that it was their beach we had entered. What we obviously respected. Especially here. It is really great to see them back at this specific location, as from the 1820's sealers hunted them down to extinction. Finally, getting up to the window, the strong wind almost made us 'fly', but the view over the vast ocean was worth the climb. Looking back gave us an amazing overview of the extensive bay below us with our Ortelius pushed by the strong winds. Back on board we went for a hot drink, followed with lunch. Then we sailed further into the caldera, which gave us a chance to take in the stark beauty of the island's landscapes with dramatic colourful cliffs and volcanic beaches. We also managed to see the remains of two research stations, of which one was wiped out by the last eruption in 1971. Then we sailed out through Neptune's Bellows again, now lighted by the sun. This was still the time we could enjoy the ocean standing on the outside decks before we headed into the waves as predicted.



In the afternoon Allan invited us to the bar for his lecture titled Sledge Dogs: The Unsung Heroes of Antarctic Exploration. This fascinating talk would delve into the essential role that sled dogs have played in Antarctic exploration, often serving as the backbone of many expeditions. These resilient animals were crucial for transporting supplies, pulling sleds across vast expanses of ice, and supporting explorers in some of the harshest conditions on Earth. While often overshadowed by human heroes, the sled dogs were integral to the

success of many Antarctic journeys, and Allan's presentation shed light on their remarkable contributions to exploration history.



It is a miracle how Head chef Heinz and his gally team do it, but we enjoyed another delicious three-course meal. Some of us went up to the bar for a drink and chat after, but others still didn't trust their sea legs and headed down to their cabins.

Day 10 – Wednesday 19 March. At sea, Drake Passage.

08:00 GPS Position: 60°22.0' S / 061°51.9' W

Wind: N force 8 • Sea: Rough • Weather: Light rain • Air temperature: +4°C



The day began with the ship plowing through the turbulent waters of the Drake Passage, as massive waves crashed against the bow, sending spray onto the windows of the bridge on deck 7. The rhythmic pounding of the ship against the swells was a constant reminder of nature's power, with the vessel pitching and rolling as

it made its way north. The wind howled across the deck, which at this stage was closed, and the sky was a moody blend of gray. Despite the challenging conditions, most of us showed up for breakfast, which was a good sign.

As the ship continued to press onward, the storm's ferocity only seemed to increase. By the time Marco took the stage in the ship's bar, "The Blue Machine," at 09:30, the

waves had reached a formidable 5 meters, making the lounge sway as he began his presentation. Marco captivated the audience with his talk about the importance of polar regions in the thermohaline circulation, a crucial process in the Earth's climate system. He explained how the cold, dense waters near the poles sink and flow southward, driving ocean currents that regulate global temperatures and weather patterns.

At 11:30, Jess took over with a lecture that was just as intriguing, though on a much different topic. Her focus was on whales and their crucial role in maintaining the health of our oceans. She explained, in her sweet witty way, how these majestic creatures help regulate the marine ecosystem by circulating nutrients through their feeding and migration patterns. Whales contribute to the carbon cycle as well, sequestering carbon in the depths of the ocean and helping mitigate climate change. It was really interesting to know that these magnificent creatures, despite their size and power, had such a profound impact on the planet's ecosystems.



In the afternoon, Gary took the stage to share his personal experience of overwintering at an Australian Antarctic Station and doing research on the emperor penguin colony close to Mawson. His stories, filled with humor and awe, brought to life the challenges and rewards of living in one of the harshest environments on Earth. The photos of the Emperor penguins and their fluffy chicks were adored by all of us.

When we all had gathered again in the bar for our daily recap the sun came out. Hotel manager Aleks shared some non-famous information about payments tomorrow. Sara then started with the weather predictions for another wavy sea day ahead followed by a string of the different lengths of whales, mainly found here in the Antarctic. Good to have an idea of these giants when they pass our Zodiacs. Clara, being a biologist and diver, then shared her personal project that she developed for local kids in Ushuaia to learn more about the underwater world in the Beagle Channel.

After dinner the dining room was cleared quickly so we could all start with the karaoke evening. Neil and Khael, the dining room stewards, also joined and sang a few songs. It was great fun and a lot of us enthusiastically participated.

