



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Antarctic Peninsula-Basecamp

Ushuaia - Ushuaia

13th November 2023 – 25th November 2023

On board *m/v Hondius*



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

Captain Toni Salo

and his international crew

Staff Captain:	Miia Holma	Finland
Chief Officer:	Matei Mocanu	Romania
2nd Officer:	Igor Nazarov	Russia
3rd Officer:	Archer Cultura	Philippines
Chief Engineer:	Sebastian Alexandru	Romania
Hotel Manager:	Albert Don	The Netherlands
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Karolina Guziejko	Poland
Head Chef:	Ralf Barthel	Austria
Ships Doctor:	Charlotte Knowles	United Kingdom
Expedition Leader:	Mal Haskins	New Zealand
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Felicity Johnson	United Kingdom
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Sasha Romanovskiy	Russia
Expedition Guide:	Mikhail Barabanov	Luxembourg
Expedition Guide:	Anthonie Luteijn	The Netherlands
Expedition Guide:	Juan Berenstein	Argentina
Expedition Guide:	Ashleigh Kitchiner	United Kingdom
Expedition Guide:	Julia Angermeier	Germany
Expedition Guide:	Koen Jongerling	The Netherlands
Expedition Guide:	Bill Smith	United Kingdom
Expedition Guide:	Carina Ketterer	Switzerland
Expedition Guide:	Saskia van Der Meij	The Netherlands
Expedition Guide:	Moniek Mestrom	The Netherlands
Expedition Guide:	Matthias Kopp	Germany
Expedition Guide:	Alexis Belleze	Argentina
Mountain Leader:	Johnny Baird	United Kingdom
Mountain Guide:	Owain Jones	United Kingdom
Mountain Guide:	Edward Bekker	The Netherlands
Mountain Guide:	Dave Rudkin	United Kingdom
Kayak Leader:	David Horkan	United Kingdom
Kayak Guide:	Matt Hawkins	United Kingdom

welcome you on board!

Day 1 – Monday 13th November 2023

Embarkation - Ushuaia

GPS 16.00 Position: 54° 48'S / 068° 17'W

Wind: SW4 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +7°C **Sea Temp:** +8.7°C

Today is the day to embark M/V Hondius, the beautiful 107 m vessel that would take us to explore Antarctica. After visiting Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world, we boarded the ship at 4pm where we were met by the staff and crew who warmly welcomed us onboard. After checking in we were directed to our cabins, followed by the lounge for tea, coffee and biscuits. Whilst in the lounge we started with a briefing to get us familiar with the ship, a mandatory safety briefing by Chief Officer, Matai and we completed the mandatory drill.



After the drill, in the Observation Lounge we joined the Captain's Cocktail Party, where we met the Captain and took this opportunity to enjoy the canapés. Captain Toni told us a little about himself and toasted the voyage ahead. The Expedition Team then introduced themselves; it was interesting to meet all of them and learn where they were from. If we weren't full enough already, it was then time to enjoy a delicious buffet dinner cooked by our Head Chef and the kitchen team. As the ship sailed through the Beagle Channel, we enjoyed the sights in the fantastic light along with our dinner. The excited chat at dinner was all about the journey ahead and the adventures that lay before us.

After dinner, quite a few of us went outside to enjoy the views and watched all the other vessels making their way through the Beagle Channel. This channel is a strait in the Tierra del Fuego archipelago, on the extreme southern tip of South America between Chile and Argentina. The channel separates the larger main island of Isla Grande de Tierra del Fuego from various smaller islands including the islands of Picton, Lennox and Nueva; Navarino; Hoste; Londonderry; and Stewart. The channel's eastern area forms part of the border between Chile and Argentina and the western area is entirely within Chile. The Beagle Channel, the Straits of Magellan to the north, and the open-ocean Drake Passage to the south are the three navigable passages around South America between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

The channel itself is about 240 km long and 5 km wide at its narrowest point. It extends from Nueva Island in the east to Darwin Sound and Cook Bay in the Pacific Ocean in the west. The biggest settlement on the channel is Ushuaia in Argentina followed by Puerto Williams in Chile. These are amongst the southernmost settlements in the world.



We stayed up late to enjoy the views and changing light of the evening. We wondered what awaits us in Antarctica.

Day 2 – Tuesday 14th November 2023

At sea – Drake Passage

GPS 12.00 Position: 57°11'S / 065°35'W

Wind: NNW4 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** P. Cloudy **Air Temp:** +6°C **Sea Temp:** +7.6°C

This morning was our first wakeup call from our Expedition Leader, Mal. Our first night of this voyage wasn't as quiet as we thought it might be. The rocking and rolling that started during the night made some of us sleep profoundly well, others less and some did not have a great time at all, as not everyone showed up for breakfast. The program for today was filled with a lot of preparation for our visit to Antarctica, especially the Basecamp and activities.



We started at 9:15 am in the Observation Lounge with the mandatory International Association of Antarctica Tour Operators (IAATO) briefing. IAATO's primary goal is to advocate and promote the practice of safe and environmentally responsible travel to the Antarctic. We learned a lot about the rules and regulations, wildlife and biosecurity - the *dos* and *don't*-s, the *cans* and *cannot*-s. We too wanted to leave as little trace as possible on our voyage down to Antarctica. This is then followed by the mandatory zodiac briefing during which we learned how to put on our zodiac life jackets which were different from the ones we used yesterday during the drill. We learnt where to find the shell doors and know how to embark, disembark a zodiac, how to dress and how to behave – all this was new to us and very exciting.

At 11:00 am we are called by decks to come to deck 3, the shell door area where we collected our Muck boots and we all left with a well fitted pair that we called ours for the next 10 days. After our first delicious buffet lunch we go back to deck 3 again to preparing for our first day in Antarctica. This was our biosecurity, all our outer gear like waterproof jackets, waterproof pants, backpacks, gloves and hats were properly cleaned with a vacuum cleaner and a paper clip which is very important to pick out any seeds that may be in the Velcro.

In the afternoon we were invited to join our first lecture given by Ashleigh in the lounge. With a warm beverage, we listened to all the interesting facts about marine mammals and what kind of whales, dolphins and seals we were most likely to see down here over the next couple of days. We were very excited and some of us start wandering around the ship with our cameras and binoculars ready to spot the first wildlife!

At 6:15 pm we all meet for the daily recap, which will happen throughout the voyage, we get to know our plan for the next day and also get some information about the things we did and saw that day. Antonie talked about the Antarctic convergence, Misha introduced us to photography and gave us great tips to get the most beautiful photos and Bill talked about the differences of “seeing-looking-thinking-doing” which we kept in mind and remembered whilst we entered this special environment.

After the sea calmed down during the afternoon, most of us felt better and we were able to enjoy a delicious dinner. Some of us were in the cabin early after a full day while others enjoyed the evening in the bar to play games, meet friends and make new ones.

Day 3 – Wednesday 15th November 2023

At sea – Drake Passage

GPS 12.00 Position: 61°42'S / 063°46'W

Wind: N4 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** -2°C **Sea Temp:** +1.7°C



Our second day at sea dawned beautifully calm but also very quiet. However, the wind began to pick up after a couple of hours and with it came a veritable swarm of seabirds around the ship. Clouds of Cape Petrels and Southern Giant Petrels swept across the sea almost coming within touching

distance along with smaller numbers of Black-browed Albatross, White-chinned Petrels, Great Shearwaters and light Sooty Albatrosses whilst a few Southern Royal Albatrosses glided majestically through the throngs of smaller species.

After a hearty breakfast our programme started with the Kayak, Camping and Mountaineering mandatory briefings in the lounge with the activity leaders and their assistants, giving everyone some incredibly useful tips and tricks to take forward into the trip. Shortly after this we had a perfect lunch. After that all the guests made their way, deck by deck to the zodiac boarding area where the guides were on hand to initiate everyone into the vital world of biosecurity – making sure that we do not transfer any organic material into the pristine natural world where we will visit in the days to come.

The evening recap then wetted-our-appetites for the first landing of the trip in the morning and some information about the weather in the peninsula the next day. Everybody looked super excited about the start of our Basecamp activities. The exploration finally starts!



Day 4 – Thursday 16th November 2023

Danco Island and Cuverville Island

GPS 12.00 Position: 64°43'S / 0642°36'W

Wind: SE1 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Low **Air Temp:** +4°C **Sea Temp:** +2.2°C



We have finally arrived in Antarctica, and after a luscious breakfast, we are preparing to disembark the vessel for the first time, to experience, feel, taste and see this beautiful white continent. Everyone has been briefed, and our first port of arrival is Danco Island. Home to a colony of Gentoo penguins and sometimes others, our zodiacs approach the shores and disembark passengers. As they take off their lifejackets, they get their first look at the waddling of many penguin feet, delighting in the sheer athleticism of those rather small birds,

as they scale up hills, which to them must be the equivalent of huge mountains to us. One half ashore, and the other half embarks upon their first zodiac cruise, in search of seals, icebergs and anything that happens to be in the water. After an hour and a half, everyone swaps. The day is beautiful, blue skies shine and everyone gets their first unexpected taste of sunburn. One could truly observe the penguins in their activity for hours on end, but eventually, we must get back to the ship. Before that happens however, we invited all passengers for a polar plunge in the icy cold and international waters of Antarctica, which many partook in. Many photos were taken, showing the shocked faces of people not understanding how water could possibly be this cold, and burn. Afterwards, people went back to the ship for tea and the hottest shower of their lives.

In the afternoon, after a sumptuous lunch, everyone headed to Cuverville Island being weighed down by our chef cook Ralf's delicious food. The sun was still shining with its full strength, and now people were more aware of sunscreen. Once more, we had a split landing situation, with half the people going ashore and the others cruising amongst the icebergs in the bay. On land, people were amazed by the penguins, as they climbed hills, fell over, slid down, made tons of noise, and waddled around on their highways, all in one incredibly organized mayhem. Every single aspect of their behaviour was photographed, videoed and observed. In the bay, the cruisers gazed in wonder at all the different hues of blue you could find in icebergs, in all shapes and sizes, with penguins swimming past them in the clear blue waters, seals scratching themselves on land, and the whole landscape being one of whites, blues and blacks. The stillness and reflection of the water was incredible, being mirror-like, and the calm permeated everyone's skin. In the middle, people swapped, and afterwards, we all headed back to the ship for the evening's recap and dinner.

