

Underwater Log HDS29-26 / 16.02.2026 – 10.03.2026

On February 16th, 2026, a very special trip to the Falkland Islands, South Georgia, and Antarctica began for a group of 22 women. In collaboration with Blue Green Expeditions, Breaking Boundaries—an all-female group of scientists, artists, image makers, and explorers—ran a leadership program and ocean research mission. Each participant had her own research focus: some performed fieldwork such as sampling and analysis, others operated an ROV (Remotely Operated Vehicle) to explore the seafloor, and some specialized in photography, art, and more.

During the voyage, the group had the opportunity to dive and/or snorkel at 23 unique sites. Wearing warm drysuits, they could stay in the water for up to 60 minutes and later continue with Zodiac cruises or landings. The coldest water temperature was -1.8°C in Antarctica and the warmest around 12°C in the Falkland Islands. For safety, the maximum dive depth was limited to 20 meters, though most dives ranged from 6 to 12 meters.



Underwater Log:

Site	Saunders Island – Falkland Islands	
Activity No.	1	
Date	18.02.2026 - AM	
Coordinates	S 51° 18' 33.18" W 60° 14' 34.08"	
In-Water Team	3 Divers	12 Snorkelers

Exciting times as the Seawomen Expedition group headed out for their first operation at Saunders Island in the Falklands. For the divers, this first immersion was a mandatory checkout dive, allowing them to get used to the environment and the specialized equipment required in these regions.

The snorkelers also took time to adjust to the new conditions. Exploring these cold waters for the first time was thrilling, with plenty of small marine life hidden among the kelp. After the in-water activities, the group continued with the regular program—which, on Saunders Island, included their first onshore encounter with penguins.



Site	Carcass Island – Falkland Islands	
Activity No.	2	
Date	18.02.2026 - PM	
Coordinates	S 51° 17' 55.54" W 60° 33' 27.21"	
In-Water Team	3 Divers	2 Snorkelers

In the afternoon, most of the group chose to participate in the shore excursion. However, a small number still went diving or snorkeling. Visibility was slightly poorer than in the morning, but the water temperature was warmer. Among the kelp forest, they spotted snails, crabs, and sea stars.



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Site	Stanley – Falkland Islands
Activity No.	3
Date	19.02.2026 - AM
Coordinates	S 51° 41' 42" W 57° 51' 02"
In-Water Team	No in-water activity
In Stanley, the capital of the Falkland Islands, everyone went ashore and no diving or snorkeling activities took place.	

Site	Right Whale Bay – South Georgia	
Activity No.	4	
Date	22.02.2026 - AM	
Coordinates	S 54° 00' 00" W 37° 40' 59"	
In-Water Team	2 Divers	10 Snorkelers

The first morning in South Georgia greeted the team with beautiful conditions. Two divers and ten snorkelers entered the cold water and were rewarded with an incredible King Penguin encounter—hundreds of penguins jumping and diving around them.

Meanwhile, the ROV team launched the ROV for its first test dive to ensure everything was functioning properly and to gain familiarity with its controls. They reached a depth of 17.5 meters and were visited by a curious fur seal on their ascent. An amazing start to the South Georgia operations.



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Site	Salisbury Plain – South Georgia	
Activity No.	5	
Date	22.02.2026 - PM	
Coordinates	S 54° 2' 51.49" W 37° 19' 57.59"	
In-Water Team	2 Divers	

Three divers were initially scheduled for the dive, but due to a mix-up with the BCDs, only two were able to participate. Visibility in the kelp forest was not ideal, but they still spotted sea stars, brittle stars, and isopods. After the dive, everyone enjoyed going ashore to experience the spectacular king penguin colony that Salisbury Plain is famous for.



Site	Hercules Bay – South Georgia	
Activity No.	6	
Date	23.02.2026 - AM	
Coordinates	S 54° 7' 19.79" W 36° 40' 9.13"	
In-Water Team	3 Divers	10 Snorkelers

Hercules Bay is a small, scenic bay named after the Norwegian whale catcher Hercules that operated there in the early 20th century. The divers explored a rock wall covered by a beautiful kelp forest, home to hundreds of sea stars, limpets, and sea snails. Visibility was excellent, with some divers describing it as their favorite dive in South Georgia. The snorkelers had a great time as well, exploring kelp-filled waters and receiving visits from playful fur seals. After both groups completed their activities, they enjoyed the dramatic scenery during a Zodiac cruise.





