



Antarctica - Whale watching Discovery and Learning Voyage

Ushuaia – Ushuaia

Tuesday 10th of March – Friday 20th of March 2026

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 Jan Dobrogowski

and his international crew of 77 sailors

Staff Captain:	Nicolas Dameto	[Spain]
Chief Officer:	Igor Nazarov	[Russia]
Second Officer:	Solina Duguay	[Canada]
Third Officer:	Archer Cultura	[Philippines]
Hotel Manager:	Albert Don	[Netherlands]
Ass. Hotel Manager:	Rolando Garcia	[Philippines]
Head Chef:	Bawa Gaurav	[United Kingdom]
Sous Chef:	Oleksii Shvets	[Ukraine]
Sous chef:	Sachin Naik	[India]
Ships doctor:	Jessica Bakker	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Pippa Low	[Scotland\ UK]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Chloe Marechal	[France]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Koen Jongerling	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Mark Whiffin	[UK]
Expedition Guide:	Gabriela Kolodko	[Poland]
Expedition Guide:	Andi Schwetz	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Jakub Malecki	[Poland]
Expedition Guide:	Lucia Romero	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Joyce Mulder	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Rose Li Hong	[China]
Expedition Guide:	Saskia van der Meij	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Sven Joest	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Juan Berenstein	[Argentina]
Astronomy Guide:	Lucas Ellerbroek	[Netherlands]
Translator:	Yukan Chen	[China]
Dive Team Leader:	Mike Pumm	[Switzerland]
Dive Guide:	Gonzalo Sabattini	[Argentina]
Dive Guide:	Clara Lachetti	[Argentina]
Dive Guide:	Angela Buschor	[Switzerland]
Hiking Guide:	Paul Warnock	[Ireland]
Hiking Guide:	Georg Hirn	[Austria]

WE WELCOME YOU ON BOARD!

Day 1 – Tuesday 10th of March, Ushuaia, Embarkation Day - Setting sail for Antarctica

16h00 GPS Position: 54°48.5 S, 068°17.9 W

Wind: N3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Partially Cloudy • Air temperature: 11°C

Our journey began in Ushuaia under warm and windy skies, the kind that felt like a quiet blessing before heading towards the icy continent. With the mountains framing the harbor and the town buzzing softly behind us, we stepped aboard *Hondius* full of anticipation. Once on board, we made ourselves at home in our cabins, checking that all our luggage had arrived and beginning to settle into what would soon feel like our floating world. The Observation Lounge on Deck 5 quickly became a welcoming hub, with the gentle clink of cups and the comfort of tea and coffee easing us into the rhythm of ship life. In the late afternoon, we gathered in the Observation Lounge for the mandatory safety briefing with the Expedition Leader and Chief Officer. Practical and reassuring, it reminded us that adventure at sea always comes with responsibility. Soon after, the emergency alarm echoed through the ship, and we returned to our cabins to collect our life jackets, completing our first drill together as a crew and community.

As early evening approached, we were invited back to the Observation Lounge for the



Captain's Cocktails. With drinks in hand, we listened to a warm welcome from the Hotel Manager and Expedition Leader, who introduced life on board and outlined the exciting days ahead. Meeting the Expedition Team made the journey suddenly feel very real. It was a gentle,

perfect beginning to our Southern Ocean adventure.



Day 2 – Wednesday 11th of March, Drake Passage - At Sea sailing towards Antarctica

09h00 GPS Position: 56°55.0'S / 065°43.5'W

Wind: NNW4 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Partially Cloudy • Air temperature: 10°C

Today began not with an alarm, but with Pippa's bright, buoyant voice carrying through the ship—an invitation to wake as we pressed steadily southward into the vastness. There was a subtle charge in the air, an unspoken awareness that something extraordinary had begun. This was no longer just a voyage; it was the threshold of Antarctica.

After breakfast, we assembled for the mandatory Zodiac and IAATO briefing—our initiation into the delicate balance of exploration and preservation in one of the most untouched places on Earth. Beyond the windows, the Drake Passage—so often feared for its fury—lay disarmingly calm, its waters rolling in long, gentle swells. It felt as though the Southern Ocean itself had chosen to welcome us.

The ship carried us smoothly toward the Antarctic Peninsula, a two-day crossing that offered both time to prepare and space to absorb the magnitude of where we were

headed. Below deck, the divers gathered for their own briefing, readying themselves for encounters in the cold, silent world beneath the surface.

By mid-morning, Mark drew us into the lives of the seabirds that traced our path—albatross, petrels, and more—transforming distant shapes on the horizon into purposeful, living stories. Each sighting thereafter felt like recognition rather than chance.

Lunch hummed with energy, conversations alive with anticipation. Then, in the afternoon, we were called deck by deck to collect our expedition boots—small but tangible symbols that this journey was becoming real, step by step.

The momentum carried on as Joyce welcomed us into the world of whales and dolphins, her passion igniting vivid imaginings of towering flukes and fleeting breaths in the polar mist. Not long after, Juan shifted our gaze once more, offering a photographer’s perspective on these stark, luminous landscapes—encouraging us not just to see, but to truly observe.

As evening drew in, we gathered again at Pippa’s invitation for our first official recap. Plans unfolded, insights deepened, and the shape of the days ahead began to take form. Dinner followed—a well-earned, deeply satisfying close to a day rich with discovery.

Later, some of us lingered in the lounge, a quiet camaraderie settling in over drinks and shared excitement. Outside, the sea remained calm, the horizon endless. And as night wrapped itself around the ship, we slipped closer to Antarctica—carried forward by anticipation into the unknown.





Day 3 – Thursday 12th of March, Drake Passage - At Sea sailing towards Antarctica

08h00 GPS Position: 61°20.4'S / 064°09.8'W

Wind: NNW4 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Foggy • Air temperature: 5°C

Today marked our second full day crossing the infamous Drake Passage. And while some passengers struggled with the consequences of swell, the sea treated us kindly enough, allowing the ship to settle into its rhythm while we continued southward.

Sometime during the day we crossed the 60 degrees South latitude, an invisible but meaningful line: the official boundary of the Antarctic Treaty area. From that point onward, we entered what is considered Antarctic territory – a psychological milestone as much as a geographic one. Antarctica was no longer a distant destination; it had become our direct environment.

The day was filled with lectures preparing us for what lies ahead. Lucia spoke about penguins, introducing us to these adorable ice dwellers, and the remarkable ways they survive in this extreme environment. Jakob followed with a talk on ice — its many forms,

how glaciers behave, and the processes that shape the Antarctic landscape. Georg then presented the possibilities for longer hikes on land, expeditions beyond the immediate landing sites.



Later in the day Lucas gave a lecture on astronomy, focusing on the southern sky and the aurora australis. The talk was proceeding smoothly until a sudden commotion outside interrupted it: a whale had appeared alongside the ship, moving quickly as if in determined transit. Within seconds the audience collectively decided that real-time wildlife took precedence over theoretical stars, and the lecture room emptied almost entirely as everyone hurried out on deck to watch.

Beyond the talks, today also brought practical preparations. We learned how to clean and disinfect our boots and gear, an important biosecurity step for anyone treading Antarctic soil. It is a reminder that Antarctica's ecosystems are fragile and that visiting them carries responsibilities.

Throughout the afternoon and evening the ship sailed through thick fog. The world outside narrowed to a grey horizon, the sea and sky blending together so completely that distance became difficult to judge. Yet rather than dampening the mood, the fog seemed to heighten anticipation. Somewhere beyond that veil lay the landscape we had all come to see. Meanwhile, on board the camaraderie grew, with the first legs of the International Hondius Chess Tournament being played, sailor's stories exchanged and grog being administered to some queasy newcomers.

The feeling on board is that when the fog finally lifts, it will reveal an entirely different world. And tomorrow morning, when we wake up, we will finally see Antarctica.



Day 4 – Friday 13th of March - Danco Island and Damoy Point

08h00 GPS Position: 64°43.4'S / 62°36.7'W

Wind: SSW3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Cloudy • Air temperature: 3°C

After two days of crossing the Drake Passage, this morning we were woken up by the happy voice of our expedition leader Pippa, that we had arrived in Antarctica. We sailed into the Errera channel on our approach to Danco Island. We were surrounded by high mountains, some with sheer bare cliffs. And everywhere we looked we saw massive glaciers. Dark clouds were hanging over the surrounding islands and the mainland on our portside, but the soft light was beautiful. We were all ready to step foot on land for the first time, which we did after breakfast.

For our first expedition day we got excited. We all dressed up warmly, wore our boots and put on our life jackets and went down to deck 3, where we would enter the zodiacs from the shell doors. Some of us were going on a long hike up to the top of Danco Island with our hiking guides Paul and George. They went out first. Then the logistical puzzle began, because only a maximum of hundred guests is allowed on a landing in Antarctica. Therefore, the expedition team would bring half of us to land, and the other group made a zodiac cruise. We wouldn't have to worry about anything; we only had to enjoy and

remember the time we had to be back at the landing site. Arriving shore we were welcomed by Pippa, who explained where we could go to explore. The beach was occupied by many Gentoo penguins who didn't seem to be bothered at all by us being there and just went on minding their own business.



This was already super exciting, but it got quickly topped by an amazing sight right there in front of the beach where we just had landed. A leopard seal feeding on one of the penguins. The zodiac cruisers were also called back to witness how the seal played with the penguin, then let him escape and briefly after grabbed again, and finally after half an hour or so was skinned by being violently flipped left to right. Some would say it is sad for the penguin, which it is, but it is also nature and a sight that is not witnessed that much. Even for the expedition guides this wasn't a sight they'd seen much. Then during the zodiac cruise, we saw two other leopard seals making the same sort of kill. We were very lucky to have been able to see this. The penguins on the island on the other hand, were very cute to watch. All their different behaviors. Some were still in their last molting phase and would just stand there and wait till their last feathers had changed out. Some of the 'almost ready to go out to sea and catch food themselves chicks' were still chasing their mums to ask for food with their sweet peeping sounds.

After an amazing first landing and cruise in Antarctica we were back on board. At 12:30 our hotel manager Albert announced that the dining room doors were open, and we could make our way to the restaurant on deck 4. Head chef Bawa and his team prepared a delicious and varied buffet lunch for us.

Over lunch the bridge team had repositioned the ship to another location, where we would go out that afternoon. We had arrived in the Neumayer Channel at a place called

Damoy Point on Wiencke Island. The same logistics were arranged here, so that we could enjoy the island and cruise the bay around it. We were dropped off in Dorian Bay, which we entered close to the shore, to avoid a reef that was forming this protected, shallow bay. While driving in we were greeted by Antarctic Terns, adults and youngsters, sitting on the rocks and enthusiastically chirping away. On land we saw another Gentoo penguin colony and right at the landing site were two huts. The blue hut was an old Argentinian refuge hut that was built in 1953, which we were not allowed inside. The slightly bigger orange hut besides it was established by the British Antarctic Survey (BAS) in 1975 and was used as a waiting / transit station for staff of BAS who would be flown into the British Research station Rothera, further south on Adelaide Island, when sea ice conditions prevented the ship from sailing further south. On top of the glacier there was a 400-meter-long runway where the small planes could take off from. The hut was last used in 1993 and since then has been left as a historic site. It was interesting to see the small lounge / kitchen and the bedroom with several bunk beds. Sometimes they had to wait for days or even weeks when the weather didn't allow planes to land. Besides everything there was to see on land, the view over the Channel to the other side was stunning as well. White mountains everywhere, covered in snow or glaciers and when the higher clouds lifted, we could even see the so-called "Seven Sisters", seven daunting mountain peaks in a row.