After dinner, it was the first night of camping! 50 courageous souls headed out with sleeping bags, mats and shovels to brave the cold Antarctic night for the first time, so later, they could tell tales of adventure to their families and loved ones. Truly a test of strength, everyone had to dig a hole in which to sleep, curl up in their gear and just enjoy the solitude and silence. The night and the colours were beautiful and increased everyone's enjoyment of the evening. Thus ended our first full day on the Antarctic continent.



Day 5 – Friday 17th November 2023

Orne Harbour and Neko Harbour

GPS 12.00 Position: 64°39'S / 062°50'W

Wind: NE3 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** -2°C **Sea Temp:** +2°C

Oh no! It just had to happen eventually; we awoke to a seascape shrouded in thick mist. Such a contrast to the previous day and a reminder of how fickle the weather is in Antarctica. Hondius moved her way forward into Orne Harbour almost blind in swirling heavy snow but guided by GPS and radar we were eventually reassured when out of the whiteness emerged a menacing mass of mountain, 'Spigot Peak', rock faces plastered in snow but looking eerily magnificent in the fuzzy mistiness.

As usual a couple of staff scout boats were lowered and headed to the prospective landing site ... a massive rock protruding from snowy overhangs at the edge of the fjord. They un-loaded marker poles and shore barrels but as they checked it out and risk assessed conditions, they realised that the steep slope was a problem. The deposition of this huge snowfall on this frozen base meant that any passenger falling would immediately start careering down the hillside out-of-control. Perhaps amusing but obviously unacceptable, so the proposed landing was abandoned, and a safe plan B announced... a zodiac cruise in the bay involving all boats. This proved to be a highlight experience for most of us, as paired-up for safety the zodiacs cruised through the extensive brash ice helmed by highly experienced polar guides, backed-up by handheld GPS. It was an exciting experience for all passengers.... really VERY exciting!

After lunch, the snow stopped falling and the weather improved slightly... at least we could see the stunning views. A backdrop of magnificent now clad mountains, tidal glaciers in every direction, an awesome expanse of ice. This was Antarctica... endless visual stimulation. Hondius wove a route through the drifting bergs and brash whilst Anthonie educated and entertained by delivering an appropriate interesting lecture on the complexities of ice. The next scheduled landing was to be at Neko Harbour but as we motored towards this destination the bridge and guide team were obviously concerned by the extent of the drifting brash and bergy bits, a term we learnt from Anthonies lecture.

We had been briefed the previous evening at recap of how potentially dangerous this bay could be in the event of a major calving event. Now it was drifting ice presenting the problem. The bay was choked and clearly landing was impossible so sensibly we turned and cruised along the coast. This was not a disappointment... as it offered fantastic polar panoramas and everyone really understood the safety considerations.

During the evening recap Bill presented a time-lapse video of the movement and build-up of brash which cleared reinforced the safety decisions made during the day. This day had been Oceanwide Expedition cruising at its best... flexible programming making the most of difficult ever- changing weather.



Day 6 – Saturday 18th November 2023

Paradise Island and Orne Islands

GPS 12.00 Position: 64°45'S / 063°01'W

Wind: E2 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Overcast **Air Temp:** +2°C **Sea Temp:** +2.3°C

The day started early for the campers who had spent the night on land on a peninsula, opposite Brown Station. It was a beautiful morning, a few clouds, the sun started lighting the highest peaks of the mountains surrounding Paradise Island.

After a good breakfast we got offered a zodiac cruise in that area. We looked forward to jumping in the small boats so we got ready. Here and there was ice and while exploring we passed icefloes where seals were resting, Weddel Seals. They watched us, slightly moved, and fell asleep again.



Huge glaciers had their quite active looking fronts in the sea, we even heard the cracking as we were driving passed. It was absolutely amazing being in that beautiful landscape. While exploring we passed the Argentine Research Station, Almirante Brown, situated on rocks right next to the shoreline. A couple of dark red painted houses with the Argentine blue/white colors on the roof form a summer only station, currently inhabited by penguins. A couple of bird species took advantage of the and nested in the area (or at least they were present in the area), Antarctic Shags, Antarctic Terns, Snowy Sheathbill and Cape Petrels.

The kayaker's went kayaking and the mountaineers climbed the highest point next to the Brown Station. For many of us it was too early to leave that extra ordinary spot; however, there were more stunning places waiting for us. Hondius started to make the way to our next destination, Orne Island. We sailed through the Gerlache Strait in a southerly direction. A lot of ice was in the region, ranging in size from small growlers to huge tabular icebergs. It was interesting to observe the bridge staff how they operate navigating through the ice, which is not like setting a course, it is more like zigzagging around (and also through) the ice, in order to get to a certain point. Orne Island is exposed to the Gerlache Strait and is home for Gentoo and Chinstrap Penguins.

Our experienced guides navigated through the ice flows and around bigger icebergs, which was an absolutely nice experience in still pleasant conditions, sunshine, no wind. On land we enjoyed the snowshoe walk along the groups of penguins. The view from a slightly higher position was absolutely



stunning. It is not possible to describe that scenery with scattered blue icebergs, massive mountains, calm ocean, and the blue sky.

We all headed back to the Hondius where we spotted Humpback Wales and a group of Orcas. Late in the evening we sailed through the famous Neumeyer Channel, a spectacular narrow passage with high mountains on both sides. A few of us enjoyed that on the outer decks, the others enjoyed the view from the lounge. It was again a day full of unforgettable impressions.

Day 7 – Sunday 19th November 2023

Pleneau and Peterman Island

GPS 12.00 Position: 65°06'S / 064°02'W

Wind: S2 **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Sunny **Air Temp:** +3°C **Sea Temp:** +2.2°C



Good morning, everyone! And a special very early good morning to our campers that came back from Damoy Point after a spectacular night on the snow. It was a VERY cold night, but the clear sky made way for a beautiful sunrise hitting the surrounding mountains in the Neumayer Channel.

Our day started with our usual wakeup call from our expedition leader. There was no real surprising news regarding the outside world as it was again a stunning windless day. What a

luck we have. Today our morning program included a zodiac cruise through around Pleneau Island. An island situated at the southern end of the Lemaire Channel. The mountaineers went to Hovgaard Island to do a roped glacier trek up the mountain and the kayakers went out in a large group to kayak among the icebergs drifting around the coastline.

With a perfect reflection in the water, we left the ship in the direction of a giant bay which we call the iceberg graveyard. This area is filled with giant icebergs that get stuck on the shallow waters. This makes for an spectacular sight and feeling to be among such giants. The icebergs laid around each telling its own life's story. Were they part of an iceshelf or a tide glacier. Have they been in the water for a long time or have they tumbled a lot already. Tidelines, cupules and firn lines could explain all this. It was already enough to be in awe from these unique sculptures made by mother nature. But on top of that we were able to see much wildlife as well. There were many penguin rookeries in the area. The first one on Pleneau Island. A Gentoo colony. They seemed quite busy as always moving out and about the water. In the bay we could observe big rafts of penguins porpoising around the giant icebergs. You would not be able to help to feel the incredible Antarctic thrills that would be running through your mind and body as the giant groups of penguins swam around your zodiac whilst being surrounded by many shades of turquoise-colored icebergs towering over you. A memory to stay with you for the rest of your life.

On the way we were also lucky to have found multiple Weddell Seals laying on the islands. Although the waters were quite shallow, we were able to get quite close to them. At the end of the bay, we could see a cross stand on top of a hill. This relic was left behind from the French Antarctic expedition in 1903-1905 led by Jean-Baptiste Charcot who overwintered in this area. All in all, a complete adventure and successful zodiac cruise.

In the afternoon we got to visit our first Adelie rookery on Petermann Island. This landing gave us the opportunity to get a real leg stretch hiking to several points of interest on the island. The landing site was in a little protected bay called Circumcision Bay. Named by Charcot during his second

Antarctic expedition. There were also an Argentine emergency hut and a wooden cross to commemorate the three British that died here during an expedition of the British Antarctic Survey in 1982.

Meanwhile the hikers were on land the other half was on board a Zodiac cruising among the many growlers and icebergs that filled up the channel in between Petermann Island and the mainland. There were many seals to be seen laying around on the ice and a group of 7 Weddell Seals that were laying on one of the smaller islands close to Petermann Island. Some of the cruisers went quite far into the channel to the south in the search for a LS. The mystery that nobody could solve. (Leopard Seal). However, the search for many people was in vain as all seals that were found were instead lonely Weddell or Crabeater Seals. In any case, the search was good fun, and the reflections were again stunning enough to amaze everybody for hours.

These incredible experiences did not mark the end of the day! As the Hotel and Restaurant crew had organised an outside BBQ for this day whilst going through the Lemaire channel on our way back to the north of the Peninsula. This day could really have not been better for an outside BBQ as there was no to little wind and the sun was shining bright. The salads and meat were a delicious treat at the end of the day. And even though many people were very tired and pretty much ready to go to bed. The party just started after the tables and benches were removed as everybody found themselves standing on a dancefloor. The energy was suddenly found out of the furthest part of our body and mind and the dancefloor filled with wonderful dancing penguins hopping from the left to the right. Smiling faces and warms hearts everywhere. These were likely moments that nobody expected but came more then welcome as passengers, staff and crew danced as one to the beats of happiness whilst looking out to an unreal world surrounding us made of glaciated mountains.



Day 8 – Monday 20th November 2023

Port Lockroy and Damoy Point

GPS 12.00 Position: 64°49'S / 063°31'W

Wind: NE3 **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** Sunny **Air Temp:** +6°C **Sea Temp:** +2°C



The day unfolded under the crisp Antarctic sun, casting its glow over the frozen landscape. Another day with beautiful weather, we were lucky once again. Expedition leader Mal's wakeup call spurred us into action, sharing the promise of another day filled with activities.