Day 11 – Thursday 20 March. At sea, Drake Passage

08:00 GPS Position: 57°058' S / 064°32.1' W

Wind: WNW force 8 • Sea: Rough • Weather: Cloudy • Air temperature: +6.2°C



Overnight, we had all been experiencing our ability to fly. We all felt weightless every few hours, almost hovering above our mattresses, because of the heavy movement of the ship. The bridge team was steering our sturdy *Ortelius* in a magnificent way through the six-meter-plus waves across the Drake Passage. Most of us didn't mind the rocking as we all appeared for breakfast.

At 09:15 we met up in the bar to hear the insightful lecture by Charlotte, who delved into the fascinating topic of whale feeding behaviour. She explained how various whale species, including Humpbacks and Minkes, use different strategies to feed in the rich waters around Antarctica. Her presentation highlighted the complexity of these behaviours and their adaptation to the extreme environment. Following this, the dive team gave a presentation on diving in Antarctic waters in general. They then shared their unique experiences and photos, offering a slideshow that captured breathtaking underwater shots taken during the trip. The photos showcased vibrant marine life and ice formations, emphasizing the pristine beauty of the Antarctic waters.

In the afternoon, the seas began to calm, offering a more tranquil experience as the ship made its way back to Argentina. Seabirds became more visible around the ship. Among the birds spotted were Fulmars and Cape Petrels, and also the majestic Wandering, Royal, and Black-browed Albatross, their impressive wingspans gliding gracefully behind the ship. The albatrosses effortlessly



soared over the sea as the ship moved closer to the end of our journey. Many of us were enjoying this peaceful scene out on deck in the sunshine. It was a perfect conclusion to the expedition.

Yet another varied lunch was prepared for us and then some of us went packing, others chatted in the lounge. Later in the afternoon we enjoyed the lecture by Sara, who introduced guests to Oceanwide's other extraordinary destinations. She highlighted the company's various expeditions in the Arctic region.

At 18:15 we all gathered in the bar for Captain's farewell, cocktails marked a special moment of celebration. Guests mingled and shared their favourite memories from the trip, while we showed the slideshow that was put together by Jess, using pictures from the whole expedition team. It was showcasing the highlights of the entire expedition. The images captured the breathtaking landscapes, wildlife encounters, and unforgettable moments shared with our fellow travellers.

Dinner that evening was a magnificent final meal on board, a fitting end to an incredible journey. Afterward, the entire crew was introduced, and heartfelt thanks were given for their hard work and dedication throughout the trip. Their professionalism and warmth had made the voyage truly unforgettable, leaving everyone with lasting memories of their Antarctic adventure.



Day 12 – Friday 21 March. Ushuaia, disembarkation day.

08:00 GPS Position: 54°48.4' S / 068°17.5'W

Wind: W force 3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Partly sunny • Air temperature: +2°C

We woke up alongside the pier in Ushuaia. *Ortelius* had successfully completed the Polar Circle – Deep South voyage. It was a beautiful, but windy morning in Ushuaia. The crew and Expedition Team handled all the luggage and placed it on the dock, while we enjoyed one last buffet breakfast. At 08:30 it was time for disembarkation. The voyage was over, and it was time to go our separate ways. Fond farewells were exchanged on the dock, as our lovely group of intrepid adventurers dispersed and began the long journey home.

Total distance sailed on our voyage: 1,928 nautical miles.
Southernmost position: 66°51.664' S / 066°48.157' W (Detaille Island).

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

Your Oceanwide Expedition Team.



Back row: Tom, Allan, Tanja, Duncan, Dimitrios, Marco, Saskia.

