



North Spitsbergen Explorer-Versatile Landscapes, Sea Ice and Wildlife

13th June – 20th June, 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.



and his international crew of 73 sailors

Chief Officer:	Sven Holzhausen	[Germany]
Second Officer:	Filipkowski Piotr	[Poland]
Third Officer:	Oleksandr Domashov	[Ukraine]
Operation Officer :	Anar Babaiev	[Ukraine]
Hotel Manager:	Albert Don	[Netherlands]
Head Chef:	Ralph Bartel	[Germany]
Sous Chef:	Norman Estrada	[Philippines]
Sous Chef:	Felix Lobo	[India]
Ships doctor:	Ingrid Lieverse	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Chris Long	[NewZealand]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Charlotte Taplin	[UK]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Jerry Zhao	[China]
Expedition Guide:	Juan Berenstein	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Lucia Romero	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Bill Smith	[Scotland\UK]
Expedition Guide:	Marcelo Taparow	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Rose Li Hong	[China]
Expedition Guide:	Pierre Gallego	[Luxembourg]
Expedition Guide:	Isabelle Schulz	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Sven Joest	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Meike Sjoer	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Andi Schwetz	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Valeria Saiz Herrera	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Bjarni Olafsson	[Iceland]
Kayak Leader:	Alexis Belezze	[Argentina]
Kayak guide:	Chris Forrest	[UK]
Kayak safety driver :	Brian Veltrop	[Netherlands]

WE WELCOME YOU ON BOARD!

Day 1 – Saturday 13th June, Longyearbyen: Setting Sail into the Arctic wilds

16h00 GPS Position: 78°12.6'N, 014°42.1'E

Wind: NNE2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +9°C

Our Arctic adventure began beneath a blanket of cloud hanging low over Longyearbyen. The small port bustled with anticipation as fellow travelers gathered, eager to begin our voyage aboard *Hondius*. In the afternoon, we boarded the waiting Zodiacs, their sturdy inflatable hulls carrying us across the cold, steel-grey waters. The ride offered our first taste of the expedition spirit—wind on our faces, the scent of the sea in the air, and the unmistakable excitement of heading toward the ship that would be our home for the days ahead.

As *Hondius* came into view, a sense of adventure swept through the group. We were warmly welcomed aboard by the crew and escorted to our cabins, where we quickly settled in and familiarized ourselves with our surroundings. The ship hummed with quiet energy as passengers unpacked, explored the decks, and watched the dramatic landscape of Svalbard drift by beyond the windows.



Before long, we gathered in the lounge for the mandatory safety briefing. The bridge team guided us through the procedures and protocols that would ensure a safe voyage as we ventured into one of the most remote regions on Earth. The briefing also heightened our anticipation; every instruction seemed to hint at the remarkable experiences that awaited us among the fjords and the pack ice.

Soon afterward, we were invited to the Observation Lounge for a welcoming drink and snacks. There we met the expedition team, whose enthusiasm for the Arctic was infectious, along with the hotel manager and key members of the ship's staff. Introductions, laughter, and conversation filled the room as strangers quickly began to feel like companions on a shared adventure.

Our first dinner onboard followed, marking the true beginning of life at sea. As we enjoyed a delicious meal, *Hondius* continued her course through Isfjorden. Outside, the clouds gradually parted and a beautiful Arctic light spread across the landscape. Golden rays illuminated the mountains surrounding the fjord, casting soft shadows across their rugged slopes. It was a breathtaking welcome to Svalbard—a moment of quiet beauty that accompanied us into the evening and perfectly set the tone for the extraordinary voyage ahead.



Day 2 – Sunday 14th June, Smeerenburg & Alicehamna

08h00 GPS Position: 79°18.0'N, 010°24.2'E

Wind: NW7 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Snow • Air temperature: -1°C

The day began with the very first wake-up call from Expedition Leader Chris, a moment that marked the true start of the adventure. Outside, waves, wind, and drifting snow offered everyone their first real taste of Arctic weather, a reminder that they had arrived in one of the most remote and fascinating regions on Earth.

After breakfast, we gathered for the mandatory AECO, bear safety, and Zodiac briefings. With the essential information covered and everyone eager to explore, were finally ready to begin their Arctic adventure.

As the ship sailed northward, the Expedition Team kept a constant watch for wildlife. Then, the magic happened. Excited voices echoed through the ship as the first polar bear of the voyage was spotted. We hurried to our cabins for jackets, cameras, and binoculars before gathering on deck to admire this magnificent Arctic icon.

The bear was walking calmly along the shoreline, seemingly unfazed by its audience. Then it entered the water and began playing with a large piece of kelp, providing a spectacular and unforgettable wildlife encounter. For many, it was a dream come true and a moment that perfectly captured the wonder of the Arctic. Smiles, excitement, and camera shutters filled the air as everyone enjoyed the extraordinary show.