Following a nourishing breakfast, our morning activities commenced at Port Lockroy, organised seamlessly through a rotation system. Meanwhile, experienced mountaineers embarked on a thrilling adventure, traversing Jabet Peak from one side to the other, navigating the challenging terrain that only Antarctica can offer. The team from the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust enriched our day with a presentation about their important work. To our delight, they also brought onboard a selection of merchandise, allowing us to carry a piece of this unique experience home.

Our journey continued with a zodiac cruise in the bay surrounding Port Lockroy, revealing a world of icebergs and remnants of the winter's sea ice. Gentoo Penguins, seemingly unfazed by our presence, populated the island on which the station stands. A juvenile Leopard Seal, gracefully resting on one of the icebergs, became one of the highlights of this leg of our adventure.

Jougla Point greeted us with a remarkable scene - seven Weddell Seals reclining on the fast ice, while Gentoo Penguins engaged in the construction of nests using rocks they collected. The wildlife against the Antarctic backdrop was a reminder for us to the resilience and adaptability of these incredible creatures. After a satisfying lunch, we embarked on a short transit to Damoy Point for our afternoon activities. A combination of a landing and zodiac cruise awaited us, providing a different perspective on this location.

The landing involved a pleasant walk to the hut at Damoy Point, once a transit station for British Antarctic Survey staff and last occupied in 1993. The surrounding landscape echoed with tales of exploration and scientific endeavor. The zodiac cruise around Damoy point revealed nature's artistry in the form of uniquely shaped icebergs. Wildlife sightings were abundant, including Crabeater, Weddell and a majestic Elephant Seal. The trio of brushtail penguins - Adelie, Chinstrap, and Gentoo - added a vibrant touch to the icy tableau.

Back on board, we gathered for a daily recap of the day's discoveries and received insights into the plans for the next adventure. Dinner, plated and delightful, brought the day to a close, this beautiful day on the Antarctic peninsula.



Day 9 – Tuesday 21st November 2023

Foyn Harbour and Portal Point

GPS 12.00 Position: 64°26'S / 061°51'W

Wind: SW4 **Sea State:** Smooth **Weather:** Sunny **Air Temp:** +3°C **Sea Temp:** +2.4°C

The day began aboard the Hondius with a hearty breakfast that energised us for the adventures that awaited in the icy realms of Antarctica. Excitement filled the air as we geared up for a full ship zodiac cruise in Foyn Harbour. The mountaineers among



us eagerly prepared for their activities, ready to conquer the challenges presented by the rugged Antarctic terrain. Guests not participating in mountaineering enjoyed a mesmerising circumnavigation around Enterprise Island. The landscape was a spectacle of nature's grandeur, with towering icebergs and breathtaking views in every direction. Humpback Whales gracefully appeared on the surface, seals lounged on floating ice, and curious penguins waddled along the shoreline, creating unforgettable moments captured by cameras clicking away.

A well-deserved lunch break came at midday, with the ship gliding through the icy waters. The dining hall buzzed with conversation about the morning's sightings, and anticipation filled the air as we looked forward to the afternoon's activities around Portal Point; however, nature's unpredictable temperament took center stage as the weather intensified, and uncharted waters around Portal Point posed a challenge to our planned afternoon operations. Safety being paramount, the decision was made to postpone our activities.

Instead of disappointment, the change in plans led to unexpected delights. A documentary about Antarctica provided a deeper understanding of this majestic continent, and Bill, our knowledgeable guide, captivated us with a fascinating whaling history lecture. The lounge became a classroom, and we soaked in the rich tales of human exploration in these extreme conditions.

The day concluded with the Hondius making its way towards the South Shetland Islands. As the sun dipped below the horizon, we gathered for a final, sumptuous dinner, reminiscing about the incredible experiences of the expedition. The anticipation for our last day of operations on this basecamp adventure heightened surrounded by the vast, serene Antarctic landscape.

Underneath the polar night sky, filled with stars and the distant glow of ice, we retired to our cabins, grateful for the day's unique blend of unexpected turns and extraordinary discoveries. The Antarctic adventure aboard the Hondius had etched indelible memories, and the promise of a thrilling final day on the horizon filled us with eager anticipation.

Day 10 – Wednesday 22nd November 2023

Yankee Harbour and Half Moon Island

GPS 12.00 Position: 62°32'S / 059°48'W

Wind: NE3 **Sea State:** Calm **Weather:** P. Cloudy **Air Temp:** +11°C **Sea Temp:** +2.4°C

The day started with a lovely wakeup call again to announce the start of our last day of operations in this beautiful part of the world. Just like the previous days the weather forecast was looking great, but with the potential of a change in wind at any time.

We were all very keen to make the most of this last day here on the Antarctic Peninsula. Overnight we made our way up North to the South Shetland islands. We arrived at Yankee



Harbour early in the morning where we could see lots of ice blocking the usual landing spot. Luckily there was an alternative landing site so we could get everybody ashore. The passengers could roam around freely and walk towards the Gentoo Penguins. We were very lucky to see an Elephant Seal family, with a big bull, a female and juvenile. A few Fur Seals also came over to say hi to our group. Of course, there were also a few Weddel Seals hauling out on the snow.

The other half of the group started with a beautiful zodiac cruise where some lucky few were greeted by a Humpback Whale. The second zodiac cruise found a Leopard Seal on the ice. A great team of chef Ralf, assistant expedition leader Felicity plus our two Carolina's from reception made a surprise visit to every zodiac, offering all the passengers a lovely hot chocolate with or without rum, what a treat! On our return to the ship a huge amount of brash ice made this a very slow drive. While the ship relocated and created a way through the ice, the passengers ashore were given a bit more time ashore before heading back to the ship for a quick lunch.

From Yankee Harbour we could already see Half Moon Island, our final landing site of this voyage. Half Moon Island is one of the favorite islands to visit in the South Shetland Islands. On the island we can visit a beautiful Chinstrap colony on the rocky outcrops. We could see the first penguins sitting on their eggs, what a beautiful sight! On the other side of the island we had the chance to stretch our legs a bit more, towards the Western side of the island with an amazing view of Livingston Island. The Cormorants and Wilson's storm petrels were also seen around the island. The zodiac



cruise took us a bit closer to Livingston Island for a last close look at the ice. By 4pm we were all back on board our beautiful ship Hondius to start making our way North, back to Ushuaia.

On request, a Happy Feet marathon was played in the Lecture room for the keen ones who wanted to see more penguins!

Our amazing bartenders Mark and Rolando were shaking up some nice cocktails throughout the evenings, what a celebration of a beautiful Antarctic voyage!

Day 11 – Thursday 23rd November 2023

At sea – Drake Passage

GPS 12.00 Position: 59°36'S / 062°27'W

Wind: N5 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** Cloudy **Air Temp:** -1°C **Sea Temp:** +2.2°C

The low, slightly overcast sky, the smooth outlines of waves, and the sea birds — such an ambiance could be seen looking through the windows and portholes of the ship. The *Hondius* was moving north, crossing the Drake Passage.

We walked on the decks and corridors, experiencing a sense of bewilderment. Everything seemed normal: Albert announced that the restaurant was open and breakfast awaited us, but at the same time, there were no planned activities after breakfast related to landing ashore. Is our journey coming to an end? How unfortunate, but alas.

After breakfast, Misha, one of our guides, announced the start of a photo contest. The results were scheduled to be revealed late in the evening of the same day.

Other guides delivered lectures. Bill, in particular, stood out, spending an hour and a half telling us about art, specifically the depiction of the sea in paintings by famous artists and how to perceive it.

Before lunch, it was time for us to part with our Muck boots. Sad, but what can you do. They were so comfortable! Once we're home, we'll buy the same ones.

Strangely enough, crossing the Drake Passage was by no means a dull pastime. You could always go out on the open deck, as the weather allowed, and watch the waves and seabirds soaring in the air. Sooty albatrosses, rarely flapping their wings, gracefully either approached almost closely or moved away. Giant Petrels either soared high or dived almost to the water. Cape Petrels playfully darted to and fro, maneuvering among the waves. If one flock, losing interest in *Hondius*, fell behind and drifted away, another flock of the same Cape petrels would immediately appear out of nowhere, taking over the relay. "Don't be sad, friends, we're still with you, you're still in Antarctica!"

Nevertheless, the distance between us and the White Continent gradually increased, and South America loomed closer and closer.

In the evening after dinner, Misha and Anthonie gathered us in the main lounge to announce the results of the photo competition. Winners awaited valuable prizes in the form of free cocktails at the bar and toy penguins. Once the photo competition concluded, we were invited to participate in a quiz. We formed several teams and then answered questions posed by Anthonie. It was amusing!

By nightfall, the weather deteriorated. The waves rose higher, the wind stronger, but we were almost indifferent to it by then. On the contrary, it was much more pleasant for us to fall asleep. Each of us had the opportunity to feel like a child again, soothed in a cradle by a mother.

A good and slightly melancholic day. This is not the end yet!



Day 12 – Friday 24th November 2023

At sea – Drake Passage

GPS 12.00 Position: 55°47'S / 065°48'W

Wind: W8 **Sea State:** Moderate **Weather:** Rain/Fog **Air Temp:** +5°C **Sea Temp:** +7.4°C

Our last day at sea began with the Drake Passage picking up to a 4 m swell, finally some Antarctic weather! Just like yesterday, we were again seeing many species of Albatrosses accompanying us in our journey towards Ushuaia. Since early morning, our keen birders were out in the decks looking for the Light-mantled Albatross.



We all were feeling a little bittersweet with our wonderful voyage slowly coming to an

end. Some of us were busy packing our bags for tomorrow. But there was still lot to do on board. The Expedition Team had prepared a busy presentation programme for us. We started off with Misha, hosting a Photography Workshop. We then had a lecture from Alexis titled 'Yamanas' which was about a group of indigenous peoples in the Southern cone, also called The Yahgan. Their traditional territory includes the islands south of Isla Grande de Tierra del Fuego, extending their presence into Cape Horn. It was fascinating to learn about ow these people and their remarkable history.