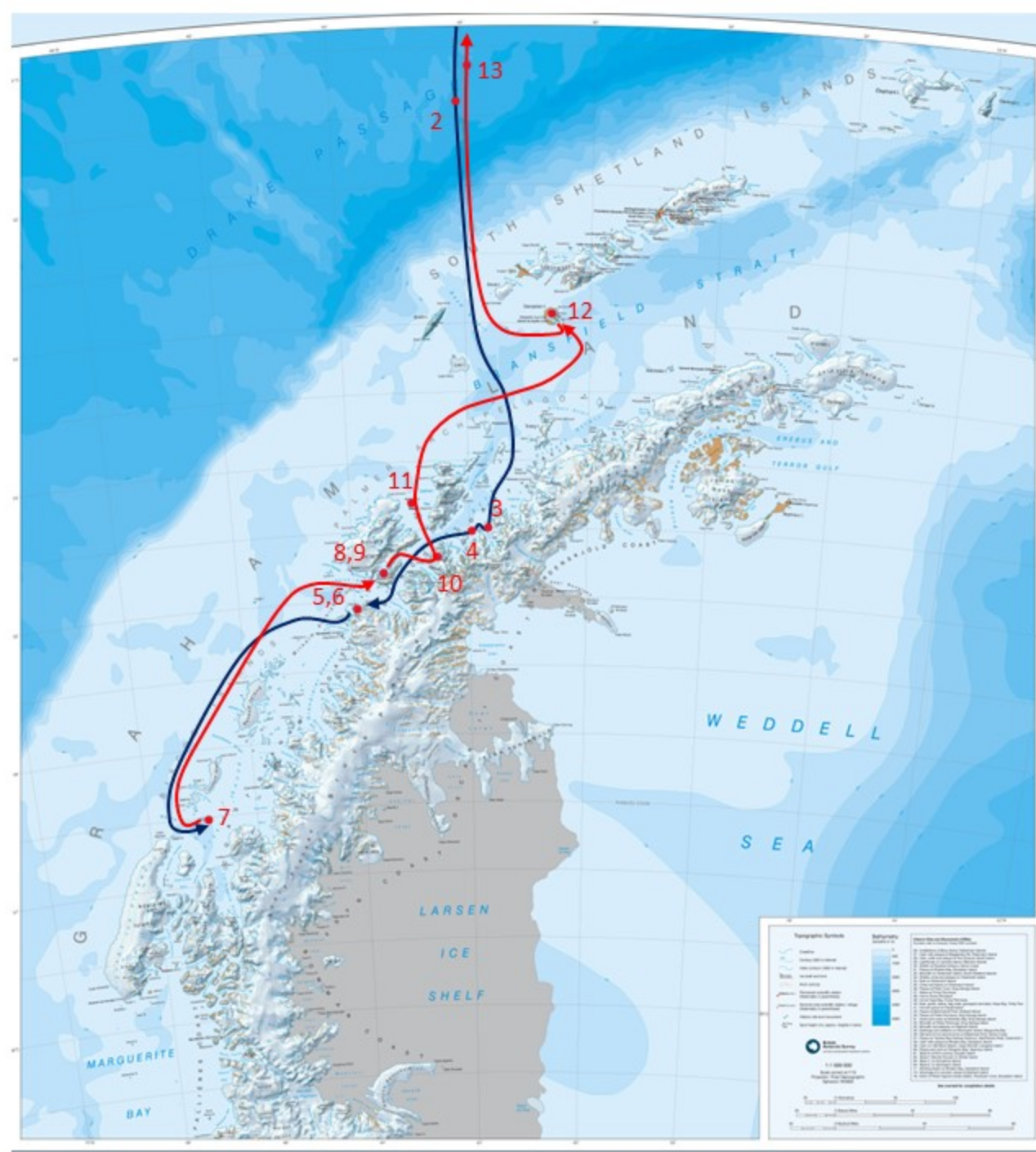
Front row: Sara, Clara, Dr. Chantelle, Gary, Charlotte, Jess, Enric.

Antarctica – Polar Circle – Deep South

Discovery Voyage

10/03/25 – 21/03/25

- 1: 10/03 Ushuaia - Embarkation
- 2: 11-12/03 Drake Passage - At Sea
- 3: 13/03 Portal Point - Continental Landing
- 4: Foyen Harbour - Zodiac cruise
- 5: 14/03 Salpêtrière Bay - Zodiac cruise
- 6: Port Charcot - Landing
- 7: 15/03 Crystal Sound - Antarctic Circle Crossing
- 8: 16/03 Damoy Point - Landing
- 9: Goudier Island - Zodiac Cruise
- 10: 17/03 Danco Island – Landing
- 11: Melchior Islands - Zodiac cruise
- 12: 18/03 Whaler's Bay, Deception Island – Landing
- 13: 19-20/03 Drake Passage - At Sea
- 14: 21/03 Ushuaia - Disembarkation