Site	Grytviken – South Georgia
Activity No.	7
Date	23.02.2026 - PM
Coordinates	S 54° 16' 53" W 36° 30' 29"
In-Water Team	No in-water activity
<p>In Grytviken, everyone enjoyed the sunny afternoon onshore, and no in-water activities were conducted. Grytviken, once a Norwegian whaling station, still shows remnants of its industrial past. It is also known as the resting place of explorer Sir Ernest Shackleton, where the group gathered for a group photo.</p>	



Site	Fortuna Bay – South Georgia	
Activity No.	8	
Date	24.02.2026 - AM	
Coordinates	S 54° 8' 56.77" W 36° 48' 35.82"	
In-Water Team	3 Divers	5 Snorkelers

Only a few participants chose to enter the water that morning. Unfortunately, visibility was too poor for a proper dive, so the divers decided to cancel and return to the surface. Nearby, the snorkelers spent time with several inquisitive fur seals, so the divers joined them enjoying the surface time, before heading ashore at Fortuna Bay.



Site	Stromness – South Georgia	
Activity No.	9	
Date	24.02.2026 - PM	
Coordinates	S 54° 9' 16.42" W 36° 42' 6.89"	
In-Water Team	2 Divers	

The weather initially looked unfavorable for afternoon operations, but conditions improved as the ship reached Stromness. Many guests chose to go ashore to walk the “Shackleton Walk,” retracing the final section of the famed crossing undertaken by Shackleton, Tom Crean, and Frank Worsley.

Two divers, however, opted for an underwater adventure in this historic bay. They encountered hundreds of sea stars, a Flabellina nudibranch, several sea spiders, and even a seal carcass resting on the seafloor—an unusual but memorable sight.

Site	Gold Harbour – South Georgia	
Activity No.	10	
Date	25.02.2026 - AM	
Coordinates	S 54° 37' 14.29" W 35° 55' 39.62"	
In-Water Team	3 Divers	10 Snorkelers

The final morning in South Georgia began at Gold Harbour, known for its huge King Penguin colony. Three divers explored a kelp forest just outside the bay. Visibility was not the best, but they still observed sea stars, limpets, and snails, and were visited by a curious fur seal toward the end of the dive.

The snorkelers also enjoyed interactions with a group of playful fur seals, and some were even lucky enough to spot a King Penguin underwater. After the water activities, the group took a short Zodiac cruise before their final landing in South Georgia, where roughly 50,000 breeding pairs of King Penguins reside.



Site	Cooper Bay – South Georgia
Activity No.	11
Date	25.02.2026 - PM
Coordinates	S 54° 46' 48" W 35° 48' 24"
In-Water Team	3 Snorkeler

The final operation in South Georgia took place in the afternoon. It was the perfect opportunity to redeploy the ROV for another test run, allowing the team to troubleshoot and prepare for future missions. The ROV became briefly tangled in kelp but was safely recovered.

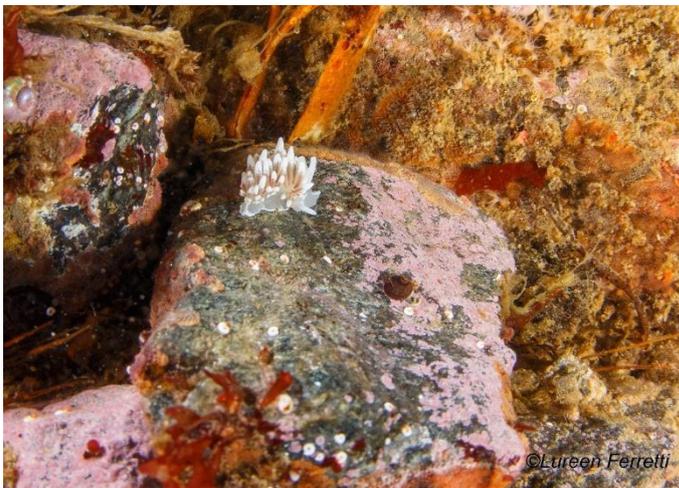
The snorkelers explored the shoreline, accompanied by a group of curious fur seals and watched by several enormous elephant seals resting on the beach. When a young elephant seal approached the water, the snorkelers decided to end their session out of caution. A scenic Zodiac cruise closed out their time in South Georgia as the ship continued south toward the South Orkney Islands.



Site	Signy Island – South Orkney Island	
Activity No.	12	
Date	27.02.2026 - AM	
Coordinates	S 60° 43' 2.13" W 45° 35' 45.44"	
In-Water Team	3 Divers	10 Snorkelers

The morning brought a beautiful, Antarctic-like scenery—an exciting first glimpse of the far south. Divers explored an area filled with small marine life, including sea spiders, numerous nudibranchs, and sea stars.