After another delicious buffet lunch prepared by our galley team, we headed back to the lounge to watch a documentary on Cape Horn. We were able to recognise some of the places shown in the documentary. And what a joy it was. We were part of the fortunate minority who visited one of the most remote corners of our Planet Earth. Around late afternoon we once more were invited to the lounge for the very last presentation of our voyage. Sasha talked about the his journey to Antarctica, what a fascinating journey it was. To round the expedition off we then heard form Mal who talked to us about climate change and what actions we can do to support our planet and help reduce the impacts of increased change.

Around 6pm we were invited back to the lounge for Captain´s cocktail. We were surprised to see all the Expedition Team dressed up nicely. Everyone had big smiles on their faces. Captain Toni raised his glass to our voyage. Then we had the great pleasure to watch Juan´s end of the voyage slideshow. It was such a delight to watch his work. Wonderful images accompanied by footage of wildlife, beautiful background music.... Wow! And the incredible amount of work he had put into the slideshow really came through. We all had tears in our eyes after watching it.

After this emotional gathering in the lounge, we were invited to our dining room for one last dinner on board. The Galley team did not disappoint. Another delicious meal, laughter, and many happy faces. We also had a chance to show our gratitude to the hotel team who always made sure we always got what we needed.

Day 13 – Saturday 25th November

Disembarkation - Ushuaia

GPS 09.00 Position: 42°49'S / 064°30'W

Wind: NE3 **Sea State:** Slight **Weather:** P. Cloudy **Air Temp:** +12°C **Sea Temp:** +12°C

When we woke, we were already at the port of Ushuaia ready to disembark for the final time. The last two weeks have taken us on a remarkable journey to the Antarctic Peninsula, the South Shetlands, and the vast Southern Ocean in between. This unforgettable journey showed us how varied and numerous life is in these remote and sometimes inhospitable corners of our Planet Earth. We have encountered amazing wildlife, made new friends, learned and experienced together. We will all take different memories of our voyage back home, but those memories will stay with us for the rest of our lives.

This was our expedition:

Total distance sailed on our voyage: 1,736.8 Nautical Miles

Furthest point south: 65°11.097'S / 064°07.119'W

Your Expedition Team



Trip Log - Camping

Day 4 – Thursday 16th November 2023

Kerr Point, Rongé Island. Position: 64°42.15' S / 062°36' W

Our first camping activity of the expedition took place at Kerr Point on Rongé in the Errera Channel. The camping area was just a few meters above sea level. While arriving with the zodiacs it was still bright, and it remained bright for the whole night. Nevertheless, conditions remained perfect for our adventure out there. We were welcomed by Saskia. She told us that a big calving created some big waves which washed our stairs off. So, we had the first challenge to overcome was to climb up a bit, but we had helping hands.

We set the perimeter for the pits to be dug and the emergency toilet is in place. We welcomed our first guests on shore, directing them up the hill. Everybody had an amazing view from their new 'bedroom'. Giant icebergs floating in the channel reflected in a mirror-like sea with snowy mountains and glaciers in the back. We all go to sleep. During the night some of us are woken up by a thunder-like sound, it is a nearby glacier calving.

At 4.30 am we are woken up to pack our bags, fill up the pits again to the way it was and head back to the ship for a little more sleep. Getting up to deck 8 to hang the sleeping bags to dry and after a quick snack and some juice in the lounge we all went to bed.



Day 5 – Friday 17th November 2023

Punta Vidt, Brown Station/Paradise Bay. Position: 64°53.2' S / 62°52' W

When we sail into Paradise Bay, we all knew why the name was given to this place. It was an amazing spot to go camping. The cloud cover gave a mysterious feel to the area and at the meantime the mountains are perfectly reflected in the glassy water. By 9.00 pm we were driving with the zodiacs ashore. We landed at the rocky shore, where a huge staircase was already dug out for us in the 3 m deep snowbank. Saskia greeted us enthusiastically but softly this time, as there were two Weddell Seals at our camping spot. We all got very excited and watched them in awe.

During digging our 'bedroom' the seals disappeared in the water, but they swam by to check up on us. As did a curious Gentoo Penguin. We had a beautiful view across the bay towards the Argentinian scientific base, Brown Station. To the back of us there was a big wall of snow, ice and glaciers, watching over us. During our light night we see the sky changing from cloudy, light grey to a bright pink sky on the horizon when we woke up.

At 4.15 am our camping adventure was sadly over, but we were treated with the Weddell Seal coming back to shore and the pup playing in the water. We had a cold night, but filling up the pits made us warm up again. Some didn't sleep that much but it was still a 'once in a lifetime' experience.

Heading back to the ship we hanged the sleeping bags to dry. After a snack and juice in the lounge some of us went to bed for a quick nap, others stayed up to be ready for the zodiac cruise through Paradise Bay that morning.



Day 6 – Friday 18th November 2023

Damoy Point. Position: 64°48.5' S / 063°31.4' W

After dinner everybody got ready to go camping. Being the last group to go and experience a special night out on the ice of Antarctica we had heard some great stories from the first campers. But now we are up! The zodiacs headed for the huge glacier in Dorian Bay and when you think you run into it we turned to the right, into the shallow bay towards our camping spot.

We left our personal bags and life jackets just above the landing site and we started digging our pits for the night. The sky is filled with beautiful clouds. It will make the temperature drop but not too much. Today it is two Gentoo Penguins that came to check out our camp. They waddled up the ice steps when some of us were already comfortably in our sleeping bags enjoying the silence and our new visitors.

Later that night, it started snowing a little bit, which added to the mystical atmosphere. And the Gentoo decides to walk up between the camping pits, stretching its neck up into the air and started calling. Unfortunately, it was a little too early for the wakeup call!

At 3.15 am we had to wake up to pack our bags and fill up the pits again, leaving it the way we found it last night. We headed back to the ship for a little more sleep. Firstly, we went up to deck 8 to hang our sleeping bags to dry and after a quick snack and some juice in the lounge we all went to bed.



Trip Log - Kayaking



Day 4 – Thursday 16th November 2023

Morning – Danco Island

The first outing and a fantastic start. Spectacular icebergs abound. We got our first taste of what kayaking in Antarctica and how incredible it is.

Afternoon – Cuverville Island

Lots of ice around and stunning scenery to behold. We had a brief glimpse of two hump backs as they quickly passed by, blowing and diving behind the ice.

Day 5 – Friday 17th November 2023

Morning – Orne Harbour

Snow way! A slight change in weather but still no wind. The snow fall made for a great adventure along the cliffs. Peering up at penguins and the high peaks towering high above. The snow flakes fat and fluffy covered us and our kayaks completely.

Day 6 – Saturday 18th November 2023

Morning – Paradise Island

Sunshine and oily seas once again. Huge glaciers to keep our distance from and amazing views of the surrounding mountains. Another amazing kayaking in Antarctica.

Afternoon – Orne Island

Blue skies and beautiful scenery all around again this afternoon. The paddling and weather just keep giving and giving. Incredible conditions.



Day 7 – Sunday 19th November 2023

Morning – Brown Base

Starting out a little overcast, the sun soon appeared. Big glaciers and sea cliffs dotted with imperial shags guided us to Brown Base. Named after Irishman Admiral Brown who founded the Argentine navy.

Afternoon – Peterman Island

A stunning afternoon paddle amongst the ice. David and Matt made the most of it with some capsizes and rolls. The warm sunshine countering the effects of the icy water. Towering glaciers stood proud to our port as we journeyed along through the ice. Penguins swimming past on their daily commutes.

Day 8 – Monday 20th November 2023

Morning – Port Lockroy

Another glorious morning in the sunshine surrounded by snow covered peaks and glaciers. The weather continues to hold, mirror like conditions without a breath of wind. A relaxing cruise was the ideal remedy for the late-night BBQ revellers.

Afternoon – Damoy Point

A fun afternoon paddle with guest and crew. We enjoyed some downwind paddling to find a fantastic bergy bit grave yard, penguins, a baby elephant seal and some amazing mountains around us.

Day 9 – Tuesday 21st November 2023

Morning – Foyn Harbour

Another day in paradise. We thought today the wind might be too strong for kayaking but we woke to reasonable conditions. After launching the kayaks and cruising to shore we paddled into a light wind for a while. After turning we enjoyed warm sunshine and the wind on our backs as we explored the Governor shipwreck.



Trip Log - Mountaineering

Day 4 – Thursday 16th November 2023

Morning – Danco Island

Our first group of mountaineers literally “opened” the Oceanwide 2023/2024 Antarctic Basecamp mountaineering season with a counterclockwise circuit of this spectacularly positioned island. On reaching the summit of Danco Island our Mountain Leader Jonny, unbeknown to the rest of the roped teams and mountain guides, was about to morph, whilst sworn to secrecy, into his new role as the “Master of Marriage Proposals in Outrageously Stunning Antarctic Mountain Locations”. The job description for this position does not currently exist in the Oceanwide Staff Handbook but will hopefully be ready for the 2024/2025 season!



Afternoon – Cuverville Island



Our second group of mountaineers ascended with confidence on this beautiful dome shaped snowy summit. Cuverville is quite exposed in places and requires confidence and good footwork. The summit of the island is a place of calm and solitude, a place to take a breather before focusing energy and concentration on the descent. On this occasion the calm and solitude and magnificent surroundings had once again overwhelmed one of our passenger couples and our Mountain Leader Jonny and the rest of the Mountain Guide team helped convene our second pop up marriage proposal of the day. One can only wonder if there was something magic in the air that day wafting between these two nearby Islands!

Day 5 – Friday 17th November 2023

Morning – Spigot Peak

A magnificent peak standing sentinel over Orne Harbour. Lots of wind-blown snow on the upper summit slopes gave us warning signs of a layer of snow that might lack cohesion with the surface below and expose our teams to potential avalanche risk. The importance of mountaineering teams sharing their thought processes and personal perception of current conditions is an intrinsic and vital skill of mountaineering. It was not a difficult decision to turn back from our high point and we enjoyed a descent that allowed us fantastic viewing positions of the resident Chinstrap Penguin colony who make their home halfway up this amazing, jagged spire of a mountain.