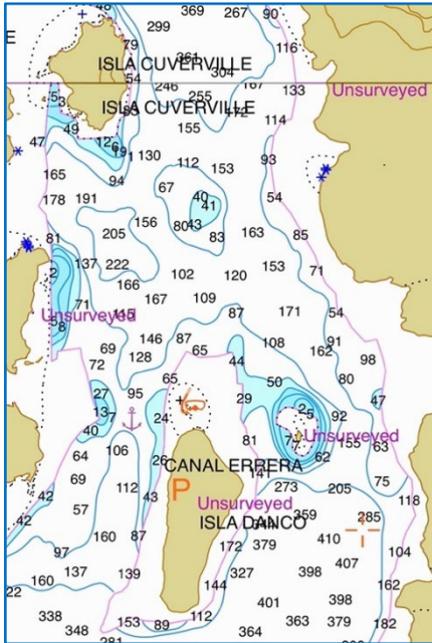
After roughly 3 to 4 hours, we were back on the ship where Pippa gathered us in the lounge for the daily recap. Plans for the following day were shared and some short information put together by the expedition team. Then it was time for another dinner before some of us headed up to the library to compete in the chess competition that was set up by one of

the guests. Others went for a nightcap before heading to our cabins. It was an amazing first day here in Antarctica!

Dive Log

Dive 1 – 24 divers

Water temperature: 2°C / 35.6°F



At last, our first immersion into Antarctic waters. Under overcast skies and light rain, we prepared for our check-out dive, a moment we had all been eagerly awaiting.



We descended into cold waters, between 7 and 10 meters, focusing on verifying our equipment, buoyancy, and configuration. The dive, lasting around 30 minutes, was both challenging and exhilarating.

Despite the visibility conditions, 3 to 5 meters, life surrounded us—nudibranchs, kelp forests, sponges, sun stars, and even playful fur seals weaving effortlessly through the water. It was a humbling and unforgettable introduction to this extraordinary environment. As we came back to the surface and on our zodiacs, we made our way to the landing site, where Pippa, our Expedition Leader, and the rest of the Expedition Team were waiting for us.

Dive 2 – 24 divers

Water temperature: 2°C / 35.6°F

In the afternoon, we returned to the water. We explored a gently sloping wall north of Casa Bianca Island, to maximum depths of 16 to 18 meters.

Visibility remained modest, but the richness of life was undeniable. Sea stars, fish, limpets, nudibranchs, and dense kelp beds surrounded us as we moved slowly through the landscape.

A few among us experienced minor leaks in their equipment and were obliged to end the dive early, after approximately 10 to 15 minutes. The rest of us remained below for nearly 35 minutes, fully absorbed in the stillness of the underwater world.

As we surfaced and made our way back to the Zodiacs, we realized that we were getting passed the nervous emotions of immersing ourselves in gelid waters, but



gradually acknowledging the beauty around us, we were in Antarctica!

Day 5 – Saturday 14th of March – Pleneau Island & Yalour Island

08h00 GPS Position: 65°06.6'S / 64°02.2'W

Wind: NE2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 2°C

At 06:30, the expedition vessel began an early-morning southbound transit through the spectacular Lemaire Channel, its towering glacial walls rising steeply on either side. The stillness of the morning was broken only by the soft rumble of the ship and the distant crack of shifting ice. As the vessel approached the southern exit of the channel, the bridge team encountered an unexpected challenge: a large iceberg had drifted directly into the narrow passage. Having already thwarted the transit of the larger ship ahead of us, with careful coordination and delicate maneuvering, the captain guided the ship through the tight space, easing past the icy obstacle and continuing the journey safely onward.



With conditions and wildlife sightings encouraging flexibility, the expedition team made a change of plans for the day. Rather than heading straight to the Yalour Islands as originally scheduled, the morning would instead be spent exploring the nearby Pléneau Island.

Despite cold temperatures and overcast skies, the wildlife did not disappoint. The waters around the Pléneau Island were alive with activity, particularly from numerous Humpback Whale. Several individuals appeared unusually curious, surfacing close to and lingering near the zodiacs as if inspecting their visitors. On scattered icebergs nearby, the expedition team spotted formidable Leopard Seals resting between hunts, one observed actively predated on a Gentoo Penguin. Sharing the icy platforms were more docile Crabeater Seal, hauled out on the floes and seemingly indifferent to the drama unfolding nearby.

In the afternoon, the ship repositioned to the Yalour Island, where guests enjoyed both a zodiac cruise and a landing at a bustling colony of Adélie Penguin. The rocky outcrops and ice on the island were dotted with penguins in various stages of their annual molt. Many stood patiently on the ice, their feathers patchy and untidy as they shed their old plumage. Among them were a handful of individuals already in their pristine new plumage, their crisp black-and-white feathers looking particularly smart in contrast to their molting brethren.



During the zodiac cruise around the islands, guides pointed out even more wildlife highlights. Additional Humpback Whale sightings delighted passengers as the whales surfaced in the cold Antarctic waters. Numerous Gentoo Penguin porpoised through the waves, and keen-eyed observers were rewarded with a single Chinstrap Penguin among the more common species.

Back on board, the evening program began with a recap of the day's adventures and a preview of the plans for tomorrow. Expedition guide Jacob then delivered an engaging recap on iceberg formation, explaining how glaciers calve and describing the different shapes and types of icebergs commonly encountered in Antarctic waters.

The day concluded in celebratory style. As the ship once again transited the majestic Lemaire Channel, guests gathered on deck for the much-anticipated BBQ night, enjoying warm food against a backdrop of towering ice and fading evening light. Later, the atmosphere shifted from serene to festive as the traditional onboard disco began—an energetic end to a remarkable day of Antarctic exploration.

Dive Log

Dive 3 – 21divers

Water temperature: 4°C / 39.2°F

We launched early, after traversing the Lemaire Channel with great proficiency from our bridge team and our captain Ian, boarding the Zodiacs with growing efficiency and confidence. Each of us checked our equipment with precision, now accustomed to the routine: first we checked our air and equipment, then we loaded our zodiacs with scuba kit, fins and mask and once zodiacs were ready, we finished dressing up and met our drivers at the shell door, super easy!

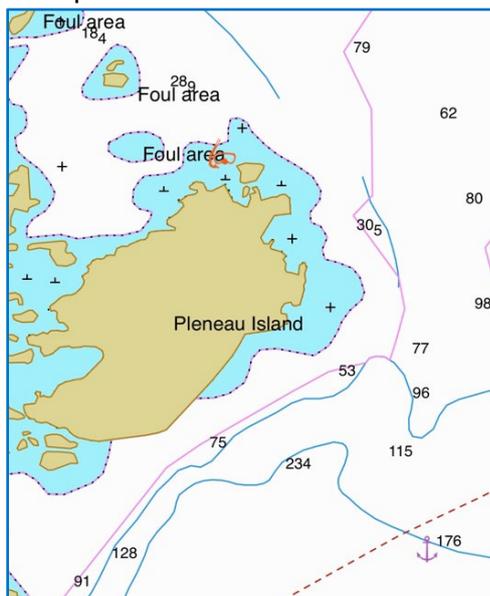
Conditions were calm, with gentle seas and a quiet atmosphere. The overcast sky lent an added sense of mystery and challenge to the experience.

This was our first iceberg dive, and we were carefully briefed by our dive guide on its particularities: potential buoyancy disturbances caused by freshwater layers from the melting ice, the risks associated with overhangs and possible iceberg movement, and the strict rule—despite the temptation—not to enter any caves or holes within the ice, among other important considerations.

We descended alongside a grounded iceberg, exploring its silent, frozen presence at depths of 10 to 12 meters. We observed how trapped air bubbles slowly found their way to the surface, carving delicate and ever-changing patterns into the iceberg's face.

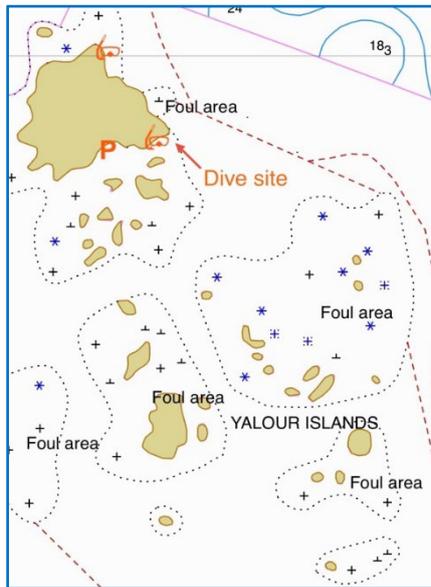
For 30 to 35 minutes, we drifted through this surreal environment, where ice and ocean meet in perfect stillness. The ice seemed alive, creaking softly and reshaping itself as meltwater carved delicate patterns across its surface. Some of us even had the unique opportunity to dive with a leopard seal, apex predator in Antarctica, for more than 30 minutes!!!

After the dive some of the divers stayed around the dive site, playing on an iceberg and jumping from it! On our way back to Hondius for lunch, we came across a group of Humpback whales that the first but not the last.... What a wonderful morning!!!



Dive 4 – 9 divers

Water temperature: 2°C / 35.6°F



In the afternoon, a smaller group of us decided to go for a dive, the rest joined the Expedition team and explored the rugged coastline of the Yalour archipelago and the landing site.

We went to the dive site close to the landing site, where we were protected from the north wind. Once in the water, we followed a wall with a gentle slope, where rocky sea beds alternated with patches of kelp.

Visibility improved slightly, reaching up to 7–8 meters, allowing us to better appreciate the textures and colors of the underwater terrain.

The dive lasted around 40 minutes and offered a quiet, contemplative experience in this remote and isolated setting.

After finishing the dive, we landed together with the rest of the group.

Day 6 – Sunday 15th of March – Wilhelmina Expedition Day

08h00 GPS Position: 64°40.1'S / 62°06.4'W

Wind: W1 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 2°C

We started the day with a hearty breakfast on board the Hondius, heading out with calm conditions and excellent visibility across the bay. Once all zodiacs were in the water, it quickly became clear that humpback whales were present throughout the area. Several groups were moving slowly through the bay, and many of the encounters were spread across different boats. Juveniles showed curious behavior, approaching zodiacs, surfacing nearby, and occasionally rolling slightly to get a better look. Across the fleet, we observed relaxed movements—steady surfacing patterns, shallow dives, and occasional pectoral fin lifts and gentle slaps. In a few cases, whales passed directly beneath the boats, clearly visible in the cold, clear water. The overall behavior remained calm and inquisitive, allowing for extended encounters across multiple groups.