The snorkelers completed their first snorkeling session beside a small iceberg while the ROV team captured footage from a different perspective. Afterward, some participants went ashore to step foot on Signy Island, before the ship continued its journey south.



Site	Point Wild – Elephant Island
Activity No.	13
Date	28.02.2026 - PM
Coordinates	S 61° 5' 57.49" W 54° 51' 24.86"
In-Water Team	3 Divers

Point Wild is the famous landing site where Shackleton’s men finally reached land after months trapped on sea ice. The area is extremely exposed, and conditions often prevent activity, but this afternoon they were good enough for a Zodiac cruise and a dive. Snorkeling conditions were too rough, but the divers descended to about 15 meters, still feeling the powerful swell beneath them. They explored a wall overgrown with kelp and found nudibranchs and Antarctic salps drifting through the water. Surfacing from such a rare dive site left everyone smiling—it’s not a place many people ever get to dive.



Site	Kinnes Cove – Antarctica
Activity No.	14
Date	01.03.2026 - AM
Coordinates	S 63° 19' 4.05" W 56° 29' 52.57"
In-Water Team	2 Divers

The morning began with true Antarctic weather: wind and snowfall. Not ideal for snorkeling, but two divers still ventured out to find a sheltered area suitable for diving. Before entering the water, they spotted a Leopard Seal passing by and hoped it might return during the dive. Unfortunately, it did not come back. They still went ahead with the dive and found themselves next to a small wall covered in kelp, where they also discovered small marine life.

The ROV team also attempted a deployment, but due to worsening conditions, they decided to stop the operation for safety reasons.



Site	Brown Bluff – Antarctica	
Activity No.	15	
Date	01.03.2026 - PM	
Coordinates	S 63° 31' 11.27" W 56° 53' 15.93"	
In-Water Team	17 Snorkelers	
<p>Wind conditions improved significantly during the crossing to Brown Bluff, allowing the first continental landing of the expedition. As the dive site here is limited, most of the group chose to snorkel. The water was calm and exceptionally clear, and one highlight was the chance to climb onto a floating piece of ice—an unforgettable moment.</p>		

Site	Elephant Point – South Shetland Islands	
Activity No.	16	
Date	02.03.2026 - AM	
Coordinates	S 62° 41' 18.39" W 60° 50' 49.06"	
In-Water Team	2 Divers	1 Snorkeler
<p>A small group explored the waters of Elephant Point, a promontory in the southern South Shetlands. The dive site was shallow with limited visibility, but the divers still enjoyed the experience. The sole snorkeler of the session, supervised by the guide, appreciated the solitude and the peaceful atmosphere. They concluded with a Zodiac cruise before returning to the ship.</p>		

Site	Whalers Bay, Deception Island – South Shetland Islands	
Activity No.	17	
Date	02.03.2026 - PM	
Coordinates	S 62° 58' 44.55" W 60° 33' 21.03"	
In-Water Team	2 Divers	
<p>The divers had the opportunity to explore Deception Island, a volcanic caldera rich with whaling history. Whale bones still lie on the seafloor, creating an eerie reminder of the past. The site also featured soft corals and many brittle stars covering the bottom.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the ROV team embarked on a mission outside the bay to search for hydrothermal vents and volcanic features. They found several geological formations, sponges, flatworms, and dense clusters of brittle stars.</p> <p>Afterward, everyone who wished participated in a polar plunge—a refreshing leap into the icy waters of Deception Island.</p>		

Site	Paradise Bay - Antarctica
Activity No.	18
Date	03.03.2026 - AM
Coordinates	S 64° 52' 49.70" W 62° 50' 44.94"
In-Water Team	2 Divers

Paradise Bay lived up to its name with stunning conditions: sunshine and blue skies. The divers descended along the “Shag Wall,” named for the shags nesting above. The wall featured an impressive variety of marine life, including sea stars, nudibranchs, and Antarctic sun stars among the kelp.

The divers surfaced with huge smiles, excited from an incredible dive, and then joined a Zodiac cruise to explore the surrounding area.



Site	Danco Island - Antarctica	
Activity No.	19	
Date	03.03.2026 - PM	
Coordinates	S 64° 43' 30.85" W 62° 37' 13.32"	
In-Water Team	3 Divers	13 Snorkelers

This was the expedition’s first iceberg dive and snorkel session in Antarctica. Before entering the water, the team carefully assessed the iceberg to ensure it was stable and safe. Once cleared, the group entered the water to explore this unique environment.

The ROV was also deployed to capture footage in beautiful light. Two snorkelers assisted by swimming near the ROV for surface shots of the team as well as from the ROV itself. After the operations, a special surprise awaited—two snorkelers encountered a leopard seal in the water.