	Notes							
	Date	Time (UTC)	Location Name	Latitude (Decimal degrees)	Longitude (Decimal degrees)	Species	Quantity	(Were the animals sleeping, feeding, resting, etc.? Were there pups/calves present? How many if more than 25 individuals?)
example	31-Aug-22	10:00	Cierva Cove	-64.15	-60.883333	Blue Whale	10	Blue whales were logging at the surface
example	31-Aug-22	13:00	Cierva Cove	-64.15	-60.883333	Crabeater Seal	20	Crabeaters came and slept on top of the blue whales
	12-Mar-25	11:30	Southern Drake	-61.15	-63.48	Hourglass Dolphin	1	
	12-Mar-25	14:00	Southern Drake	-61.42	-62.55	Other (list in comment)	30+	long-finned pilot whale
	12-Mar-25	16:30	Off Smith Is	-62.5	-62.47	Humpback Whale	1	
	12-Mar-25	16:40	Off Smith Is	-62.6	-62.47	Other (list in comment)	1	Unidentified
	12-Mar-25	16:45	Off Smith Is	-62.6	-62.46	Other (list in comment)	1	Unidentified
	12-Mar-25	17:40	Off Smith Is	-62.67	-62.46	Fur Seal	1	
	12-Mar-25	18:11	Off Smith Is	-62.47	-62.42	Fin Whale	1	
	13-Mar-25	6:41	Near Portal Pint	-64.42	-61.75	Humpback Whale	1	travelling
	13-Mar-25	10:00	Charlotte Bay Portal P	-64.45	-61.45	Humpback Whale	8	feeding
	13-Mar-25	13:00	Portal Pt	-61.5	-61.5	Humpback Whale	1	spray
	13-Mar-25	13:05	Near Portal Pint	-64.49	-61.98	Humpback Whale	1	travelling
	13-Mar-25	13:25	Enterprise Is	-64.5	-61.98	Humpback Whale	1	Sleeping
	13-Mar-25	13:30	Enterprise Is	-64.5	-61.98	Humpback Whale	2	logging
	13-Mar-25	13:35	Enterprise Is	-64.5	-61.98	Humpback Whale	1	feeding
	13-Mar-25	13:36	Enterprise Is	-64.52	-61.98	Humpback Whale	more 14	Mostly resting some feeding
	14-Mar-25	14-16:00	Lemaire	-65.1	-63.99	Weddell Seal	1	
	14-Mar-25	7:35	Port Charcort	-65.05	-64	Humpback Whale	8	5 separte sightings
	14-Mar-25	am	Port Charcort	-65.05	-64	Minke Whale	1	
	14-Mar-25	am	Port Charcort	-65.05	-64	Crabeater Seal	2	
	14-Mar-25	am	Port Charcort	-65.05	-64	Fur Seal	6	
	14-Mar-25	16:00	Port Charcort	-65.05	-64	Minke Whale	1	
	14-Mar-25	18:05	Penola Strait	-64.03	-64.03	Minke Whale	1	
	15-Mar-25	11:00	Crystal Sound	-67	-67.09	Humpback Whale	2	
	15-Mar-25	12:50	Matha Strait	-66.54	-67.55	Humpback Whale	2	Feeding
	15-Mar-25	15:13	Outside Matha	-66.16	-67.44	Fur Seal	1	
	16-Mar-25	15:00	Jougla Point	-64.49	-63.29	Leopard Seal	3	Hunting penguins
	17-Mar-25	am	Danco Is	-64.67	-62.55	Humpback Whale	8	3 pairs (1 was Mother + calf) 2 singles throughout morning
	17-Mar-25	9:00	Danco Is	-64.67	-62.55	Leopard Seal	1	
	17-Mar-25	am	Danco Is	-64.67	-62.55	Fur Seal	15	
	17-Mar-25	12:15	Errera Channel	-64.68	-62.6	Humpback Whale	1	logging just off cuverville
	17-Mar-25	12:19	Errera Channel	-64.68	-62.6	Humpback Whale	1	
	17-Mar-25	12:24	Errera Channel	-64.66	-62.6	Humpback Whale	1	
	17-Mar-25	12:25	Errera Channel	-64.66	-62.6	Fur Seal	2	
	17-Mar-25	13:01	Errera Channel	-64.33	-62.39	Humpback Whale	7	
	17-Mar-25	14:40	East of Melchior	-64.21	-63	Humpback Whale	2	
	17-Mar-25	16:45	Melchior	-64.33	-62.96	Humpback Whale	2	M + C mother all black fluke
	17-Mar-25	17:30	Melchior	-64.33	-62.96	Humpback Whale	2	M + C mother all white fluke
	18-Mar-25	13:30	Boyd Strait	-62.52	-61.54	Humpback Whale	2	

Sara Jenner – Expedition Leader



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

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

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

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

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

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

Allan White - Expedition Guide



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

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

While working as a Port Agent, Allan worked with the late Lars-Eric Lindblad, the inspirational pioneer of the small ship expedition cruising concept. He encouraged Allan to become a Zodiac driver and go to sea for a year. Twenty eight years later, he's still at it. His voyages have taken him all over the world, with particular focus on the Polar regions. His travel experience ranges from 90° North to 76° South.