Day 6 – Saturday 18th November 2023

Morning – Brown Station, Skontorp Cove

Immediately behind this Argentinian research station our mountaineering teams enjoyed a steep snowshoe ascent to an airy narrow plateau and ridge line which we followed. Our high point being a lofty perch above sheer cliffs dropping to the sea with a bird's eye view of MV Hondius, our Basecamp home, and the kayaking teams paddling in Skontorp Cove.



Day 7 – Sunday 19th November 2023

Morning – Hovgaard Island Ascent

The summit that never seems to get any closer! Hovgaard is a wonderful whaleback of a mountain requiring a consistent and determined pace to reach the large flat plateau of a summit. The weather was magnificent and the whole team enjoyed amazing 360 views and magnificent icebergs.



Day 8 – Monday 20th November 2023

Morning – Jabet Peak

Our climbing teams experienced a great journey ascending this eye-catching snow peak capped with its castellated rocky summit outcrops. Our ascent terminated at the base of the final rocks, access to which was guarded by an enormous gaping crevasse covered in layers of snow that blanketed, and therefore hid the cavernous hollows beneath its deceptive mantle. Our climbing team were able to participate in and share the dynamic risk assessment processes that mountain guides must undertake continually in an active, ever changing mountain environment.



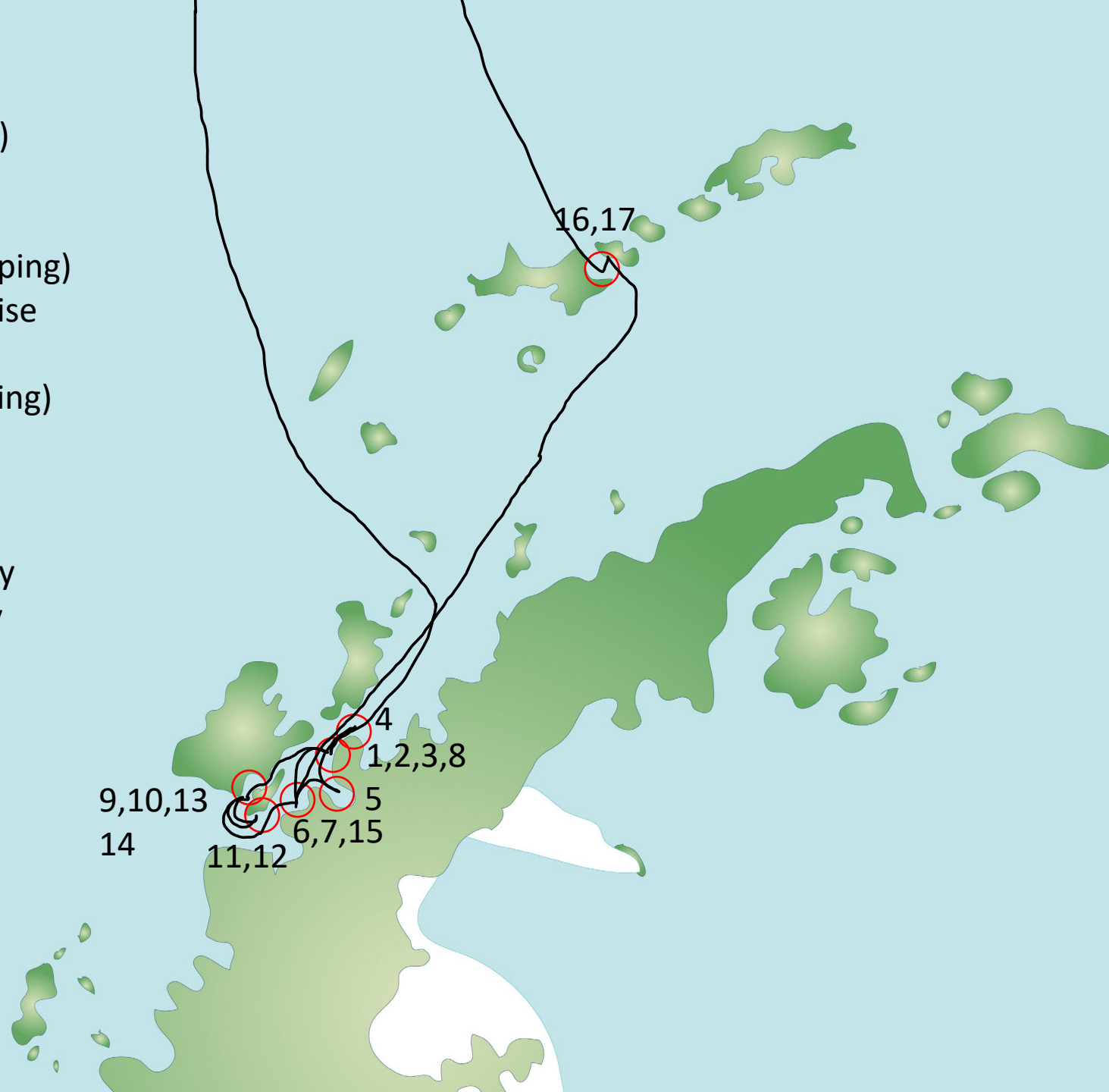
Day 9 – Tuesday 21st November 2023

Morning – Foyen Harbour

A tricky disembarkation from our zodiacs put our climbing team on a beautiful snowy neck of land in Foyen Harbour. We followed the ridge inland ascending steeper slopes to an expansive summit plateau with magnificent views. All our teams spent some time at our high point overawed and silenced by the vastness and grandeur of the Antarctic vista around us.



1. Danco Island
2. Cuverville
3. Kerr Point (camping)
4. Orne Harbor
5. Neko Harbour
6. Brown Station (camping)
7. Skontorp zodiac cruise
8. Orne Island
9. Damoy Point (camping)
10. Lemaire Channel
11. Pleneau
12. Petermann Island
13. Jougla / Port Lockroy
14. Dorian Bay / Damoy
15. Foyen Harbour
16. Yankee Harbour
17. Half Moon Island



9,10,13

14

11,12

6,7,15

5

1,2,3,8

4

16,17

Crabeater Seal	<i>Labodon carcinophagus</i>				X				X					Krabbenfresserrobbe	Phoque crabier	Krabbeneter
Weddell Seal	<i>Leptonychotes weddelli</i>				X		X	X	X		X			Weddellrobbe	Phoque de Weddell	Weddell-zeehond
Southern Elephant Seal	<i>Mirounga leonin</i>								X		X			Südlicher Seeelefant	Éléphant de mer austral	Zuidelijke Zeeolifant
Antarctic Fur Seal	<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>													Antarktischer Seebär	Otarie à fourrure des Kerguelen	Antarctische Pelsrob
Southern Sea Lion	<i>Otaria flavescens</i>	X											x	Mähnenrobbe	Lion de mer d'Amérique du Sud	Patagonische Zeeleeuw

Mal Haskins - Expedition Leader



I've been calling the mountains and high ranges of the world my home now for the last 20 years. I really enjoying sharing my passion and enjoyment being outdoors with others so guiding was a natural progression for me. I work in various parts of the world in both summer and winter conditions taking people mountaineering and skiing and call Wanaka, New Zealand my home.

Over the years I've had a number of very memorable expeditions and have had the opportunity to summit a few of our 8000m Peaks, Lhotse (8516m) and Manaslu (8156m).

I had the chance to come down to work and experience the Antarctic Peninsula a few years ago and have been coming down each season now for the past 3 years.

I find all mountain ranges around the world special but with Antarctica there is extra magic – the wildlife, amazing glaciers, weather and the people you meet on these journeys – it's an experience you can't match anywhere else in the world.

I'm looking forward to sharing my joy of the mountains with you in this special place.

Felicity Johnson – Assistant Expedition Leader



Felicity, a marine biologist, commercial skipper, and guide, is driven by a strong commitment to marine mammal conservation. With a decade of experience, she has developed expertise in marine mammal research, including cetacean entanglement studies, biopsy collection and analysis, and global photo identification projects.

Currently residing in Vancouver, Canada, Felicity takes on several roles. She serves as an Environmental Educator at Sea Smart Schools, a non-profit organization focused on educating the next generation about the importance of our oceans and our changing climate. Additionally,

Felicity is a dedicated crew member and research assistant on board an Environment Canada research vessel, aligning with her mission to protect marine ecosystems.

Having grown up in Scotland, Felicity's appreciation for the outdoors grew during childhood holidays along the Scottish coast and hills. Her journey led her from teaching sailing during school breaks to pursuing a degree in marine biology. During her Master's degree, she earned certifications as a commercial skipper, marine mammal observer, advanced diver, and wilderness first aider.

This period also sparked Felicity's concern about marine pollution, prompting her to focus her professional and personal responsibilities in raising awareness, coordinating events, talks and organising clean-ups, all geared towards addressing the challenges posed by our changing climate.

Alexander Romanovskiy - Assistant Expedition Leader



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

In the year of 2011 however, Alexander decided to pause his scientific career and start doing something completely different, which means working in tourism and traveling the world. He spent 2 seasons working as a trekking guide in Fann mountains (Tajikistan), 1 season on Novolazarevskaya Antarctic scientific station (Queen Maud Land, Antarctica) working as a member of a guesthouse crew.

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

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

Mikhail Barabanov – Expedition Guide



Born in St Petersburg, Russia, but raised in Luxemburg, Mikhail now lives in Switzerland, where he delights in camping all over the local mountainscape.

He spent quite some time in the academic world, obtaining master's degrees in Marine Mammal Science and in Ecology and Nature Conservation. After working for several field seasons as a scientist in distant places on marine mammals and birds, he was keen to pursue a way to combine his passion for travelling, outreach and the higher

latitudes.