After the morning zodiac operations, we returned to the ship as a storm was expected to move into the area. The weather began to shift slightly, but we were able to reposition deeper into Wilhelmina Bay, where the surrounding landscape provided good shelter. This gave us a comfortable window to pause operations, have lunch on board, and wait while conditions developed outside the bay.

In the afternoon, we headed out again, and the situation had changed noticeably. Whale activity had increased significantly across the entire bay. What started as isolated breaches quickly turned into a widespread display, with multiple humpbacks breaching, tail-slapping, and lunging in different directions. Reports came in from different zodiacs simultaneously, making it clear that this was not a localized event but something happening across a wide area. The boats spread out to maximize coverage, and wherever we looked, there was movement—breaches in the distance, closer tail slaps, and occasional surface lunges.

During the outing, some of the zodiacs on the edge of the operation area reported a small pod of orcas passing through the bay. A few boats managed to get brief visual contact. The orcas were moving very quickly, significantly faster than the humpbacks, and maintained a clear, direct trajectory. Sightings were short—just a few fast passes before they disappeared—but enough to highlight the contrast in behavior and movement between the species.

By the end of the afternoon, we returned to Hondius. The day offered a strong contrast between the calm, curious interactions in the morning and the more energetic, large-scale activity later, with good conditions overall despite the approaching weather.



Dive Log

Dive 5 – 6 divers

Water temperature: 1.7°C / 35°F

We awoke surrounded by whales. Wilhelmina Bay, with calm waters and no wind, greeted us with one of the most extraordinary spectacles of the expedition.

Some of us entered the water, while others remained at the surface, hoping for close encounters. Visibility was extremely limited—around 2-3 meters—but what we lacked in clarity, we gained in wonder. Being in the presence of Humpback whales, so close and so serene, was deeply moving.

In the afternoon, the wind increased, yet we remained in the bay. From the Zodiacs, we witnessed even more dramatic displays—breaching, tail slapping, mothers with calves, and whales surfacing just beside us.

It was, without question, a day we will never forget.



Day 7 – Monday 16th of March – Portal Point & Foyen Harbour

08h00 GPS Position: 64°29.2'S / 61°45.2'W

Wind: NN3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 2°C

Today, March 16th, was a milestone day that many of us will hold in our hearts forever. It was the day we didn't just see Antarctica—we truly stepped onto the Great White Continent itself.

We fuelled up with an early breakfast at 07:00, the air buzzing with a special kind of excitement. By 08:15, we were making our way to Portal Point for our official continental landing! The weather was perfectly Antarctic—cloudy and atmospheric, yet remarkably calm.

Standing on the mainland felt different. We gathered around the Flag of Antarctica for those iconic "Seventh Continent" photos, marking a geographic achievement many of us have dreamed of for years. The site offered a poignant look at the past, as we saw the weathered foundations of an old UK base. For some, one of the most beautiful moments, however, was found at the "Silent Corner." Perched on the rocks just above the shoreline, we took turns in stillness, reflecting on the vast, untouched majesty of the landscape. It was a rare moment of pure connection with the wilderness before we swapped for a scenic Zodiac cruise and returned to the *Hondius*.



After a 12:30 lunch, we set out again at 14:45 for a cruise through Foyen Harbour, a place where history and nature collide in spectacular fashion.

The centrepiece of the harbour is the hauntingly beautiful wreck of the *SS Governoren*. This old whaling factory ship met its end in 1915 when a fire broke out during an end-of-season party. To save his crew, the captain heroically ran the ship aground, leaving the rusted remains to become a permanent fixture among the icy coasts. We drifted past the wreck, its iron hull now a haven for Antarctic terns, and spotted the skeletal remains of old wooden whaling boats nearby.

The afternoon only got better! Under a mild cloud cover and with practically no wind, we navigated between ice-covered islands and watched fur seals lounging on the rocks. Then came the highlight: the whales. Some of our Zodiacs were incredibly lucky to encounter curious humpback whales that seemed just as interested in us as we were in them, surfacing close enough for us to hear (and smell!) their powerful blows. It was a breathtaking display of trust and curiosity from the ocean's gentle giants.

We arrived back on the *Hondius* at 18:00, windswept and wearing wide grins. As we gathered for our evening recap and a warm dinner, the dining room was filled with the sound of shared stories and the clicking of cameras as we looked back at our first continental steps.

What a privilege it has been to explore this corner of the world together. Tonight, we rest well, knowing we've officially left our footprints on the bottom of the world.



Dive Log

Dive 6 - 10 divers

Water temperature: 1.7°C / 35°F

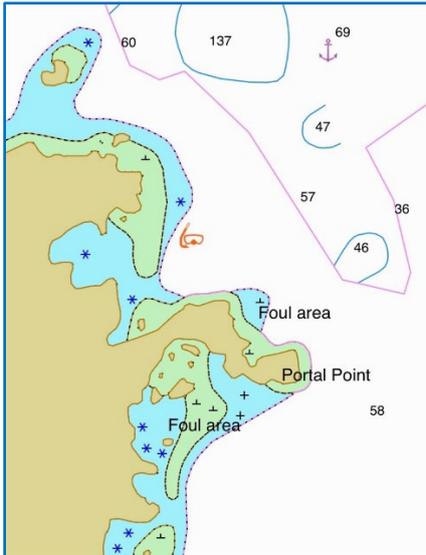
With slightly improved weather, with no wind and occasional glimpses of blue sky, we continued our exploration. The Dive Team carefully selected an iceberg close to shore, one that would allow us to safely experience another unique Antarctic dive.

That morning, we formed a small group of divers, while others chose to cruise toward a nearby Chinstrap penguin colony or remain at the surface, delighting in the surreal landscape of icy pools and flushing seawater channels.

We entered the water for another cold-water dive, lasting between 20 and 40 minutes, reaching a maximum depth of 10 meters. Although visibility remained limited, the atmosphere felt noticeably lighter, and our confidence as a team had clearly grown.

Diving alongside the iceberg was nothing short of extraordinary, its sculpted walls revealed an ever-changing world of ice—translucent blues, intricate textures, and trapped air bubbles.

On our way to the landing site, we found a polar bear that was lost and asked for directions to get to the continental landing!



Dive 7 – 21 divers

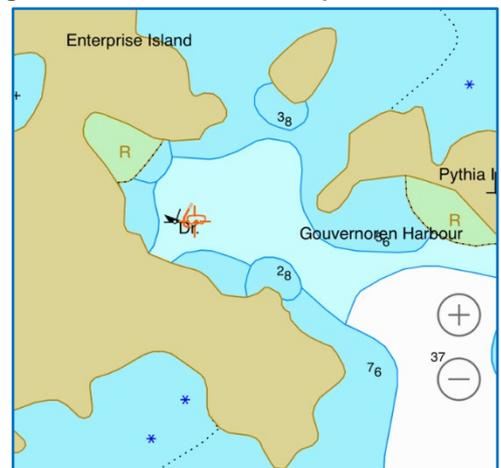
Water temperature: 1.7°C / 35°F

For some of us this was undoubtedly one of the most anticipated dives of the expedition. The *Governoren*, a Norwegian whaling ship. We approached the wreck in well-organized groups, our operations by now smooth, efficient, and confident. While some remained at the surface to snorkel, others descended toward the ship’s propellers, resting at approximately 14-16 meters.

Visibility was exceptional compared to previous dives, revealing the wreck in striking detail. The biodiversity was equally remarkable: large sea stars of multiple species, sea cucumbers, anemones, brachiopods, and expansive sponge fields had transformed the wreck into a thriving artificial reef.

Gliding along the remains of the vessel, we could not help but feel a deep sense of connection—to history, to the ocean, and to the raw forces that shape this remote wilderness.

After 35 to 40 minutes, we surfaced in awe. For many of us, this was not only the finest dive of the journey, but one of the most memorable underwater experiences of our lives. After the dive we cruised around the islands



finding Weddell seals, fur seals, humpback whales and penguins on our way back to Hondius.

Day 8 – Tuesday 17th of March – Elephant Point & Deception Island

08h00 GPS Position: 62°41.2'S / 060°48.9'W

Wind: NW3 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 3°C

Today aboard Hondius delivered a classic Antarctic experience, combining wildlife, dramatic landscapes, and a touch of history.

Our morning began with a landing at Elephant Point, a rugged headland known for its sweeping beaches and abundant wildlife. As guests stepped ashore, they were greeted by the unmistakable sounds and sights of a large colony of Southern Elephant Seals sprawled across the shoreline. Massive bulls rested among groups of females, occasionally lifting their heads or issuing deep, echoing calls that carried across the beach. The peaceful atmosphere of the place made it easy to slow down and appreciate the quiet beauty of Antarctica. Many guests took time simply to sit, observe, and listen—the wind, the waves, and the distant calls of seabirds.

We organized a split landing, allowing part of the group to explore the beach and surrounding terrain while others boarded the Zodiacs for a coastal cruise around the island. Those on the water were treated to excellent views of penguin colonies, with numerous birds porpoising through the sea or standing along rocky outcrops. The Zodiac cruise provided a close look at the island's rugged coastline, sculpted by ice and waves.



For those eager for a bit more adventure, the morning also offered an extended hike. Participants ventured further inland, climbing gentle slopes that opened into spectacular panoramic views of the surrounding islands, glaciers, and icy waters. It was a rewarding walk that highlighted just how wild and untouched this part of the world remains.

After returning to *Hondius*, everyone warmed up and shared stories over a well-earned lunch on board.

In the afternoon, we set out again for a split landing at Whalers Bay, located on Deception Island within the flooded caldera of an ancient volcano. This site holds one of the most fascinating pieces of Antarctic human history. The rusting remains of buildings, tanks, and boats mark the location of a Norwegian whaling station established in 1912 by Captain Adolfus Andresen. At its peak, the station processed thousands of whales each season, producing oil that was shipped around the world. Later, in the 1940s, the site was also used as part of a British Antarctic base (Base B) before volcanic eruptions in 1967 and 1969 damaged many of the structures and forced its abandonment. Walking among the weathered remains today offers a striking reminder of Antarctica's industrial past and how nature gradually reclaims what people leave behind.

As the day drew to a close, the braves among us gathered on the beach for the traditional polar plunge. With cheers from fellow passengers and crew, participants ran into the frigid Antarctic waters before quickly retreating to dry land, laughing and exhilarated. It was the perfect—and refreshing—way to end a remarkable day of exploration.

With wildlife encounters, peaceful landscapes, a journey into history, and a splash of adventure, today was a wonderful reminder of why Antarctica leaves such a lasting impression on everyone who visits.