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

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

Charlotte Taplin – Expedition Guide



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

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

Enric Sangra Modol – Exp. Guide



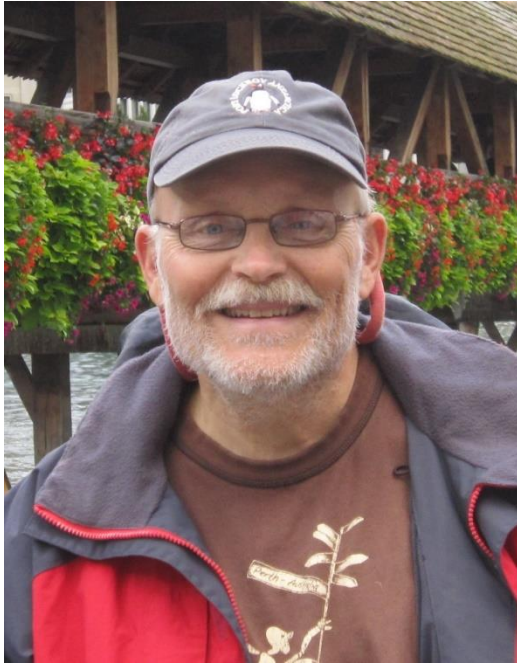
Enric Sangrà holds a Master's degree in Scientific Communication from the Valencian International University and a Bachelor's degree in Geology from the University of Barcelona. With extensive experience as a science communicator in various research institutes in Spain, he has worked closely with researchers to effectively communicate their discoveries.

Enric is passionate about making Earth Science understandable to the public through storytelling. He bridges the gap between researchers and society, transforming complex scientific results into clear and engaging messages. His skills led him to be one of the ten finalists in the national final of scientific monologues in Spain, "Solo de Ciencia," where the top ten science communicators in the country were selected.

For Enric, Antarctica represents the pinnacle of geological exploration. The continent's unique geological features, including ancient rock formations, meteorite-rich fields, and glacial landscapes, provide invaluable insights into Earth's history. Studying these rocks and minerals reveals secrets about past climates, tectonic movements, and the processes that have shaped our planet over millions of years.

What truly excites Enric about guiding in Antarctica is the opportunity to make passengers see beyond the ice and rocks, bringing out his full potential by sharing the fascinating geological stories of this pristine and remote region.

Gary Miller – Expedition Guide



Gary's love of the polar regions began over 40 years ago when he studied polar bears in Canada for his MA in Zoology. He started by following an academic career as a scientist studying wildlife. During that time he also worked on bowhead whales and gray whales in Alaska and Mexico and then a 3-year study of desert bighorn sheep in Arizona for his PhD in Behavioral Ecology in 1986. After that his life took a dramatic turn to the south when he began research on Antarctic penguins and skuas. He immediately fell in love with the Antarctic and has continued to work there for his career. Starting with 6

summers of research on Ross Island, deep in the Ross Sea, he has logged 10 summers and one winter at research stations studying South Polar Skuas, Adelie, Gentoo, Chinstrap, Royal, King, and Emperor penguins. Gary has tremendous experience with Emperors having spent an entire winter studying the emperor penguins at Auster colony in East Antarctica.

For the past 30 years, Gary has split his time between research expeditions and ship-based tours to the polar regions. He enjoys sharing his knowledge, enthusiasm and experience with passengers from all over the world. In his many years he has circumnavigated Antarctica, visited a wide range of penguin colonies in different parts of Antarctica, and has managed to visit 10 different Emperor penguin colonies. Gary is one of the most experienced naturalist/guides working today.

Jess Owen – Expedition Guide



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

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

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

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

Marco Rosso – Expedition Guide



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

Currently he is studying Earth Science at Stockholm University, Sweden.

After a few years working in the automotive industry, he decided to embark himself on a new quest. For two

years he backpacked from the tropical forests of Central America, through the snowy peaks of the Andean Cordillera, rolling all the way down to the tip of South America.