His deep interest for the polar regions was formed on a visit to Antarctica with Oceanwide in 2018 as part of a university course. At the time, he was stunned by the pristineness and the vibrance of life found in the Southern Ocean and wanted to find a way to return in a professional capacity. As he prefers the world's colder regions, Oceanwide provided the opportunity to immerse himself in the polar world.

No stranger to adverse weather and difficult living conditions, Mikhail is always looking to find places and moments that exude true calm and serenity. As an avid photographer and videographer, he is always seen carrying his gear around from place to place, trying to improve his craft and capture wildlife in their natural behaviour.

Usually in high spirits, he works as a guide on a variety of expeditions, on which he can be found always ready to help and looking to increase his savoir-faire in all things ocean and wildlife.

Anthonie Luteijn – Expedition guide



Anthonie is a passionate surfer and a life-long ocean lover. He loves to travel and discover different places around the world. He enjoys the cultural and nature diversities of different countries, and he likes to meet and connect with the people he meets along the way.

Anthonie grew up, right on the beach, in the southwestern coastal province of The Netherlands, called Zeeland. For his studies, he moved to Delft where he completed his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and his master's degree in Hydraulic Engineering at the Technical University of Delft. He has a coastal specialisation, which embraces a great interest in oceanography. During this study program, he took part in several projects around the world and conducted research on an artificial fish migration river in the Netherlands.

In the summer months, Antonie enjoys sharing his passion for the oceans as a surf coach. He sees the ocean as a diverse and unique place which feels like home. Out at sea on the ship he enjoys sharing this passion with everyone on board.

One of the projects he has done was on the plastic waste problem in Indonesia. By creating a real-world, coupled economic-environmental model, focusing on one of the plastic polluted rivers.

He is very much looking forward working as an expedition guide on board with Oceanwide this season. The polar regions are incredibly unique places in the world to visit. And Antonie thinks it is a privilege for everyone to take these life-long memories home and to share the experiences with family and friends!

Juan Berenstein – Expedition Guide



Juan is a professional photographer and drone pilot born in Ushuaia, Argentina. He is embarking on his first Antarctic Expedition Cruise with Oceanwide Expeditions.

He is a young and highly motivated person, who loves enjoying outdoors and on the mountains. His hobbies are trekking, camping, FPV drone flying and photography.

His passion for nature started at an early age with his family, who enjoyed the weekends camping at the end of the world and travelling around the country

on holidays. Nowadays he enjoys discovering new landscapes around the end of the Andes chain with his friends.

He studied photography in Buenos Aires and decided to return to his hometown to start his career and develop an independent way of life.

Juan has been working in tourism for more than 5 years in Ushuaia and has amazing skills related to guest management, being a sociable and talkative person. He speaks natively Spanish, English and some German as he did an exchange back in 2014 after finishing high school.

Going to Antarctica has been a lifetime dream of his, as being born at the southernmost city in the world and the nearest city to the white continent really set the path for the years to come. He plans on starting a Polar career learning from every aspect, from wildlife to history, and someday become an Expedition expert.

Ashleigh Kitchiner – Expedition Guide



Ashleigh is a passionate marine mammal specialist and environmental advocate. She is educated formally with a BSc. (Hons) Biology and MRes. Marine Mammal Genetics from the University of Chester, UK. Her enthusiasm started many years ago as a young girl and was further instilled when she saw her first wild bottlenose dolphins on an internship in the Bay of Biscay in 2016. She has been fortunate enough to work across the globe in a number of different roles and is extremely

excited to be visiting Antarctica with you and sharing this experience.

Academically, she has conducted research using stranding data and genetic samples to compile population genetics of long-finned pilot whales (*Globicephala melas*) across the British Isles. Spoiler alert, she couldn't identify any specific population dynamics in the UK population; however, she is delving deeper into their genetics to see if there are any other signatures to help solve this mystery.

After university she worked for a charity identifying marine mammals across the Hebrides, Scotland, UK. Now, Ashleigh balances working with the energy sector, creating mitigation strategies and implementing mitigation worldwide for marine mammals, with travelling to the polar regions as a guide and exploring remote places. During her career she has gained an in-depth understanding of marine mammal ecology, policy and legislation, underwater noise, bioacoustics, noise model interpretation and disturbance modelling.

Julia Angermeier - Expedition Guide



Julia was born Germany in a small village outside of Frankfurt.

She has always had a love of the outdoors. Camping, hiking, mountaineering, kayaking have been her favorite activities since her childhood.

She started her professional career as an Intensive Care Nurse in 1998 and finished her studies in 2003. She continues this profession today in her time off.

The majority of her time, however, is spent in Puerto Natales (Chile) where she works as a trekking and outdoor guide in Torres Del Paine Nationalpark and other regions in Patagonia some of the most remote and beautiful parts of the world.

In 2019 she started working as a camping- and expedition guide for Oceanwide Expeditions in Antarctica. From the first day on she fell in love with the beautiful and breathtaking nature of the deep south. Becoming a Polar guide was now her goal.

Julia's "Speciality" are still people...telling the known and unknown stories of the most interesting people in the history of exploration of the polar regions became her passion.

Another passion of her is connecting people with nature, and showing the beauty around them. Getting people away from their computers, social media and stress, and giving them a life changing experience.

Julia looks forward to sharing these amazing adventures with her guests on every trip.

Koen Jongerling - Expedition Guide



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

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

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

Bill Smith - Expedition Guide



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Carina Ketterer – Expedition Guide



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

Carinas favorite animal since childhood, was the penguin. In 2019 she finally hopped on a boat to the Antarctic to see them in their natural

habitat. That journey bore in her a new fascination with these cute animals and their dominion.

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

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

Saskia van der Meij – Expedition 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.

Moniek Mestrom – Expedition Guide



Moniek was born and raised in the Netherlands but as soon as she could, she started exploring the world. Since her first voyage to the Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica in 2017, on one of the Oceanwide vessels, she knew she had to spend much more time here!

Her love for the outdoors has taken her on plenty of adventures to many wonderful places in the world, from the cold Polar regions to the rainforests in South America, to the deserts in Central Asia etcetera. As you can tell, she likes the more remote places!

She currently lives in New Zealand, where she spends her days off hiking, mountainbiking, paddle boarding and luckily, dolphins and whales come say hi very close to the shore quite regularly.

She loves to keep learning more about the ice, the wildlife, the history, the life in the Polar regions in general and sharing these experiences with the passengers, crew and other staff. South Georgia is definitely one her favorite places in the whole world.

When she isn't travelling or working for Oceanwide you will find her at the Emergency Department, a complete opposite to the serene, calm and beautiful nature of the Polar regions.

If you didn't realise by now, she loves the sea and wildlife. So, make sure to join her out on deck, watching the beautiful animals and scenery all around the ship.

Matthias Kopp – Expedition Guide



Matthias live most of the year in Thuringia/ Germany. After school he started an apprenticeship to become a wholesale dealer but decided after a couple of years settled work right next to the home village, to do a great step in direction uncertainty. He started studying biology at the University in Jena. Matthias' main interests were Ecology and Ornithology. He wrote a diploma thesis about the breeding biology of Antarctic Skuas in the area of the Antarctic Peninsula. But also after that degree,

Matthias kept on studying those impressive animals for a couple of years. While studying both, his interest and his network brought Matthias all over the world. Thereby most impressive for him were the Polar Regions. Matthias stayed for his studies with the Skuas in total 5 summer seasons at Antarctic bases and meanwhile 10 seasons in the high Arctic as a Tour guide onboard vessels.

Currently Matthias is predominantly settled, based again in the village of his childhood, but now with wife, 3 young girls, 2 cats, a couple of bee colonies and a wide-ranging garden, who all need him. However, his wife knows that for Matthias the high summer in Germany is much too warm. For that reason, he is together with you in the high north – also to escape the heat.

Alexis Bellezze – Expedition Guide



Alexis Bellezze was born in San Luis, Argentina in 1973. He spent his childhood in the center of the country, in a rural area, then moved to the city of Mendoza close to the Central Andes and studied in the Army High School where he fell in love with the mountains and the outdoors. Then moved to Cordoba where he spent 3 years in the Air Force Academy. After that he moved to Italy where he worked and finished a paragliding course, then returned to Argentina to finish his studies as a Veterinarian. In 2006, he did a Residency in the ICU Service of the Large Animal Hospital of the Royal

“Dick” Veterinary College in Edinburgh, Scotland. In 2006 and 2008 he did an internship as a veterinarian surgeon at Milano, Italy. Then he moved to Villa La Angostura, an isolated village in the middle of the Patagonian Lake District where he works as a veterinarian surgeon and runs a kayak company in the Nahuel Huapi National Park.

Since 2018 he has been working as a Polar Kayak Guide and Expedition Guide. He has guided in the Antarctic Peninsula many times, reaching the Antarctic Polar Circle, Svalbard, circumnavigated Spitzbergen, East coast of Greenland and many rivers and lakes in Patagonia. During the last years he travelled the south and north of Chile and Argentina as a Wilderness First Responder instructor working in different environments like the jungle, the Patagonian mountain range, the windy Patagonian estepa and the desert of Atacama. Since 2014 Alexis is the owner and Director of endurance kayak & mountain expeditions based in Patagonia Argentina, offering multiple days kayak trips in this pristine area.

Alexis is divorced, has 3 children and lives in Patagonia Argentina. He likes to cook for them with fire in the wilderness and go camping when is possible.

He speaks fluently Spanish, Italian and English.

Jonny Baird - Mountain Leader



Jonny Baird started climbing and skiing where he grew up on the West coast of Scotland.

Jonny is based in the French Alps, close to the Chamonix Valley, and has been living and working there as an IFMGA Mountain Guide since 2005.

In winter Jonny guides on skis locally in France and neighbouring Italy and Switzerland with usually one or two trips each year taking clients further afield. This has included ski mountaineering trips to Arctic Norway, Greenland, Lofoten Islands and the Troll peninsula in Iceland.

In November 2017 Jonny worked as a mountaineering guide from the ship Ortelius in the Antarctic Peninsula, he then returned to the Antarctic Peninsula in January 2019 and November 2019 again as a mountaineering guide.