Dive Log

Dive 8 - 4 divers

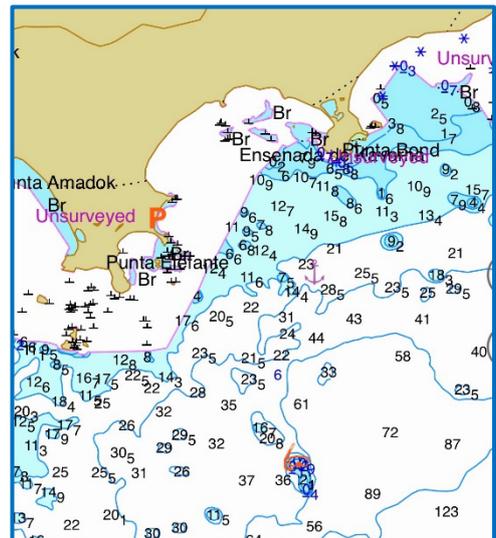
Water temperature: 2°C / 35.6°F

A small group of us took part in a more intimate and demanding dive this morning. The day began with relatively calm conditions and signs of improving weather; however, as the morning progressed, we found ourselves enveloped by drifting mist that came and went, adding an element of uncertainty to the experience.

This was an exploration dive. The originally planned site presented very poor visibility, and therefore Mike, our dive team leader, made the decision to guide us toward a more exposed area where a series of small islands emerged from the sea.

As always, the cold waters demanded our full attention, yet at this stage of the expedition we moved with confidence and heightened awareness.

The dive, lasting between 35 and 40 minutes, proved to be truly spectacular, offering the best visibility we had encountered so far reaching up to 10 meters.



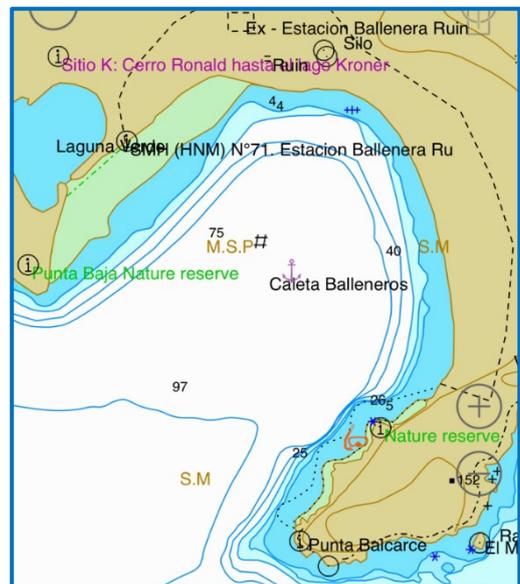
We followed a wall descending to approximately 20 meters, revealing what felt like a true underwater animal forest. It was teeming with life: crustaceans, sea stars, anemones, cold-water corals, and swaying kelp, all contributing to a rich and vibrant ecosystem. Although our initial plan was to proceed with the rock face on our right shoulder, shifting currents required us to adapt and return to the more sheltered side of the promontory. From there, we continued our exploration around the island, deeply impressed by both the visibility and the remarkable biodiversity of the site.

Without a doubt, this is a location worthy of recognition among the dive sites of the South Shetland Islands.

Dive 9 – 22 divers

Water temperature: 2°C / 35°F

Our final dive: inside the caldera of an active volcano! Descending into the bay, visibility initially seemed poor but improved with depth. What we encountered was extraordinary—vast fields of brittle stars covering the seabed, and the haunting remains of whale bones. Vertebrae and enormous ribs lay scattered, now home to sea urchins, anemones, sponges, and soft corals. After 25-30 minutes, we surfaced, aware that this marked the end of our diving journey. Later, we gathered once more—some of us returning to shore—to take part in the polar plunge, a final shared moment of exhilaration and camaraderie.



What an incredible trip! In total we visited 9 dive sites, and we performed 117 individual dives.

We experienced challenging conditions, extraordinary wildlife, and moments of profound connection with one of the last true wildernesses on Earth. We leave Antarctica not only as more experienced divers, but as witnesses to its beauty and fragility.

In the name of Oceanwide we would like to thank you for diving with us!

Mike - Dive Team Leader

Gonzalo - Clara - Angie

Your Dive Team!



Day 9 – Wednesday 18th of March – At Sea to Ushuaia

08h00 GPS Position: 61°07.3'S / 063°00.4'W

Wind: SE6 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 3°C

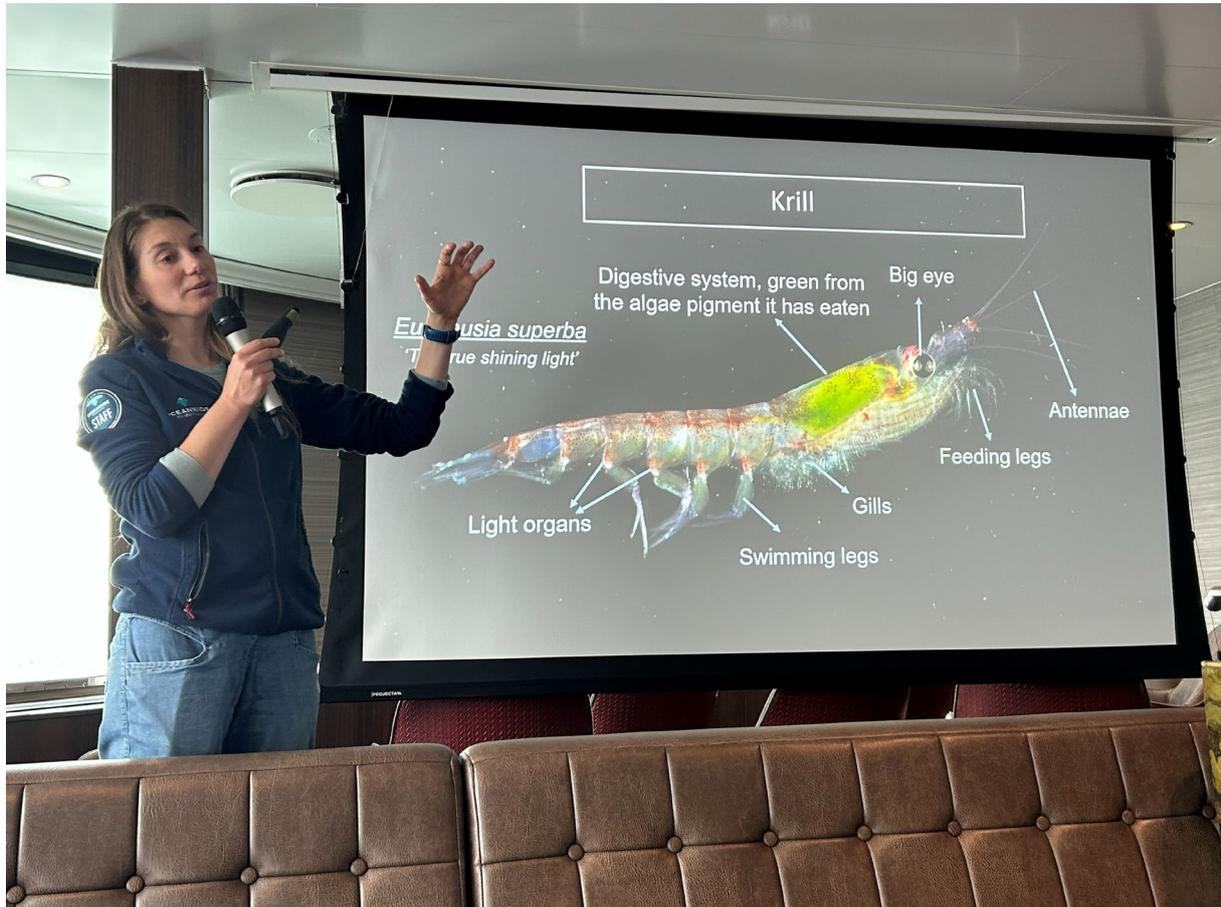
Our day at sea began gently, with no wake-up call—an invitation to rest and reflect after our time exploring the icy wilderness. By 8:00 AM, we gathered in the dining room for a relaxed breakfast, the ship rolling steadily as we continued our journey north toward Ushuaia.

The morning's learning program started at 9:30 AM in the lounge, where Saskia transported us back in time to the legendary Belgian Antarctic Expedition. Her storytelling brought to life the hardships faced by Adrien de Gerlache and his crew, who became the first to overwinter in Antarctica after being trapped in sea ice. Their resilience and scientific contributions added a deeper meaning to the places we had just visited.

By 11:30 AM, geology took center stage across the ship. In the lounge, Sven explored Antarctica's tectonic story, explaining how the continent once formed part of Gondwana before drifting into isolation over millions of years. At the same time, in the lecture room, Rose delivered a dedicated Antarctic geology session in Chinese. Her talk provided a detailed introduction to the continent's geological foundations, including volcanic activity and the fascinating landscape of Deception Island—a place shaped by a flooded caldera and known for its dramatic geothermal features.

At 2:30 PM, Chloe energized the lounge with an enthusiastic and eye-opening lecture on plankton. One of the most astonishing facts: some species can grow up to 60 meters long,

the length of a blue whale—reminding us just how mysterious and surprising ocean life can be.



The afternoon continued with laughter and camaraderie during Antarctic Trivia at 4:30 PM. Teams formed, creative names emerged, and we tested how much we had truly learned over the course of the voyage.

Later in the evening, around 8:30 PM, we gathered for the “Una Ventana al Mar” auction, hosted by Clara and Gonzalo. The event combined fun and purpose, raising funds for ocean conservation and education—an appropriate cause after witnessing the fragile beauty of Antarctica firsthand.

As always, we were reminded to move carefully around the ship—taking things slowly and keeping one hand steady—mirroring the calm, reflective pace of this final day at sea.

Day 10 – Thursday 19th of March – Approaching Argentina & Cape Horn

08h00 GPS Position: 56°38.4' S, 066°51.9'W

Wind: S5 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: 5°C

We woke to a Drake Passage in a forgiving mood—an expanse of long, rolling swells rather than the fabled chaos we had braced for. The *Hondius* moved with an easy confidence,

her bow lifting and settling as if breathing with the sea. After days in Antarctica, the return felt contemplative rather than hurried, and a quiet anticipation ran through us: a full day of lectures, reflection, and, eventually, farewell.

By morning, we gathered on deck, drawn by a name that had lived in our imaginations long before this voyage—Cape Horn. There it was at last, rising stark and weathered from the ocean’s edge, its cliffs etched by centuries of wind and wave. We learned that this lonely promontory marks the northern boundary of the Drake Passage and has long been one of the most treacherous maritime routes on Earth. Before the Panama Canal, ships rounding the Horn faced fierce westerlies, unpredictable currents, and towering seas; many never made it through. Yet today, under a gentler sky, it revealed a quieter side—still formidable, but almost solemn, as if aware of the stories it carried.