The raw and powerful beauty of Patagonia convinced him to swap Mother Nature wonders for mankind artifacts. Fascinated by applied geophysics, he therefore decided to use his deep and broad knowledge in thermodynamics and fluid mechanics to satisfying his innate curiosity, thereby started to study Earth Science.

During the last decade he has been living in Puerto Natale, Chile; leading groups as a trekking guide and tour leader in some of the most beautiful and rugged trails of Patagonia and since a couple of years has started to join expeditions to the Arctic and the Antarctic on board of Oceanwide vessels.

Saskia van der Meij – Exp. guide



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

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

Saskia has a background in tourism and hospitality. For almost twenty years she was a product manager for a nature-oriented tour operator. She travelled to develop interesting products in Alaska,

Canada, Argentina, Chili, Southern Africa, Australia and New Zealand. In that time, while co-guiding a trip in Iceland, she knew she wanted to be a nature guide.

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

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

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

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

Tom van Hoof – Expedition Guide



I visited the polar regions for the first time in 2001. As a PhD student I attended a course at the University Centre of Svalbard and fell in love with the Arctic Wilderness of Spitsbergen. After finishing my PhD in palaeo-climate research at Utrecht University, the Netherlands, I lived for a while in Arizona. When returning home, I started to work for the Dutch Geological Survey where I got the chance to do fieldwork in the Arctic again.

Over the years I participated and organized several geological field campaigns in Spitsbergen where I spent the most precious moments of my life in tents, remote cabins or small ships. In 2015 I came into contact with Oceanwide Expeditions during a scientific expedition on M/V Ortelius. Shortly after, I started working as a expedition guide for Oceanwide Expeditions in both polar regions. Besides expedition guiding I also still help with the field logistics on Arctic scientific expeditions.

My day-to-day job nowadays is for the Netherlands Polar Program, a section of the Dutch Science Council (NWO). This organization funds Dutch polar scientific research and manages the Dutch polar infrastructure. I am a fanatic outdoor enthusiast, and I recently finished a training for Hike and Survival instructor. I live in the Netherlands with my wife, three daughters and two Leonberger dogs who all like to camping, preferably in winter conditions.

Tanja Bayer – Dive Team Leader



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

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

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

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

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

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

Clara Iachetti – Dive Guide



Clara is Argentinean, who is born in Buenos Aires. Since she was a child Clara loved the ocean and the adventure. In 2011 she obtained her bachelor's Marine Biology-oriented degree in Biological Sciences, at the Universidad de Buenos Aires and a European M.Sc. in Marine Environment and Resources (MER) in 2012. Since 2012 she has been working in the Austral Centre of Scientific Investigations (CADIV- CONICET) at Ushuaia, Tierra de Fuego (Argentina). Firstly, on her PhD on plankton dynamics, then with her postdoctoral project on harmful algal blooms, and

nowadays as a researcher at CADIC. For the last 10 years she has participated of several research expeditions to the South Atlantic and Antarctica, even spending some time in the Shetland Islands, at the Argentinean Base "Carlini".

On top of her scientist career, she is a member of Beagle Secretos del Mar, a non-profit organisation that supports marine conservation in which she is responsible for the education program, lecturing and diving. Living in Ushuaia (and previously in Bariloche) has also led her passion towards mountaineering, mainly backcountry skiing and climbing.

Dimitris Sotirakis – Dive Guide



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

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

servicing of the regulators, BCD's and tanks.

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

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

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

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

Duncan McGregor – Dive Guide



Duncan is a BSAC instructor and TDI technical diver, qualified on both open circuit and rebreather set ups, who loves exploring different under water environments, and teaching diving to new divers and more experienced divers alike. mostly in the cold waters around Scotland. He has a BSc honours degree in Geology and petroleum geology but has never pursued a career in that field preferring to work outside as a gardener then as boat crew and dive guide. When at Aberdeen university and for many years after he instructed for the university dive club also building experience driving ribs and running trips.

Although Duncan's time working as a diving crewman on a Scapa Flow dive boat has fuelled his love of wreck diving and allowed him to develop his technical abilities, his primary passion has remained with instructing and dive guiding, taking great pleasure from helping others to get the same enjoyment from the sport as himself.

When not diving, Duncan likes to spend time in the wilderness climbing hills and mountains enjoying the challenge and the wildlife, preferring the snowy environments available during the Scottish winter. He looks forward to meeting new people and helping them to enjoy the spectacular sites around Antarctica.