In summer Jonny takes clients mountaineering and climbing drawing on his vast experience of climbing in the last 30 years. He has had a vast variety of work over the years including Television, film and photography safety work in the mountains.

Jonny has travelled, climbed and skied all over the world over the years visiting all the continents.

Jonny is a member of the BMG British Mountain Guides where he was a committee member for a number of years, he is also a member of the SNGM Syndicat National Guides De Montagne.

Owain Jones – Mountain Guide



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.

Edward Bekker – Mountain Guide



Edward Bekker (Rotterdam, 1961) grew up in the south of the Netherlands, but from an early age his favorite place was in the mountains. His dream came true when he was admitted to mountain guide training at the Technical University in Munich and since 1987 he has been a 'state-certified mountain and ski guide'; So he was definitely one of the first UIAGM/IVBV certified mountain guides from a non-Alpine country!

Since then he has been out and about in the mountains every day. For more than 15 years, Edward has specialized

in freeride ski guiding, ski touring and heli skiing in the arctic areas of Iceland, Norway, Svalbard, Sweden and Greenland, the Swiss Alps and Canada.

He participated in worldwide expeditions to the Himalayas, the Andes of South America, Antarctica and Alaska. Twice he was Expedition Leader on a UIAA International Expedition for high performance young climbers, exploring remote locations in Pakistan and China and opening many new routes in rock and ice.

Edward lives with his family in western Switzerland in the small Valais mountain village of Finhaut-Emosson, which is strategically located between the Mont Blanc massif and the Valais four-thousanders, where he and his partner run their own mountain school and mountain lodge.

Edward is always curious to meet new people and bring them to the mountains in a safe and enjoyable way. In addition to English, German, French and Dutch, he also speaks a Limburg dialect and also understands a little Italian, Spanish, Swedish and Norwegian.

Dave Rudkin – Mountain guide



Dave is an avid, lifelong enthusiast of climbing, alpinism, and skiing. He loves nothing more than questing into the unknown, whether that's on remote expeditions around the globe or exploring the mountains in his back garden of Snowdonia. He's travelled the world and experienced some of the best climbing and skiing there is, and is still thirsty for more. Dave has spent the last 30 years having adventures, with trips and expeditions to Pakistan, Kyrgyzstan, Greenland, Alaska, USA, Canada, New Zealand, and Australia. He's also explored the mountains of Europe extensively, in particular France,

Switzerland, Italy, Austria, Norway, and Spain. He especially loves climbing on the sea cliffs of the British Isles, the granite big-walls of Yosemite and Arctic Greenland, and skiing fresh powder snow from summit to sea in Arctic Norway.

Dave's interest has grown deeply in the polar and mountain environment: the flora and fauna, and the geography and geology.

Dave is as psyched about guiding and teaching as he is about doing it himself, and he loves seeing people challenged, achieving their goals, visiting places they might not ordinarily go to, and having fun in wild places.

Dave has guided and instructed since completing his first qualification in the late 90's, and is now involved in the delivery of training of new Mountain Guides and Instructors.

He is qualified as a IFMGA Mountain and Ski Guide as well as a Summer and Winter Mountaineering Instructor (WMCI).

David Horkan - Kayak Leader



David is one of Ireland's most accomplished kayakers, with a passion for pushing the boundaries of the sport. A skilled guide, coach, and athlete, David excels in multiple disciplines, including whitewater rivers, surfing, and long-distance racing. In 2022, he made history as the first ever Irishman to win the prestigious Devizes to Westminster international kayak race.

Growing up on the West Coast of Ireland, David began kayaking at the age of 12 and quickly developed a love for the sport. After taking a break during university, he returned to kayaking with renewed vigor,

seeking out new challenges and exploring the world through his love of the water.

As a professional kayaker, David has also set records for the fastest team to kayak around Vancouver Island and the fastest crossing of the Irish Sea. In addition to his competitive achievements, David has also guided kayaking expeditions in remote locations such as Patagonia, Antarctica, Iceland, Greenland, and the Faroe Islands.

In addition to his kayaking expertise, David is also a certified Canoeing Ireland instructor in whitewater, paddle surfing, and sea kayaking. He is also an ISKGA Advanced Guide and a Leave No Trace trainer, making him well-equipped to share his love of the outdoors with others. When not on the water, David is an avid kitesurfer, cyclist, and stand-up paddleboarder.

David is also a technical consultant for Online Sea Kayaking and partners with leading brands such as Aquabound and Kokatat. Through his knowledge and experience, he helps these companies develop and improve their products, ensuring the best possible experience for kayakers around the world.

Matt Hawkins – Kayak Guide



Matt is lucky enough to be one of the 'Expedition Guides' for Oceanwide Expeditions.

He has been playing in the mountains since childhood. He has fond memories of his dad taking him for hikes in the hills and learning to rock climb, first indoors, then on the sea cliffs of Pembrokeshire and the Gower.

He and his climbing partner booked an instructor to take them for winter climbing in Scotland when they were only 16 years old. This was the birth of his passion for climbing in the snow and ice.

Since, he climbed all over the UK and Europe with a few trips further afield, but the winter is the time of year he enjoys the most.

In his 20's he took up kayaking and canoeing. Again, this passion has led him to some stunning parts of the world.

He is now based in North Wales and works as a full-time professional mountaineering instructor and paddling coach. He heads up to Scotland to teach ice/mixed climbing and mountaineering in the winter.

As part of his work, he spends a good amount of time delivering a range of hill walking, climbing and mountaineering instructor courses and assessments. At last count he has dug and stayed in over 35 snow holes! Despite that, he still loves it.

He is an extremely experienced, passionate, and driven outdoor professional. He takes great pride in all his work and continually try to push his delivery to new levels.

Charlotte Knowles -Ships Doctor



Charlotte is an emergency medicine doctor in the UK who currently works full time as a senior emergency medicine registrar within the National Health Service. She has extensive experience in emergency medicine as well as experience in pediatric medicine and trauma and orthopedic surgery.

After completed her primary medical qualification at the University of Sheffield in 2013 she has spent the past 10 years fostering a career in pre-hospital and expedition medicine. She has completed expeditions to Everest Basecamp and Mt Kilimanjaro and regularly works as the

expedition medical lead for both UK and international expeditions and events.

Alongside a full-time NHS career Charlotte is also a registered doctor with the Medical Equestrian Society, an associated lecturer with Buckinghamshire New University and an instructor in Advanced Life Support with the Resus Council UK. She also volunteers with her local air-ambulance charity providing teaching and training to critical-care paramedics.

Outside of her medical duties Charlotte enjoys travel and adventure: as a keen diver, snowboarder, high-altitude hiker and equestrian she tries to incorporate her love of adventure and the outdoors with her demanding day job.

WELCOME ABOARD!

Luggage will be delivered to your cabin. Please make check to make sure you have received all your luggage. If you have any extra luggage in your cabin – please notify a crew member.

**** Tea and coffee are always available in the lounge on deck 5 ****

±1715 **Welcome & safety briefing** - Please join us in the **lounge** (deck 5, forward) for a welcome to the voyage, followed by a **mandatory** safety briefing and lifeboat drill.

Lifeboat Drill

All guests accommodated on Deck 3 (Cabins 301-337) will go to MUSTER STATION A which is the Restaurant on Deck 4

All guests accommodated on decks 4, 6, and 7 will go to MUSTER STATION B which is the Observation Lounge on Deck 5

±1800 **Departure from Ushuaia.**
The bridge will be closed during these operations.

1830 **Expedition Introduction & Captain's Welcome** – Please join us in the **lounge** (deck 5) for an introduction to the expedition, a welcome to your new home from the Hotel manager, the captain's toast and to meet your expedition team.

1930 **Buffet dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4)

We will sail into open sea this evening and the ship may move – please secure your belongings and be careful when moving around the ship.

Take your seasickness medication before we head out into open sea- the doctor will be available in the lounge after dinner to assist.

- 0745 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning!
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 0915 **Zodiac & IAATO Briefing** - Please join us in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our **mandatory** zodiac and IAATO briefings.
- 1100 **Muck Boots** - We will call you by colour group to collect your Muck boots from the boot room on **deck 3**. *Please bring your thick socks to make sure you have the perfect fit! **Please listen for announcements.***
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400 **Biosecurity:** We will call you by colour groups to **deck 3** to complete our biosecurity cleaning – please bring all your outerwear, backpacks, footwear and tripods/walking sticks to be cleaned and/or checked. *Please listen for announcements.*
- 1630 **Marine Mammals in Antarctica** - Please join Ashleigh in the **lounge** (deck 5) for her lecture about living beings that look at our ship from below.
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the **lounge** (deck 5) for our first daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).



Antarctica Basecamp
Wednesday 15th November 2023
At Sea to Antarctica

0715 **Wakeup Call** – Good Morning :)

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).

If you would like to take part in kayaking, camping and mountaineering, you must attend the activity's mandatory briefings. Please listen for announcements.

0830 **Kayaking Briefing** - please join the team in the lounge if you would like to go kayaking.

0930 **Camping Briefing** - please join the team in the lounge if you would like to go camping.

1100 **Mountaineering Briefing** – If you have your own mountaineering boots/gear, please bring it along to the briefing for the staff to check.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).

1330 **(REPEAT ONLY) IAATO/Zodiac Briefing & Biosecurity**– This is the final opportunity in the lounge, for anyone who missed yesterday's mandatory IAATO/Zodiac Briefings and biosecurity. You must attend if you would like to join activities off the ship.

1400 **Activities Sign Up** - We will call you by **COLOUR GROUP** to the **lecture room**, to sign up for the activities you plan to do in Antarctica. If you wish to Mountaineer, please sign up for this activity first, then camping and lastly kayaking. ***Please listen for announcements and stick to your colour group.***

1630 **Antarctic Penguins** - Please join Carina in the **lounge** (deck 5) for her lecture exploring the penguins we are likely to encounter on our voyage.