Back inside, the rhythm of the day shifted to learning and storytelling. Koen set the tone with an enthusiastic dive into Antarctic history, bringing to life the daring expeditions, fragile wooden ships, and relentless determination of those who first ventured south. We found ourselves transported to another era, imagining frostbitten crews and uncharted horizons, and felt newly connected to the landscape we had just left behind.

Lucas followed with a talk on Antarctic astronomy, opening a window not onto ice and sea, but into the vastness above. He explained how the continent’s cold, dry air and long, uninterrupted winter nights create some of the clearest skies on Earth—ideal for observing stars and probing the mysteries of the universe. It was humbling to think that the same place we had explored by zodiac and on foot was also a gateway to the cosmos.



Pippa then broadened our horizons even further, introducing us to the many destinations of Oceanwide Expeditions. From the icy fjords of Greenland to the wildlife-rich shores of South Georgia, the remote beauty of Svalbard, and even the far-flung isolation of Tristan da Cunha, she painted a world of future possibilities. Each place felt like a new chapter waiting to be written.

In the afternoon, we gathered again in the lounge where Andi spoke about the cultural evolution of whales. Her talk traced a powerful transformation—from the era when whales were hunted relentlessly for oil to their present role as icons of conservation. She wove together science, history, and human perception, showing how our relationship with these giants of the ocean had shifted from exploitation to reverence. It left us reflective, especially after our own encounters with whales in the Southern Ocean.

As the day drew toward evening, we assembled once more for the Farewell Toast and Trip Slideshow. Glasses were raised as the captain and expedition team said their goodbyes, and images from our journey flickered across the screen—penguin colonies, towering icebergs, moments of laughter and quiet awe. Watching it all unfold, we felt both gratitude and a gentle ache; the voyage had become something deeply personal.



Dinner that night carried a different tone—still warm and lively, but threaded with nostalgia. Conversations lingered longer, laughter came more easily, and there was a shared understanding that something special had been experienced together. Later, in the bar, we gathered for last drinks among fellow passengers who had, over the course of the journey, become friends. The sea continued its steady rhythm outside, and the *Hondius* carried us northward, away from Antarctica—but not, we knew, from the memories we had made.

Day 11 – Friday 20th of March – Disembarkation Day, Ushuaia

08h00 GPS Position: 54°48.5 S, 68°17.9 W

Wind: NE2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Partly Cloudy • Air temperature: 7°C

Our final morning arrived quietly as the ship had glided back into Ushuaia, the harbour wrapped in mist and steady rain under the dim early light. Even before breakfast, suitcases lined the corridors outside our cabins, a quiet reminder that the voyage was ending. Breakfast was relaxed and comforting, filled with calm conversation and shared laughter as everyone revisited their most memorable moments of the journey. Not long after, we went ashore where our luggage awaited us neatly arranged on the pier. Goodbyes echoed through the group as travellers embraced, shook hands, and offered heartfelt thanks to the crew who had cared for us so thoughtfully throughout the expedition. Casting one last look at our dear Hondius that had carried us across the Drake Passage and through extraordinary days among the ice, we stepped into the rainy Ushuaia morning, taking the memories of Antarctica with us, for life.

Total distance sailed on our voyage: 1648.9 nm (3053.4 km)

Furthest south: 65°23.3 S, 064°16.6 W (Yalour Island)

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Jan Dobrogowski, Expedition Leader Pippa Low, Hotel Manager Albert Don and all the crew and staff of M/V Hondius, it has been a pleasure travelling with you!



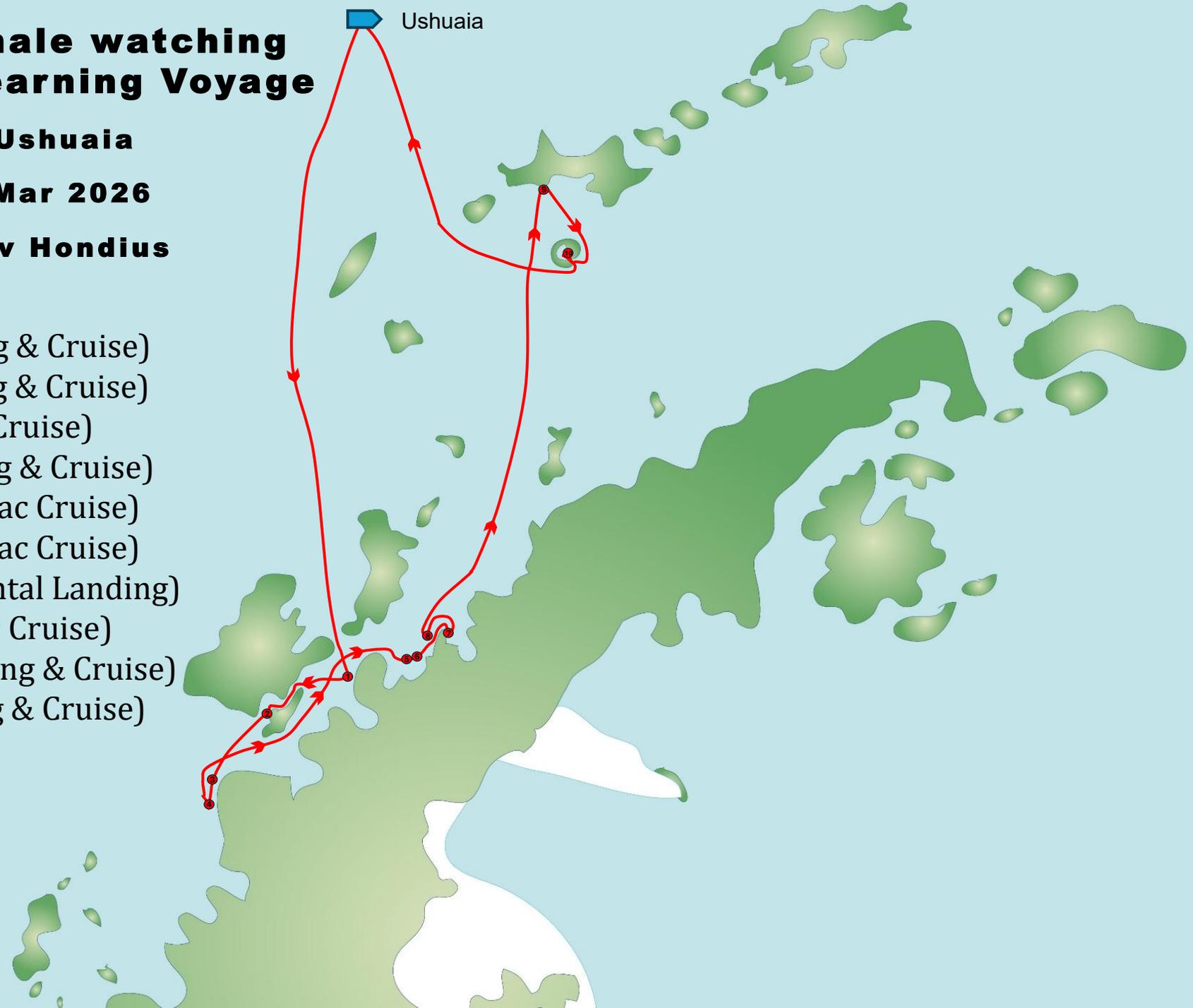
Antarctica - Whale watching Discovery and Learning Voyage

Ushuaia - Ushuaia

10th-20th Mar 2026

On board m/v Hondius

1. Danco Island (Landing & Cruise)
2. Damoy Point (Landing & Cruise)
3. Port Charcot (Zodiac Cruise)
4. Yalour Island (Landing & Cruise)
5. Wilhelmina Bay (Zodiac Cruise)
6. Wilhelmina Bay (Zodiac Cruise)
7. Portal Point (Continental Landing)
8. Foyn Harbour (Zodiac Cruise)
9. Elephant Point (Landing & Cruise)
10. Whalers Bay (Landing & Cruise)



Wilson's Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites oceanicus</i>				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Black-bellied Storm-Petrel	<i>Fregetta tropica</i>				x						x	
Grey-backed Storm-Petrel	<i>Oceanites nereis</i>											
Common Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides (urinatrix) berard</i>										x	
Magellanic Diving-Petrel	<i>Pelecanoides magellani</i>											
Imperial (Blue Eyed) Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax atriceps</i>	x										x
Antarctic Shag	<i>Phalacrocorax bransfieldensis</i>					x	x	x	x	x		
Snowy (Pale-faced) Sheatbill	<i>Chionis alba</i>					x	x	x	x	x		
Chilean Skua	<i>Catharacta chilensis</i>	x										x
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i>					x	x	x	x			
Sub-Antarctic (Brown) Skua	<i>Catharacta lonnbergi</i>										x	
Dolphin Gull	<i>Larus scoresbii</i>	x										
Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	x				x	x	x	x	x		
South American Tern	<i>Sterna hirundinacea</i>	x										
Antarctic Tern	<i>Sterna vittata</i>					x	x	x	x	x		
Arctic tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>											
Kerguelen Petrel	<i>Aphrodroma brevirostris</i>											x
Cattle Egret	<i>Ardea ibis</i>					x						
Marine mammals		10-mrt	11-mrt	12-mrt	13-mrt	14-mrt	15-mrt	16-mrt	17-mrt	18-mrt	19-mrt	
Southern Right Whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>											
Antarctic Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>					x	x		x			
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	x				x	x	x	x			
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>											
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>								x	x		
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>											
Southern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>			x								
Long Finned Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>											
Killer Whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>							x				
Hourglass Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>			x								x
Peale's Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>											
Dusky Dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>											
Commerson's Dolphin	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>											
Leopard Seal	<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>					x	x		x	x		

Pippa Low – Expedition Leader



Pippa has worked as a marine guide and skipper for 15 years, primarily in Scotland, Australia, New Zealand and the polar regions. A marine scientist specialising in marine mammal research and conservation, she splits her time between the hemispheres, and loves showing the public the marine world and all it has to offer.

Growing up on the coast of the incredible Moray Firth sparked a love for the marine world and its inhabitants. Spending every spare minute in, on or under the water; professional life reflected this love from a young age, becoming an instructor in

various marine disciplines and going on to study Marine biology at university in Scotland, then later, Australia.

Upon completion of her degree, Pippa has worked as a marine mammal observer, scientific diver and research assistant on various research projects; including photo ID, migration, distribution and behavioural studies on a range of marine mammals. She has developed a keen interest in marine mammal conservation through outreach and research.

After working in the Ross Sea region of Antarctica as a research assistant, she fell in love with Antarctica. Pippa now works as a full-time guide and Expedition Leader in both the Arctic and Antarctica. In-between seasons, she still finds time to work on research projects – most recently completing a masters research degree specialising in Humpback Whale physiology.