Eventually, it was time to continue sailing and resume the search for more wildlife. The encounter had already made for an incredible start to the voyage and left everyone eager for what might come next.

During the afternoon, it was finally time to stretch their legs and explore the tundra of Alicehamna. We set out in hiking groups, each enjoying the landscape at their own pace while taking in the magnificent views of mountains, glaciers, and the surrounding fjord. Along the way, we discovered a place rich in both natural beauty and human history. Named after Princess Alice of Monaco, Alicehamna became associated with Prince Albert I of Monaco's pioneering scientific expeditions to Svalbard in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The area is also home to Rauðfjordhytta, a relatively recent cabin, and the remains of an old trapper's hut built by the Norwegian trapper Sven Olsson in the 1920s, offering a fascinating glimpse into the challenging lives of those who once spent winters in the High Arctic. A light rain shower accompanied part of the excursion, providing yet another authentic taste of Arctic weather and adding to the atmosphere of the afternoon.



The day concluded with the daily recap. Chris presented the plans for the following day, building excitement for the adventures ahead. Valeria shared useful tips and tricks for capturing better photographs with mobile phones, helping us making the most of our memories. Bill then delivered an inspiring talk, encouraging everyone to see, feel, think, and engage deeply with the remarkable experiences unfolding around them throughout the voyage.

After a memorable day, we gathered for dinner, sharing stories and photographs from our first true day of exploration.

Day 3 – Monday 15th June, Texas Bar & Monacobreen

07h00 GPS Position: 79°36.6'N, 012°43.8'E

Wind:SW5 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +3°C

We began the morning with the traditional wake-up call from Chris, welcoming us to a beautiful day in Svalbard. Sunshine filled the landscape while a brisk Arctic wind reminded us where we were. With perfect conditions for exploration, we headed ashore at Texas Bar, the iconic trapper's hut built by the legendary Norwegian trapper Hilmar Nøis.

Once ashore, guests spread out across the tundra with their guides according to their preferred pace. Our long hikers ventured further into the landscape, while medium and short hikes allowed everyone to enjoy the stunning surroundings. Along the way, we were rewarded with magnificent views of glaciers, mountains, and the bay below. Some lucky observers even spotted Rock Ptarmigans and Snow Buntings, two remarkable bird species specially adapted to life in the Arctic.

Back at the landing site, it was time for one of the highlights of any polar expedition: the Polar Plunge! With plenty of enthusiasm and perhaps a little hesitation, many brave guests took the leap into the freezing Arctic waters. The air was filled with laughter, cheers, and a few surprised shouts as swimmers emerged refreshed and exhilarated from their icy adventure.



After warming up and enjoying a well-earned lunch on board, we set course for the spectacular Monacobreen Glacier. There, we boarded the Zodiacs for an unforgettable cruise among the ice. Calm waters reflected the dramatic glacier front, while a cold breeze flowing from the ice

reminded us of the immense frozen world surrounding us. We carefully navigated through icebergs and brash ice, taking time to appreciate the scale and beauty of the glacier walls.

Nature provided another special encounter when we spotted a Bearded Seal swimming among the ice. Several guests were also fortunate enough to witness (or at least hear) the thunderous sound of glacier calving as ancient ice broke away and crashed into the sea, a powerful reminder that these frozen giants are constantly changing.



Back on board, we gathered for the daily recap with the Expedition Team, reflecting on the day's adventures and looking ahead to what tomorrow might bring. But the day was not over yet. After putting our jackets back on, we headed outside once more for a true Arctic celebration: the deck barbecue!

Surrounded by spectacular polar scenery, we enjoyed delicious food, drinks, dancing, and wonderful company. The atmosphere was filled with smiles, laughter, and good vibes as we celebrated another unforgettable day in Svalbard.

Day 4 – Tuesday 16th June, Alkjefellet & Torellneset

08h00 GPS Position: 79°36.5'N / 018°28.0'E

Wind: N4 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Part.Cloudy • Air temperature: +3°C

As we woke up the ship was already close to the Hinlopen straight entrance. We enjoyed our lovely breakfast on the ship and got ready for our first activity of the day, zodiac-cruising Alkefjellet. Alkefjellet (literally named Auk-mountain) definitely lives up to its name as around 60.000 pairs of Brunich-guillemots reside and breed in the cliffs and is one of the busiest bird cliffs in all of Svalbard. It truly was a sight to behold, with 100–120 meter cliffs towering over us and countless guillemots flying past as we cruised the cliffs with the wind from north to south.



But there were more things than guillemots around, a lone brown Arctic fox was seen at one of the edges of the cliffs, walking around the shoreline scanning the waterline for anything eatable that might be brought in by the tides. Glaucous gulls also breed in these cliffs, especially on the lower levels, and they are quick to take advantage of any dead birds or unattended eggs. Other birds in the general area included Arctic skua, Snow bunting, Kittiwake and Fulmar. Who all in one way or another benefit from the bird cliff (or prey on their inhabitants).