1815 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition Team in **the lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4)

2030 **Photography Workshop** – Please join Juan in the lecture room for an introduction to photography and how to maximise your skills throughout this voyage!

- 0645 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to land and zodiac cruise at Danco, a small island in the Errera channel surrounded by icebergs and home to several gentoo penguin rookeries. We will swap colour groups onshore mid-morning. In addition, we hope to offer a **polar plunge** at the end of the landing, please wear your polar swimsuit/trunks under your clothing this morning and **DO NOT TAKE TOWELS FROM YOUR CABINS** – we will bring towels!*

- 0745 **Mountaineers** – Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0830 The **Yellow** and **Green** group – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a landing at Danco Island.
0845 The **Blue** and **Red** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3) for a zodiac cruise at Danco Island.
0900 **Kayaking** - Please come to the of the **zodiac boarding area**.
1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*This afternoon we hope to offer you a landing and zodiac cruise at **Cuverville Island** – one of the largest Gentoo Penguin colonies on the Peninsula.*

- 1400 **Mountaineers** – Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1430 The **Blue** and **Yellow** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Cuverville.
1445 The **Red** and **Green** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise in the surrounding bay of Cuverville.
1500 **Kayakers** – Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1830 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.
1900 **Dinner** served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!
+/-2045 **Camping** – We will confirm whether camping will proceed once we have assessed conditions. Standby for announcements.

0645 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

This morning we hope to offer a landing and zodiac cruise at Orne Harbour – A continental landing with Chinstrap Penguins. On the zodiac cruise, we hope to spot lots of wildlife, as well as beautiful icebergs.

0730 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.

0800 The **Yellow** and **Blue** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Orne Harbour.

0815 The **Green** and **Red** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Orne Harbour.

0830 **Kayaking** - Please come to the of the **zodiac boarding area**.

1200 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

In the afternoon we aim to land and cruise at Neko Harbour– a continental landing surrounded by towering glaciers, panoramic Antarctic views and home to Gentoo penguins. We will then swap through the afternoon.

+/- 1400 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.

+/- 1430 The **Green** and **Red** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Neko Harbour.

+/- 1445 The **Yellow** and **Blue** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Danco island.

+/- 1500 **Kayaking** - Please come to the of the **zodiac boarding area**.

1830 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.

1900 **Dinner** served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

+/-2045 **Camping** – We will confirm whether camping will proceed once we have assessed conditions. Standby for announcements

- 0645 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room.** (Mountaineers please go first!)

Skontorp Cove is a cove within Paradise Harbour, an aptly named bay that is home to the Almirante Brown Scientific Station. We have the opportunity to see multiple penguin species, cetaceans and beautiful ice whilst on our full zodiac cruise.

- 0725 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area.**
0800 **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area.**
0800 The **Green** and **Yellow** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for your zodiac cruise.
0815 The **Red** and **Blue** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise.
1200 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room.**

This afternoon we hope to offer a landing and zodiac cruise at Orne Island with beautiful Antarctic scenery and the chance of spotting Chinstrap Penguins!

- 1315 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area.**
1400 The **Red** and **Yellow** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Orne Island.
1415 The **Green** and **Blue** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Orne Island.
1430 **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area.**
1815 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.
1900 **Dinner** served in the **dining room.** Bon Appetit!
+/-2045 **Camping** – We will confirm whether camping will proceed once we have assessed conditions. Standby for announcements.

*This morning approximately +/- 0700, we hope to transit through the spectacular **Lemaire Channel** before arriving at Pleneau. Many photographers describe this channel as the 'Kodak Gap', considered one of Antarctica's most photogenic passages. Please head out on deck and enjoy!*

- 0645 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to do a full zodiac cruise in **Salpetriere Bay**, between Pleneau and Port Charcot, one of Antarctica's most spectacular "iceberg graveyards". (Sasha prefers calling this place "The Garden of Icebergs".)*

- 0845 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0915 **Kayaking** - Please come to the forward shell door **zodiac boarding area**.
0920 The **Red** and the **Green** group - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for your zodiac cruise.
0930 The **Blue** and the **Yellow** group - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise.

1300 **Lunch** will be served in the dining room.

This afternoon we aim to land and cruise at Petermann Island. The island hosts one of the northernmost Adélie penguin colonies, as well as one of the southernmost Gentoo penguin colonies.

- 1415 **Kayaking** - Please come to the forward shell door **zodiac boarding area**.
1430 The **Blue** and the **Yellow** group - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing.
1445 The **Red** and the **Green** group - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise.

1815 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the lounge

1900 Special Antarctic Dinner will be served – don't forget to dress warmly!

- 0645 **Wake up call.** Good morning!
0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*This morning we hope to offer a landing at **Jougla Point**, a zodiac cruise and time on board *Hondius* at the UKAHT pop-up shop and post office!
Please stick to your colour groups!
All colour groups will rotate and enjoy **all three locations**.*

- 0745 **Mountaineers** - Please come (dressed & ready to go) to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0815 **Kayaking** - Please come to the forward shell door **zodiac boarding area**.
0820 **Blue group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Jougla
0830 **Yellow group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise.
0845 **Red** and **Green** group – Please enjoy a presentation **in the lounge**, by the UKAHT team and then the pop-up shop and post office.
1015 **Red group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Jougla.
1020 **Green group** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise.
1030 **Blue** and **Yellow** – Please enjoy a presentation **in the lounge**, by the UKAHT team and then the pop-up shop and post office.
1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*In the afternoon we hope to land and cruise at **Damoy point**. Here we hope to enjoy gentoo penguins, a long walk to a historic hut and stunning Antarctic scenery.*

- 1400 **Kayakers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1415 The **Blue** and **Yellow** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Damoy Point.
1430 The **Red** and **Green** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Damoy point.
1815 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.
1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

- 1200 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1330 **Antarctica Documentary** - Please join the expedition team in the lounge for a viewing of 'Antarctica' from 'Seven Worlds, one Planet', a documentary series narrated by David Attenborough
- 1500 **Whaling in the Polar Regions** - Please join Bill in the **Lounge** to learn more about the history of commercial whaling in these icy waters.
- 1630 Please join the expedition team in the lounge and out on deck to enjoy the incredible views of ice-capped mountains with a special icy treat!
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** served in the **dining room**.

0645 **Wake up call.** Good morning!

0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

This morning we hope to offer a landing and a cruise at Yankee Harbour, a wonderful natural harbour surrounded by glaciers. It's almost perfect safe anchor for ships, which is why it was used by sealers for many years, and it is now home to a 4000 strong colony of gentoo penguins.

0815 **Red** and **Green** -Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Yankee Harbour.

0830 **Blue** and **Yellow** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise at Yankee Harbour.

1200 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

This afternoon we hope to land at Half Moon Island, home to the Argentine Cámara Base. The island also supports a wide range of seabirds including a breeding colony of Chinstrap penguins.

1315 The **Blue** and **Yellow** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing at Half Moon Island

1330 The **Red** and **Green** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise around Half Moon Island.

1815 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in **the lounge** for our daily recap.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**. Bon Appetit!

This evening we will sail into open water – please secure your belongings and take your seasickness medication as required. Please remember to keep one hand for the ship and take care when moving around. We may need to close the outer decks – please pay attention to the signs on the outer doors.

No wakeup call – Have a lovely morning!

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

0930 **Photo Editing Workshop** – Please join Misha in the lecture room to learn how to create the best edit of your photographs from the voyage!

1100 **Yamanas – The Indigenous of Tierra del Fuego** – Please join Alexis in the lounge to learn about those who inhabited the archipelago in the past.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*After lunch you will receive your bill in your cabin. We will call you by deck to make payments at reception – **Please listen for announcements.***

1400 **Around Cape Horn** – Don't miss the chance to watch this documentary dated with 1920's footage of incredible bravery of sailing through these rebellious waters!

1500 **How to Reach Antarctica** – Please join Sasha in the lounge to hear his story of conquering the white continent!

1630 **Climate**

1815 **Farewell Toast & Trip Slideshow** - Please join the Captain and the expedition team in the **lounge** for a toast to our voyage through the Southern Ocean and a slideshow of our expedition.

1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.

No wakeup call – Have a lovely morning!

0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

0930 **Photo Editing Workshop** – Please join Misha in the lecture room to learn how to create the best edit of your photographs from the voyage!

1100 **Yamanas – The Indigenous People of Tierra del Fuego** – Please join Alexis in the lounge to learn about those who inhabited the archipelago in the past.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*After lunch you will receive your bill in your cabin. We will call you by deck to make payments at reception – **Please listen for announcements.***

1400 **Around Cape Horn** – Don't miss the chance to watch this documentary dated with 1920's footage of incredible bravery of sailing through these rebellious waters!

1500 **How to Reach Antarctica** – Please join Sasha in the lounge to hear his story of how he conquered the white continent!

1630 **Anthropogenic and Cyclical Climate Change** – Please join Mal in the lounge to learn about how humans are altering our climate and what we can do about it.

1800 **Farewell Toast & Trip Slideshow** - Please join the Captain and the expedition team in the **lounge** for a toast to our voyage through the Southern Ocean and a slideshow of our expedition.

1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.



Antarctica Basecamp
Saturday 25th November 2023
Disembarkation - Ushuaia

0715 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning!

0730 - 0830 **Breakfast** will be served in the dining room.

Please place your large/check-in luggage outside your cabin no later than 0730. During breakfast we will collect your luggage and deposit it on the pier where it will be your responsibility to identify and collect each item.

0830-0900 **Disembarkation – Please listen for announcements.** We will inform you once we have been cleared by local authorities. Once clearance has been completed, we will invite you to the gangway to disembark Hondius.

*Upon disembarkation, **please identify and collect your luggage** from the pier and;*

- 1. Take it with you into Ushuaia and walk into town.*
- 2. Put it on the airport bus and get on the bus.*
- 3. Put it in the luggage truck.*
- 4. If you have arranged your own transport – please take your luggage*

***On behalf of all at Oceanwide Expeditions and all on board Hondius we thank you for a truly incredible expedition.
Safe travels home.***