Chloé Maréchal – Asst.Exp. Leader



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

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

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

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

Koen Jongerling – Assistant Expedition Leader



Having grown up in the Netherlands Koen always knew he wanted to live in a more rugged landscape than the rather flat lowlands that surrounded him. That is why after finishing his outdoor education in 2011, he chose to move to Patagonia, Chile to find the mountains he was longing for. Combining his love for nature and the desire to learn more, he started guiding expeditions through the mountain ranges of Patagonia. Travelling back and forth to Europe for additional mountain courses - every time feeling more at home in the rough conditions of Patagonia. In 2017 he started his own guide company, introducing travellers to the beauty of Southern Chile.

Living in Puerto Natales he came to love the cold and extreme weather and he could not stop looking further south to the great white continent, Antarctica.

He started to work there in 2019 as a camping/ snowshoe guide and year by year got more knowledgeable about the history and fauna. And so, his work kept on evolving into different roles within the team. Since 2022 he works as an assistant expedition leader and that year he started to work in the Arctic region as well. His everlasting curiosity will keep him yearning to learn more and together with his passion to teach this will surely be a lifelong project that he is more than happy to share with you.

Mark Whiffin – Expedition Guide



Mark holds a Master's Degree in Conservation Biology and is an ornithologist and birder with extensive field experience. His passion for birds and travelling started from a very young age in East Sussex, England and expanded from there.

While at university studying Biochemistry and Molecular Plant Biology, he participated in an ornithological expedition to Indonesia. This experience led to a Masters degree in Conservation Biology and he subsequently led numerous expeditions and scientific research projects to

remote tropical areas of the world in search of birds with a particular emphasis on threatened and endemic species.

Mark first visited Antarctica in 2018 employed by the British Antarctic Survey, and subsequently spent five years living and working on Bird Island, South Georgia as a Zoological Field Assistant working primarily with the penguins and petrels that breed on the island. During this time he developed a deep love for the Southern Ocean, its scenery and the birds that call it home, "seeing the first Cape Petrels on any trip always gives a feeling of arriving home".

In his free time Mark enjoys trekking, running or cycling. He is also a keen photographer and videographer who enjoys documenting and sharing his passion for birds, travel and wild places, his images have been used by Birdlife International, newspapers and online. He looks forward to sharing the birds of the southern ocean with you.

Gabi Kolodko – Expedition Guide



Having been exposed to the pristine wilderness of Alaska, Canada, and Lapland before turning ten, Gabi developed a deep-rooted passion for cold climates and the great outdoors. Each summer, she devoted herself to sailing, and in 2012, her adventures included crossing the Baltic Sea from Poland to Scandinavia and back aboard the *Zawisza Czarny*, a historic 42-meter vessel originally built in 1952.

With a Master's in Fine Arts and a fascination for art, culture, and history, Gabi's curiosity led her to explore the unique human-animal relationships in polar regions, combining her interest in zooanthropology with the stories of Antarctica's early exploration and modern conservation. Her first journey to Antarctica in 2019 only deepened her connection to the continent's striking landscapes and rich history.

Gabi's enthusiasm for the cold extends beyond her travels; she actively practices the Wim Hof method and regularly takes on ice baths, walrusing, and cryotherapy throughout the year. A memorable encounter with a herd of Musk Oxen in 1993 at Herschel Island off the Canadian Arctic coast sparked her love for Arctic wildlife, with the Gentoo Penguin now topping her list of favorites in Antarctica.

She loves being part of life-changing voyages, rediscovering the polar regions with each new group of guests. Driven by a passion for adventure and a genuine desire to share the wonders of the poles, Gabi aims to inspire awe and respect for these breathtaking and fragile landscapes, offering others a transformative glimpse into the natural world.

Andi Schwertz – Expedition Guide



Andi was born in Budapest and grew up in Germany. Andi has always been fascinated by animals and nature, especially marine mammals ever since she was a child. She wanted to be a whale researcher, became a whale expert, without studying at a university, but through passion. She initially graduated in sociology, but then ran her own cocktail bar for 10 years. However, her enthusiasm for sea creatures never left her and she began to travel the world to be close to these fascinating animals and to observe them.

As a scuba and freediver, she was able to get particularly close to many whale species and experience adventures. For example, she has already swum with orcas three times in arctic Norway. She came to Oceanwide because she wanted to share her passion with heart and enthusiasm. She was already able to gain experience as a trainee in Antarctica in the spring of 2023. The polar regions with their special fauna exert a very special attraction on her. She is also interested in landscape photography and has great tips for successful mobile phone photography. Another passion of hers is yoga, which she also practices as a yoga instructor. She speaks English, German, Hungarian, and a little bit of Spanish and French. Andi is looking forward to more great adventures as a team member of Oceanwide!

Jakub Malecki - Expedition Guide



Jakub, born in Poland in 1985, is a university professor in glaciology. He dreamed of becoming an astronaut as a child. His focus later shifted toward astronomy, and he eventually earned a Master's degree and a PhD in Earth Sciences, becoming a glaciologist. As he puts it, researching remote, glacier-covered regions is almost like landing on another planet, making his childhood dream partly come true.

Since 2007, Jakub has been studying glaciers across the world, either directly in the field or remotely using satellite and aerial imagery. His

primary research interest is how glaciers respond to climate change in diverse environmental settings. He carries out most of his glaciological work on Svalbard, an Arctic archipelago located midway between Norway and the North Pole, where he fell in love with ice. Since then, Jakub joins expeditions to remote regions on an annual basis.

Jakub considers public education by the science community to be at least as important as delivering new scientific knowledge. He is an avid glaciology communicator, a published author, and a frequent guest on Polish media outlets and at science festivals, where he comments on polar and mountain affairs. Apart from glaciology, Jakub is a huge enthusiast of planetary sciences and space exploration and tries to play the ukulele in his free time.

Lucia Romero - Expedition Guide



Lucia is an extroverted and curious person always looking for new challenges and experiences worldwide.

Born and raised in Puerto Madryn, a small town of Argentinian Patagonia coast, she grew up surrounded by marine wildlife and outdoor lifestyle. This led her to choose her career, with a bachelor degree in hospitality and tourism and becoming a professional tour guide and kayak guide.

She loves sharing her passion for exploration, learning, discovering, conservation and wildlife.

With over 12 years of experience on leading groups around Patagonia, she is now focusing on the wonders and biodiversity of the polar environments.

Joyce Mulder – Expedition guide



While studying Coastal and Marine Management in the Netherlands, Joyce began working as a whale-watching guide in the Azores in 2018 in Vila Franca do Campo. After this, she studied the Arctic snowfall variability at the Royal Netherlands Meteorological Institute, laying the foundation for her future career in Polar research.

Continuing her academic pursuits, Joyce studied Arctic terrestrial biology at the University Centre in Svalbard in 2019, acquiring insights into the valuable ecosystems of the far north.

With a bachelor's degree in Coastal and Marine Management, she followed a master's program in the same field in Ísafjörður, Iceland, making it her home from 2021 to 2023.

Her academic journey also brought her to the Norwegian town of Tromsø, where she studied fish migrations. For her master's thesis, she joined a research vessel in Greenland to study benthic communities, mapping previously unexplored regions of the seabed, a project she continues to return to, exploring the deep-sea environments around Greenland.

Today, Joyce works as an expedition guide with Oceanwide Expeditions, sharing her knowledge of marine wildlife and the polar regions with visitors.

Rose - Expedition Guide



Rose Li is an accomplished expedition professional with a diverse background in interior design, hospitality, and polar guiding.

Originating from China, she graduated from Wuhan College with a degree in Interior Design. Since 2014, her career has been dedicated to immersive travel, beginning on international cruise ships where she honed her skills as an Expedition Guide, VIP Services Executive, and Head Cruise Ambassador across Asia and Europe.

In 2018, Rose transitioned into the expedition industry, where her passion for geology and history became central to her role. She serves as a Polar Expedition Guide & Lecturer, captivating guests with insights into the earth's past and landscapes. Her versatile skill set also encompasses interpretation, Zodiac driving, and Guest Services Management.

An avid adventurer, Rose has visited over 50 countries. Outside of work, she channels her creativity and energy into skiing, and hosting. She is always looking forward to her next adventure and is committed to providing exceptional customer service while sharing the incredible journey of discovery with fellow travelers.

Saskia van der Meij – Exp. guide



Saskia is an adventurous 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.

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 2019 she worked for three months in Namibia as an assistant manager in two different remote private game lodge. 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 from mysterious Blue February until the colourful sunsets in October. Here, she started guiding as part of a two-man expedition team on a small sailing ship. Since 2022 she guides for Oceanwide Expedition in both the Arctic and Antarctic. Saskia loves the vast wilderness of Antarctica, with its fifty shades of white, which is home to her for three to four months every season. As a camping guide, on specific trips, she can't wait to take guests out for a night in the snow on this incredible seventh continent.

She is passionate about nature in general and has a wide interest and understanding, from animals to landscapes and ice. But she developed a deeper love for the fascinating polar history and whales.

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 amazing destinations.

Sven Joest – Expedition Guide



Sven is an arctic enthusiast from Bonn, Germany, with a passion and expertise in the area of geomorphology. During his undergraduate study in geography at the University of Bonn, it was his semester abroad in Joensuu, Finland, that sparked his interest in the wilderness of the north and the arctic.

Since then, he has pursued his enthusiasm for adventure through several trips to northern Norway and is currently continuing his academic journey with a master's degree specialising in Peace and Conflict

Transformation, at the Arctic University of Tromsø, Norway, which is the most northern university in the world. From here he is able to pursue his passion for the outdoors and the cold by skiing, hiking, and exploring these vast and remote environments.

As an enthusiastic hobby photographer, and an increasingly keen birder since volunteering at a bird nature reserve on the island of Fehmarn, you'll most likely find him out on deck taking snaps of the landscapes and the wildlife in his spare time during the voyage.

Excited to continue expanding his knowledge and experience in all aspects of the polar expanses, he welcomes you to chat at any point during the adventure about any questions you may have or your own polar interests and stories.

Juan Berenstein – Expedition Guide



Juan is a professional photographer and drone pilot born in Ushuaia, Argentina and is a Zodiac driver, expedition and photography guide.

He is a young and highly motivated person, who loves enjoying the outdoors and being in the mountains. His hobbies are hiking, 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.

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 the polar regions for several years now, including Antarctica, South Georgia, Falkland Islands, Svalbard, Greenland, and the Great Lakes in North America.

Lucas Ellerbroek – Astronomy guide



Lucas Ellerbroek is an astronomer and science communicator from the Netherlands with a deep curiosity about the night sky and the natural world. After a master in theoretical physics he moved to astronomy. He obtained his PhD at the University of Amsterdam studying the birth process of stars and their planets.

His passion lies in making complex scientific ideas accessible and engaging for broad audiences. As a speaker and author, Lucas has shared the wonders of astronomy with a diversity of audiences – from classrooms and festivals to tv studios and planetariums. As a journalist

for *NRC* (a major Dutch newspaper) and National Geographic he writes about a wide range of astronomical topics, with a special focus on the ‘social side’ of astronomy: the people, collaborations, and stories behind the discoveries. His 2014 book *Planetenjagers* (translation “Planet Hunters” appeared in 2017) explored the human quest to find worlds beyond our own.