Chantelle Ní Chróinín – Ships Doctor



Chantelle is an Irish doctor specializing in emergency medicine, with a passion for travel, adventure, and connecting with people.

Her journey into hiking began when she completed her first-ever trek—climbing Mount Kilimanjaro (5,895 meters) back in 2012. Since then, hiking has become a lifelong passion. Last year she spent five months living in a van in Aotearoa (New Zealand), immersing herself in the world of winter mountaineering, skiing, and ice climbing.

Within her medical career, Chantelle has extensive experience working with humanitarian organizations in Yemen, Palestine, and Bosnia. She has also volunteered with a search and rescue team aboard a sailing vessel in the Mediterranean Sea, further honing her skills in emergency response.

An avid SCUBA diver, Chantelle is a certified divemaster with a specialized certificate in dive medicine. She has dived across four continents so far, and diving in Antarctica remains high on her adventure bucket list!



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage Welcome on Board!

Date: 10 March 2025

Day 1 Ushuaia

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

PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

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



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 11 March 2025

Day 2 Drake Passage

07:45 Wake up call.

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

10:30 You will be called deck by deck down to the Lecture Room on Deck 3 to collect your Muck Boots, please bring your thick socks so you can try them for size.

11:30 Please join Gary in the Bar for a presentation about Sea Birds of the Southern Ocean.

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

13:30 Please could **the divers** meet Tanya and the dive team in the Bar for the **Mandatory Dive Briefing**.

16:15 Jess invites you to the Bar for an Introduction to the Whales and Dolphins of the Southern Ocean.

18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap, this is a daily event where we go through what we have seen during the day and plans for tomorrow.

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

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

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



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 12 March 2025

Day 3 Approaching Antarctica

- 07:45 Wake up call.
- 08:00-09:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Restaurant on Deck 4.
- 09:15 Please join Marco in the Bar for an Introduction to the Antarctic Peninsula.
- 11:30 Sara invites you to join her in the Bar for a lecture about Penguins.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Restaurant 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.
- 15:00 Please could **the divers** meet the dive team in the Bar.
- 16:15 Enric invites you to join him in the Bar for a lecture titled 'Antarctic Glaciology: Understanding the icy landscape of Antarctica'.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for daily recap.
- 19:00 Plated dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 20:30 There will be a screening of the musical, animated comedy, Happy Feet in the Bar, with popcorn!

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.

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



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 13 March 2025

Day 4 Portal Point and Foyn Harbour

07:15 Wake up call.

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

08:15 Please could **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck on Deck 5 to help load kit.

08:30+/- We would like to invite all other guests ashore for a continental landing at Portal Point.

Please ensure you are dressed in full waterproofs, Mucks boots and that your lifejacket is correctly fastened before coming to the gangway. Remember to use the Virkon solution provided to clean your boots, tripods, monopods etc before you leave the ship and on your return.

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

14:00 Please could **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck on Deck 5 to help load kit. Exact details will be confirmed on the day with Tanya, please listen to announcements.

14:15+/- We invite all other guests for a Zodiac cruise of Foyn Harbour and Enterprise Island, where we will visit the historic shipwreck of the Norwegian factory ship Guvernøren.

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

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

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



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 14 March 2025

Day 5 Lemaire Channel, Iceberg Graveyard 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.

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

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

13:30 Please could **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck on Deck 5 to help load kit.

13:45+/- We would like to invite **all other guests** to the gangway for a landing at Port Charcot.

Please remember, no sitting, kneeling, crouching or placing anything on the ground while you are ashore. Move slowly and quietly around wildlife.

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.

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



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 15 March 2025

Day 6 Crossing the Antarctic Circle and Detaille Island

07:15 Wake-up call. Please note - If we are expected to Cross the Antarctica Circle before this, you will get a 30min warning.

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

An Expedition Day South of the Antarctic Circle.

All plans will be subject to our progress over night, which will be very much dependent on ice conditions.

We hope to land you at Detaille Island at some point today. If this is successful, please note we are limited to 12 people inside the historic hut at once. We advise you bring a torch or head light with you to use in the hut. You will be required to clean your boots before entering the hut and will need to leave your rucksacks and camera bags outside. All guests will also be offered a short Zodiac cruise, either before or after visiting the hut.

We also hope to offer scuba diving during the course of the day, Tanya will call a meeting as plans are formed.

If our progress is delayed due to ice, Charlotte will give a lecture about Seals of the Southern Ocean in the Bar.