Site	Melchior – Antarctica
Activity No.	20
Date	04.03.2026 - AM
Coordinates	S 64° 19' 33" W 62° 58' 36"
In-Water Team	No in-water activity
Several snorkelers and divers were prepared to enter the water near Melchior Island, but as the Zodiac approached the site, visibility proved too poor. The activity was canceled, and the group instead enjoyed a Zodiac cruise.	

Site	Detaille Island - Antarctica
Activity No.	21
Date	05.03.2026 - AM
Coordinates	S 66° 52' 16.97" W 66° 47' 35.67"
In-Water Team	3 Divers
On the morning of March 5th, the ship crossed the Antarctic Circle. The divers headed out for a dive near Detaille Island, where conditions offered excellent visibility. The dive site followed a wall rich with anemones, sponges, and numerous isopods, with a few fish moving through the cold water. Upon returning to the Zodiac, the Dive Guide radioed the bridge with the message: “Three happy divers out of the water.” – That’s a statement I would say!	



Site	Crystal Sound - Antarctica	
Activity No.	22	
Date	05.03.2026 - PM	
Coordinates	S 67° 2' 30.41" W 67° 29' 4.13"	
In-Water Team	3 Divers	

In the afternoon, the team conducted their southernmost dive of the expedition, exploring an iceberg in Crystal Sound. Visibility was excellent, and the combination of sunlight and ice created incredible lighting conditions.

The snorkelers were prepared to enter the water but decided to stay in the Zodiac and enjoy the scenery from above.



Site	Salpetriere Bay, Port Charcot - Antarctica	
Activity No.	23	
Date	06.03.2026 - AM	
Coordinates	S 65° 5' 55.13" W 64° 1' 31.47"	
In-Water Team	2 Divers	11 Snorkelers

Divers and snorkelers headed out to explore the waters around an iceberg. As they approached, the Dive Team Leader spotted a leopard seal swimming nearby—an extraordinary highlight for many participants.

Both divers and snorkelers entered the water and spent nearly an hour with the curious leopard seal under perfect visibility and sunshine, making it one of the most memorable moments of the entire expedition.



Site	Port Lockroy / Jougla Point - Antarctica	
Activity No.	24	
Date	06.03.2026 - PM	
Coordinates	S 64° 49' 32.49" W 63° 29' 1.33"	
In-Water Team	2 Divers	4 Snorkelers
<p>Port Lockroy is a historic British base functioning today as a museum and the world's southernmost post office. Many guests were excited to pick up souvenirs or send postcards, while some divers and snorkelers went for a water session beforehand.</p> <p>The ROV was also deployed. One highlight of the dive site was the collection of whale bones lying on the seafloor, which both the divers and the ROV explored.</p> <p>Meanwhile, the snorkelers visited another part of the island, where they had the unique chance to snorkel with Gentoo Penguins. The penguins were shy at first but eventually entered the water and approached the group.</p>		

Site	Enterprise Island, Governoren Wreck - Antarctica	
Activity No.	25	
Date	07.03.2026 - PM	
Coordinates	S 64° 32' 24.68" W 61° 59' 48.20"	
In-Water Team	2 Divers	8 Snorkelers
<p>In 1915, a whaling vessel caught fire during a crew celebration after a lamp was knocked over. Filled with whale oil, the ship burned rapidly, and the captain ordered everyone to abandon ship, intentionally grounding it in Foyn Harbor.</p> <p>Today, the Governoren is considered one of the southernmost diveable shipwrecks. The divers explored the wreck while several snorkelers viewed it from above.</p> <p>The highlight of the day, however, was the Zodiac cruise afterward, where numerous humpback whales surrounded the group.</p>		



Site	Palaver Point - Antarctica
Activity No.	26
Date	07.03.2026 - PM
Coordinates	S 64° 8' 4.29" W 61° 44' 55.34"
In-Water Team	No in-water activity
<p>The final day of the expedition had arrived. After nearly three weeks, the adventure was coming to an end. One participant hoped for a final dive, but after a short Zodiac scouting cruise, visibility was deemed insufficient and the activity was canceled. Instead, everyone took part in the regular landing program. Afterward, they cleaned and packed their gear, returned weights, and set everything out to dry. With that, another extraordinary expedition concluded, leaving behind 22 divers and snorkelers who experienced Falkland, South Georgia and Antarctica from below the surface.</p>	

Thank you for this unforgettable trip. We hope you had the best time, and we look forward to welcoming you onboard with us again!



Your Dive Team

Gonzalo – Clara – Angie - Mike