Lucas is no stranger to astronomical field work. He has worked at the Very Large Telescope in Chile, where he spent many nights under the spectacular southern sky. He has also witnessed auroras above the Arctic Circle – an experience that inspired him to learn more about the mysterious lights that connect Earth’s atmosphere to the wider cosmos.

On board, Lucas looks forward to introducing fellow travelers to the star-dense southern sky, sharing insights into the physics of auroras, and reflecting together on our planet’s fragile place in space – observed from the most pristine of its natural observatories left on its surface.

Yukan Cheng – Expedition Guide



Yu Kan, pronounced as “You Can” means creating value in the universe” in Chinese. This belief shapes her perspective that life is about finding meaning, instilling in her a positive attitude that you can achieve anything in life. Yu Kan was born and raised in Hong Kong, a city famous for its towering skyscrapers. But actually, Hong Kong also has stunning coastal and mountain landscapes.

After earning her degree in accounting and working in an office, Yu Kan realized her passion for nature and adventure surpassed her interest in an office job.

Seeing people’s joy and growth has brought her more fulfillment than working with numbers. Therefore, she transitioned to the outdoor education industry, where she spent 10 years providing experiential learning in an outdoor setting for children aged 8-18. Witnessing the growth and development of these children has been her most significant achievement.

Fluent in Cantonese, Mandarin, and English, Yu Kan has had the opportunity to work and live in various countries, including China, Malaysia, Australia, the UK, and New Zealand. Her travels across different continents have made her comfortable and deeply interested in exploring diverse cultures.

In 2024, Yu Kan joined Oceanwide Expeditions, she is excited to offer a unique and memorable experience to all passengers.

Mike Pumm – Lead Dive Guide



Mike was born in Switzerland in 1987. He is the managing director and diving instructor at Tauch-Treff Zug in central Switzerland. In his free time he dives several times a week, preferring technical diving and cave diving in different regions of the world.

He had the opportunity to live in Honduras on the island of Roatan for a few years and managed a dive resort there.

Since his time in the Caribbean, he has preferred the colder regions of our world and in 2016 he had the privilege to travel to Antarctica for the first time, as a guest with Oceanwide Expeditions. Since then he has been traveling every year as a dive guide, dive team leader or regular expedition guide with Oceanwide Expeditions - no matter if he is in the Arctic or Antarctic, he just loves ice and the cold!

He is really looking forward to sharing this special part of the world with you, and especially sharing his love of what lies beneath the surface!

Gonzalo Sabattini- Dive Guide



Gonzalo Sabattini was born in Córdoba, Argentina in 1987. Son of Cecilia and Juan and brother to Matias and Marcos.

Since a young kid his life was connected to water because his family owns fishing boats in Los Molinos Lake in Córdoba. Summers and weekends were endless among friends and family, swimming, and fishing.

As time passed by, swimming in the lake evolved into diving; Gonzalo received his first diving certification as a Argentinian Federation of Subaquatic

Activities (FAAS_CMAS)-One Star Diver at the age of 16.

During his twenties Gonzalo was an active member of the local diving school collaborating as a volunteer as he continued his formation as a diver.

In 2013 he was invited to work to Cozumel, Mexico as a dive guide guiding certificate and first-time divers. At the island, he gained a lot of experience working with international tourism and he spent more than a year diving daily.

When he came back to his country, he set sails to a new adventure. Decided to move to Ushuaia, Tierra del Fuego, where diving and weather conditions are a challenge. For the last 6 years he has become a cold-water diver, mastering the dry suit and the rest of cold-water equipment. On 2018 he was certified as a dive instructor (FAAS – CMAS) and since then, works at a diving school lecturing new cold-water divers and guiding national and international divers who marvel with the kelp forests that characterize dives in the Beagle Channel.

On top of diving Gonzalo has always been as sportive person, he loves snowboarding, fishing, and spending time in nature and wilderness, and he found in Ushuaia a perfect playground.

Clara Iachetti – Dive Guide



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

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

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

Angela Buschor – Dive Guide



Angela was born in Austria and raised in Switzerland. She always enjoyed spending her time outdoors and exploring the areas around her. Whenever possible, she traveled to different places around the globe and, in 2017, began scuba diving in the US. She quickly became hooked and wanted to pursue her new hobby in her home country. That's how she ended up diving in Switzerland.

Over the years, she gained experience in cold water diving, continuing to dive year-round, even during the cold Swiss winters. In 2023, she was ready for a new challenge and flew to Bali to complete the Divemaster course. Back home, she became part of the team at a local dive center in Zurich, where she led local dives and assisted with various diving courses.

In 2025, Angela decided to change her career path and left Switzerland to move to Cyprus, where she began working at a local dive center. During the season, she completed her Scuba Instructor training and gained valuable first-hand experience teaching a variety of scuba courses.

Back in colder waters, Angela is looking forward to returning to Antarctica for her second season as a dive guide, eager to share the unique underwater world of Antarctica with the guests aboard the vessels of Oceanwide Expeditions.

Paul Warnock – Mountain Guide



Paul is originally from Ireland and is now based in North Wales, UK. He qualified as a mountain guide in 2010 and has since dedicated more than a decade to training and mentoring both climbing instructors and aspiring mountain guides. His career has allowed him to combine technical expertise with a genuine passion for helping others develop confidence and skills in challenging environments.

A formative moment in Paul's professional life came during an exploratory expedition to Greenland, where he and his team made first ascents of seven previously unclimbed peaks. This experience forged a lasting connection with the wilderness of the Arctic and strengthened his appreciation for remote and pristine landscapes.

Paul works regularly in the European Alps and the Scottish winter mountains, guiding individuals and groups as they pursue their mountaineering ambitions. His friendly, supportive manner and deep technical knowledge create a reassuring environment for guests of all experience levels.

His work has also taken him farther afield to the Himalaya, New Zealand, Japan and Norway, allowing him to bring a global perspective to every expedition. Paul enjoys sharing his experience with guests and hopes to inspire lasting memories of adventure and discovery.

George Hirn - Expedition Guide



Since he was walking five kilometres from kindergarten, alone, home to pick up his left snack box, Georg is inspired of doing outdoor activities.

Following to that he found the way into the Austrian Armed Forces as a non-commissioned officer in an airborne and mountaineering unit.

After quitting the service he was educated to, and therefore, he worked as such a sport physiotherapist for several years.

In 2002 longing for the wide world he has started with international tour guiding. Up to now he lives his passion and globetrot

with people about 10 months per year in different countries like Ecuador, Greece, Myanmar, Portugal, Scotland, Spain...as well as in the Artic region:

Firstly conducting a lot of trekking on the highlands of Iceland, amongst others, he took part in a travel and outdoor TV-production as guide and presenter.

For nearly 12 years he joins the Inuit hunters in Greenland and going on trekking with groups along the East and Westcoast true to the motto having phenomenal experiences in unbelievable dimensions of nature and Artic life.

Shaped by this he has also been bringing all of his knowledge to bear in testing and developing outdoor equipment for a German manufacturer.

Since 2016 the Rembrandt van Rijn has been for him a cosy base for hiking and snowshoeing in Greenland, Northern Norway and Svalbard, whether under the northern lights or the midnight sun - the Rembrandt trips always open up wonderful experiences and time far north – for his guests and himself!!

Jessica Bakker - Ships Doctor



Jessica will be our ship doctor during this trip. She went to medical school in Rotterdam the Netherlands. She started her carrier as a resident at the cardiothoracic surgery, later cardiology and ICU, before starting her training as a hospitalist. She is currently working as a hospitalist in the Hague, the Netherlands. Jessica spends most of her time on the surgery department and is an ambassador for patient safety improvement in her hospital. Next to her work in the hospital, she followed courses in diving- and outdoor medicine and gives CRP-training.

During her medical training, she coordinated a researchproject to lower the acquisition rate of MRSA infections on a surgery ward in Surabaya Indonesia. Propper hand hygiene turned out to be the most effective measure to prevent the spread of MRSA infection. With the recent pandemic in mind, Jessica will ask everybody kindly to disinfect your hands before entering the public areas, so we can all enjoy a safe and healthy journey. This project learned her a lot about working with limited researches.

Summer 2017 was Jessica's first trip to Greenland. She loved the beauty of the nature and amount of whales in Arctic and could not wait to explore more places in de polar region. In 2022 she started as a shipsdoctor.



Antarctica - Whale watching
Discovery and Learning voyage
Tuesday 10th March 2026
Embarkation – Ushuaia

WELCOME ABOARD!

Luggage will be delivered to your cabin. Please check to make sure you have received all your luggage. If you have any extra luggage in your cabin – please notify a crew member. Please also check your cabin for any rental gear and try it on to ensure it fits.

**** 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 **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.

±1815 **Captain's Welcome & Expedition Introduction** – 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 **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 operations and biosecurity briefings.
- 1030 **Dive Briefing** – Please join Mike and the dive team in the **lecture room on** (deck 5) to learn all you need to know about the diving activity
- 1130 **Birds of the Drake Passage** – Please join Mark in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a lecture about the birds of the Drake Passage and the Antarctic peninsula.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1345 **Boots** – We will call you by deck to collect your Muck boots from the zodiac boarding area on **Deck 3**. *Please listen for announcements.*
- 1430 **Whales of the Southern Ocean** – Please join Joyce in the **lounge** (deck 5) for an introduction to the Whales & Dolphins in the Southern Ocean
- 1630 **Polar Photography** – Please join Juan in the **lounge** (deck 5) for an introduction on photography in the polar regions.
- 1800 **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) – *Tonight’s dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*

Please walk slowly on the ship, never rush. Keep one hand for yourself and at least one hand for the ship – always keep your hands clear of door frames.

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

- 0745 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room** (deck 4).

Throughout the day, please take a moment to clean all clothing and equipment you plan to take ashore. Brushes and paperclips will be available for borrowing in the library.

- 0915 **Lucia** invites you to **the Lounge** for a presentation on **the penguins** we may encounter during our journey.
- 1030 **Long hike Briefing**- Please meet Paul and Georg in the **Lecture room** to learn more about the trekking activities. This is mandatory for those who have booked long hiking.
- 1115 **On thin ice** - Please join **Jacob** in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a lecture about the global role of glaciers & icesheets.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room** (deck 4).
- 1400 During the afternoon we will call you deck by deck for the **mandatory IAATO Biosecurity check in the Lounge on Deck 5**. When called, please bring all your CLEAN outer garments, bags, boots, life jackets, tripods etc. that you plan to use in Antarctica for the Expedition Staff to check. Please ensure you sign the self-declaration form once you have been approved by the Expedition Team.
- 14:00/1600 **Workshop** - Everybody not busy at the Biosecurity is welcome to join Mark and Juan outside on deck 6 on the AFT(back) of the ship for a Birdwatching and Photography workshop.
- 1630 **Southern Skies** – Please join Lucas in the **lounge** (deck 5) for a lecture about the astronomy of the Southern skies including unique astrological features of Antarctica and some more information about the Aurora Australis.
- 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) – *Tonight’s dinner will be plated – please make your way to the dining room promptly.*



Antarctica - Whale watching
Discovery and Learning voyage
Friday 13th March 2026
Danco Island and Damoy point
Sunrise: 0648 Sunset: 1953

- 0645 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*In the morning, we aim to land and cruise at **Danco island**, a small but scenic island in the Errera Channel. This peaceful spot offers excellent opportunities to observe gentoo penguins, which nest here during the breeding season.*

Both groups will land and zodiac cruise. We will swap ashore mid morning.