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

16:15 Clara will give a lecture about Plankton in the Bar.

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

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

20:15 There will be a screening of the new Shackleton Movie, documenting the finding of the shipwreck, Endurance.

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



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 16 March 2025

Day 7 Damoy Point, Jougla Point and Port Lockroy.

07:15 Wake-up call.

07:30-8:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

08:15 Please could **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck on Deck 5 to help load kit.

08:30+/- We hope to take **all other guests** ashore at Damoy Point, Dorian Bay. The Damoy Hut site is Antarctica's only protected historic transit facility and ski way, providing shelter and safe passage for scientists. This small wooden hut is known fondly by some as "the world's most southerly waiting room".

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

13:45 Please could **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck on Deck 5 to help load kit.

14:00+/- We hope to offer a Zodiac cruise of Jougla Point and Port Lockroy to **all other guests**.

Port Lockroy has been known as a safe anchorage following its use by the whaling fleets of the early 20th century and for this reason was selected for the first continuously occupied British base to establish a year-round British presence in Antarctica. Base A, Port Lockroy was established on the 11th February 1944 as part of a wartime mission code-named Operation Tabarin. Designated Historic Site and Monument no. 61, Port Lockroy has been fully managed by UKAHT since 2006 and is now commonly referred to as the 'Penguin Post Office'.

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

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

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



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 17 March 2025

Day 8 Danco Island and Melchior Islands

06:45 Wake-up call.

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

07:45 Please could **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck on Deck 5 to help load kit.

08:00+/- We hope to take **all other guests** ashore at Danco Island, to see the Gentoo Penguin Colony.

At the end of the landing, we hope to offer a **polar plunge**. If you wish to take an icy dip, please wear your swimwear underneath your expedition clothing. We provide the towels, do not bring them from your cabin.

Please remember to do vigilant biosecurity checks of your swim wear before coming ashore. Please note you cannot wear shoes or our Muck boots when swimming, or anything that could fall off, including hats, sunglasses, cameras or phones. When you get undressed, please place all your clothing on the waterproof mat provided, except your Muck boots which stay to the edge on the ground. There will be Zodiacs ready to take you back to the ship immediately after your swim.

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

13:15 Sara invites you to the Bar for a lecture about Marine Threats.

15:00 Please could **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck on Deck 5 to help load kit.

15:15+/- We hope to offer a Zodiac cruise of the Melchoir Islands to **all other guests**.

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

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

20:30 We will show a short film (10 mins) about the last eruption of Deception Island and its whaling history.

"I own myself one of those who do not fear the shore, for hardly any great things are done in a small ship by a man that does." - Admiral Lord Nelson



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 18 March 2025

Day 9 Deception Island

07:00 Wake-up call.

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

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

08:15 Please could **the divers** meet the dive team on the Zodiac deck on Deck 5 to help load kit.

08:30 We invite **all other passengers** for a landing at Whalers Bay.

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

After lunch we will sail further into the caldera where you will be able to see the two research stations belonging to Spain and Argentina, before passing back through Neptune's Bellows.

16:16 Allan invites you to the Bar for a presentation about Sledge Dogs: The Unsung Heroes of Antarctic Exploration.

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.

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. Make sure that all your belongings are put away safely and that doors and drawers in your cabin are tightly closed.

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world." - Albert Einstein



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 19 March 2025

Day 10 Drake Passage

07:45 Wake-up call.

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

09:15 Marco welcomes you to the Bar for a presentation titled 'The Blue Machine' about the importance of polar regions in the thermohaline circulation'.

11:30 Jess invites you to the Bar for her lecture about what whales do for us – the importance of whales in our oceans.

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

16:15 Please join Gary in the Bar for a presentation about his time overwintering at an Australian Antarctic Station.

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.

20:30 Please join the staff and crew in the Bar for karaoke!

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.

"Notorious for violent storms which quickly turn a moderate sea into violent confusion, turmoil and mountainous waves." - Shackleton describing the Drake Passage.



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 20 March 2025

Day 11 Approaching South America

07:45 Wake-up call.

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

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

09:15 Charlotte invites you to join her in the Bar for her lecture about feeding in whales.

11:30 Please join the dive team in the Bar for a presentation about diving in the Polar Regions and a short film about what the divers saw on this voyage.

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

16:15 Sara welcomes you to 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



Antarctica - Polar Circle - Deep South Discovery Voyage

Date: 21 March 2025

Day 12 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