- 0800 **Long Hikers:** Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0815 **The krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing.
0830 **The humpback whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a cruise.
0845 **Divers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.

*In the afternoon we hope to land in **Damoy point**, an historic headland first discovered by Jean-Baptiste Charcot's French expedition. It is home to the **Damoy Point Hut** (HSM 84), a well-preserved transit station built in 1973 that served British scientific personnel for twenty years. Now managed by the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust, the hut remains a significant cultural site and was recently restored to its original, iconic bright orange color in 2023.*

Both groups will land and zodiac cruise. We will swap ashore mid afternoon.

- 1345 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the lounge for our first daily recap and briefing.
1515 **The humpback whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a landing.
1530 **The krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a cruise.
1545 **Divers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1930 **Buffet Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.

Even if you never have the chance to see or touch the ocean, the ocean touches you with every breath you take, every drop of water you drink, every bite you consume. Everyone everywhere is inextricably connected to and utterly dependent upon the existence of the sea. - Sylvia Earl, American marine biologist, oceanographer and explorer.



Antarctica - Whale watching
Discovery and Learning voyage
Saturday 14th March 2026
Port Charcot and Yalour Island
Sunrise: 0653 Sunset: 2000

*This morning, around 0630, we hope to transit through the spectacular **Lemaire Channel**. Many photographers describe this channel as the 'Kodak Gap', considered one of Antarctica's most photogenic passages. Please enjoy the towering glaciers and wildlife as we transit through this narrow passage aboard Hondius.*

0645 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*In the morning, we invite you for a landing and zodiac cruise at **Yalour island**, a small island home to an Adélie penguin Colonie. Yalour Island is in Antarctica's Wilhelm Archipelago and named after Argentine Navy officer Jorge Yalour by the French Antarctic Expedition in 1903–05. **The island can only accommodate 60 people at a time; we'll rotate visits between the landing and the Zodiac cruises. Everyone will have the opportunity to visit the island and cruise.***

0845 **The humpback whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0900 **The krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0915 **Divers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

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

*In the afternoon, we aim to zodiac cruise at **Port Charcot**, a small bay at the northern end of Booth Island. It was first mapped in 1904 during the French Antarctic Expedition led by Jean-Baptiste Charcot, which overwintered here and used the bay as a base to explore the nearby Lemaire Channel region.*

1445 **The krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for cruise.
1500 **Divers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1515 **The humpback whales** Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a cruise.

1845 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the lounge for a short recap about plan for tomorrow.

1900 Tonight we will serve a **special Antarctic dinner** while we sail through the iconic **Lemaire Channel. Dress warmly!**

*"Why then do we feel this strange attraction for these Polar regions, a feeling so powerful and lasting, that when we return home, we forget the mental and physical hardship, and want nothing more than to return to them?" -**Jean-Baptiste Charcot, French Explorer.***



Antarctica - Whale watching
Discovery and Learning voyage
Sunday 15th March 2026
Wilhelmina Bay – Expedition Day
Sunrise: 0649 Sunset: 1947

0715 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

This morning, we hope to sail deep into Wilhelmina Bay, seeking some shelter from the passing storm while continuing our exploration of the Antarctic Peninsula. Surrounded by steep, glacier-covered mountains, the bay is known for its beautiful scenery bays filled with icebergs and is one of the best places in the region to encounter Humpback Whales. Here we hope to offer a zodiac cruise for everyone.

0830 **The humpback whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise in Wilhelmina Bay.
0845 **Divers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0900 **The krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area** for a zodiac cruise in Wilhelmina Bay.

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

Expedition Afternoon

In the afternoon, we hope will look for further opportunities for both shelter and wildlife to zodiac cruise, whilst the storm passes. Please standby for announcements – we will keep you informed of our activities.

TBC **The krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
TBC **Divers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
TBC **The humpback whales** Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1845 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the lounge for a short recap about plan for tomorrow.

1930 **Dinner** is served in the **dining room**.

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



Antarctica - Whale watching
Discovery and Learning voyage

Monday 16th March 2026

Portal Point/Charlotte Bay & Foyn Harbour

Sunrise: 0651 Sunset: 1943

- 0645 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

*In the morning, we hope to make a continental landing at **Portal Point**, a beautiful and historic site on the Antarctic mainland, with Antarctic views over Charlotte Bay. We also hope to enjoy a zodiac cruise around **Charlotte Bay**, where we hope to cruise among icebergs, while keeping an eye out for wildlife such as seals, seabirds, and whales.*

Both groups will land and zodiac cruise. We will swap ashore mid-morning.

- 0815 **The krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0830 **The humpback whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0845 **Divers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

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

*In the afternoon, we hope to zodiac cruise at **Foyn Harbour**. We will explore the shores of Enterprise Island and the shipwreck of the Governoren; a whaling factory ship that caught fire and shipwrecked here in 1915. We also hope to encounter icebergs and wildlife.*

- 1445 **The humpback whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1500 **The krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1515 **Divers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1830 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the lounge for a short recap about plan for tomorrow.

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

“Penguin meat tastes excellent” - Roald Amundsen



Antarctica - Whale watching
Discovery and Learning voyage
Tuesday 17th March 2026
Elephant Point & Deception Island
Sunrise: 0651 Sunset: 1933

- 0645 **Wakeup call** - Good Morning!
0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

In the morning, we hope to offer a landing at elephant point. It was first charted and named by Robert Fildes in 1820-22. The name of the site come from the Elephant seal haul-outs that can be found in the area. This site is also home for nesting Giant petrels and Gentoo penguins.

- 0800 **Long hikers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0815 **The humpback whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0830 **The krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
0845 **Divers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

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

- 1345 **Recap** – Please join the Expedition team in the lounge for a short recap about plans for tomorrow.

*This afternoon we hope to reach **Deception Island** – a flooded caldera and active volcano. We hope to sail into the caldera, sailing through '**Neptunes Bellows**' – the entrance to Port Foster within the caldera. This is an impressive navigation – please enjoy from the outside decks or bridge.*

*This afternoon, we hope to visit **Whalers Bay**, located within Deception Island. This historic site features the remains of an early 20th-century whaling station, including old oil tanks, abandoned buildings, and whale bones along the black volcanic beach. **Please listen for announcement.***

*At the end of the afternoon, we'll be offering a **Polar Plunge** for those feeling brave! Please **wear your swimsuit underneath your expedition gear**. Towels will be provided, so **do not bring the towel from your cabin along.***

- 1515 **Long hikers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1530 **The krill** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1545 **The humpback whales** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.
1600 **Divers** - Please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1930 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.

*"Why do you go away? So that you can come back. So that you can see the place you came from with new eyes and extra colours." **Terry Pratchett***

- No wakeup call – enjoy!**
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.
- 0930 Join **Saskia** in the lounge to learn more about **Antarctic history!** She'll be sharing fascinating insights into the **Gerlache Antarctic expedition**, the 1897–1899 Belgian expedition led by Adrien de Gerlache, which became the first to overwinter in Antarctica. Trapped in sea ice for months, the crew endured extreme conditions and made important scientific observations, mapping and naming many of the places we've visited.
- 1030 **Diving Meeting** and gear cleaning – Divers please join Mike and the Dive team in the **Lecture room** for a wrap up meeting and equipment clean.
- 1130 **Sven** invites you to the **lounge** for a journey into **geology!** He'll be giving a talk on **Antarctic tectonic history and today's tectonic environment**, including how the continent was once part of the supercontinent Gondwana and how its slow isolation shaped the icy landscape we see today.
- 1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **dining room**.
- 1330 **Muck boot, rental gear & Drybag Collection** – We will call you by deck to **the zodiac boarding area** to return your muck boots, drybags and rental gear. Please listen for announcements.
- 1430 **Chloe** invites you to the lounge for a (very) enthusiastic lecture about **plankton!** Did you know that the longest plankton in the world can reach up to 60 meters—twice the length of a blue whale? Come to the lecture to see a picture of it!
- 1630 **Antarctic Trivia!** Please join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for a fun night of Antarctic Trivia – join a team and come up with a fun team name!
- 1815 **Recap** – Please join the expedition team in the **Lounge** for our daily briefing and recap.
- 1900 **Dinner** will be served in the **dining room**.
- +/-2030 **Una Ventana al Mar Auction-** Please join the Clara & Gonzalo for an evening of fun and fundraising – all in aid of Ocean Conservation and Education.

*Please walk slowly on the ship, never rush. **Keep at least one hand for the ship.***

“Penguins are extraordinarily like children, these little people of the Antarctic world, either like children, or like old men, full of their own importance and late for dinner, in their black tail-coats and white shirt-fronts and rather portal withal”

– Aspley Cherry-Garrard, British Explorer

0745 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning!
0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **dining room**.

You will receive your bill in your cabin, when you are ready, please come to reception to complete your payments at reception.

*We will also take payments (separately) for the **Una Ventana al Mar Auction**– please come to the library for these payments.*

We hope to sail past Cape Horn at some point this morning. This iconic point marks the southernmost point of the Tierra del Fuego and the boundary between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans. Renowned as a dangerous maritime passage for sailors around the World.

0930 Antarctica is the last continent to be reached by humans. Its discovery was only possible by many fascinating journeys. To know more about it please join **Koen** in **the lounge** for an enthusiastic lecture about **Antarctic history**.

1130 Please join **Lucas** in the lounge for a talk on **Antarctic astronomy**, where you'll learn how the continent's cold, dry air and long winter nights make it one of the best places on Earth for observing the stars and studying the universe.

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

1400 Please join **Pippa** in **the Lecture Room** for an informative presentation about **Oceanwide Expeditions' destinations**. Discover the spectacular regions we explore, including Greenland, Svalbard, South Georgia or even Tristan da Cuna!

1600 **Andi** invites you to **the lounge** to give her talk on **the cultural evolution of whales**. She explains how whales went from being hunted for oil to becoming some of the most powerful symbols of conservation in the world.

1800 **Farewell Toast & Trip Slideshow** - Please join the captain and the expedition team in the Lounge to toast our voyage through the Southern Ocean and watch the trip slideshow.

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

*Please walk slowly on the ship, never rush. **Keep at least one hand for the ship.***

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

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, you can pick up at the luggage depot before 14:00.
 Address: Av. Maipú 1210, Ushuaia
4. If you have arranged your own transport – please take your luggage

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