Back on board and enjoyed our lunch buffet and had a short rest before our next activity of the day focused on Torellneset. Torellneset is a headland projecting to the

south west into Hinlopen straight from the island of Nordaustlandet. The place is known as a Walrus haulout and thus a point of interest for us. We split into two groups according to our color codes, half of us went on land while the other half took an exploratory zodiac cruise of the coast or neighboring island.

The Walrus appeared quite relaxed by our visit, with most of them not even looking up from their naps. About twelve Walrus lay bundled together, and with the animals packed so closely, it was sometimes difficult to tell where one Walrus ended and the next began. Occasionally, one would raise its head to inspect the new bipedal arrivals dressed in Gore-Tex. It was a calm and rewarding observation. The Walrus we saw were all males, as the females mostly remain around Franz Josef Land at this time of year, where they raise their calves.



During the zodiac cruise, some of us explored the coastline to see what wildlife we could find, while others visited the island of Behmøya. The island hosts abundant birdlife, and we observed Arctic terns and Common Eider ducks, but the highlight was definitely the Grey Phalarope, also known as the Red Phalarope. This remarkable species breeds in the high Arctic and migrates long distances to the southern hemisphere where it winters off the coasts of South-America, Africa.

As we had dinner we cruised around the island of Wahlbergøya where we got lucky with a Polar bear sighting. First we saw only one Polar bear sleeping in the snow, but as our eyes were focused on the sleeping polar bear in the distance, the crew spotted a second swimming Polar bear that swam surprisingly fast past our ship and to the island where our first Polar bear woke up to the new arrival. After measuring each other up the first Polar bear decided to leave the

area, hopefully well rested after its nap. When we got ready to leave the area a third Polar bear was spotted in the water swimming the opposite direction. A very lucky observation for sure.

With a good day of activities in the Hinlopen Strait behind us set course north, into the ice!



Day 5 – Wednesday 17th June, A day in the Ice

08h00 GPS Position: 80°29.4'N / 013°08.8'E

Wind: E3 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Part.Cloudy • Air temperature: -2°C

The day began with breakfast at 08:00 before we gathered on deck for an enjoyable ice day, as M/V Hondius navigated through the drifting sea ice in search of Arctic wildlife. Under bright sunshine and calm conditions, we spent much of the day outside enjoying the spectacular icy landscape while the expedition team continuously scanned for wildlife. During lunchtime, the ship was rewarded with a remarkable sighting of a Bowhead Whale, one of the Arctic's rarest marine mammals and a true highlight for everyone on board.

At 11:15, Charlotte presented an engaging lecture on Polar bears, covering their biology, ecology, and the challenges they face in a rapidly changing Arctic environment.

In the afternoon at 15:30, Bill delivered a lecture about Arctic sea ice, explaining the differences between freshwater ice and sea ice, and discussing the ongoing reduction of sea

ice around Svalbard as a consequence of climate change. He also gave a fascinating historical overview of the first people to venture into these waters during the 17th century. Early whalers arrived in ships that were poorly suited for navigating ice-covered seas and hunted whales on an industrial scale, leading to dramatic declines in their populations. Bill contrasted these early vessels with M/V Hondius, which is specially built for polar operations and holds Ice Class 6, allowing her to safely navigate through first-year sea ice.



At 17:00, the expedition team served hot chocolate with a splash of rum on the bow. WE enjoyed the warm drinks while taking in the stunning scenery under brilliant sunshine, making for a memorable Arctic afternoon.

Pierre returned to the morning's unforgettable Bowhead Whale sighting, explaining its unique anatomy and plankton-based diet. He highlighted that the Spitsbergen population is estimated at only around 300 individuals, making the encounter an exceptionally rare privilege.

Bjarni then continued with the history of bowhead whaling. He described how an estimated population of approximately 120,000 bowheads inhabited these waters during the 17th and 18th centuries before intensive commercial whaling drove their numbers to near extinction. Using a humorous live demonstration with expedition staff acting as the rowing crew, harpooner, and even the whale itself, he illustrated how these hunts were carried out and explained the many historical uses of whale oil, including lighting and soap production.

Finally, Andi introduced guests to the Beluga Whale, one of the Arctic's toothed whale species, which many guests had already enjoyed observing on the first day of the voyage. She explained that belugas use echolocation to locate their prey and are easily distinguished by their lack of a dorsal fin, instead possessing a dorsal ridge that helps them navigate beneath sea ice. She

also noted that the Svalbard population is largely coastal, spending most of its time close to shore rather than in open waters.

The day combined excellent weather, fascinating lectures, and memorable wildlife encounters, providing guests with a deeper understanding of the Arctic environment and its remarkable marine mammals.



Day 6 – Thursday 18th June, Sea ice and sailing South

08h00 GPS Position: 80°52.9' N, 013°02.7'E

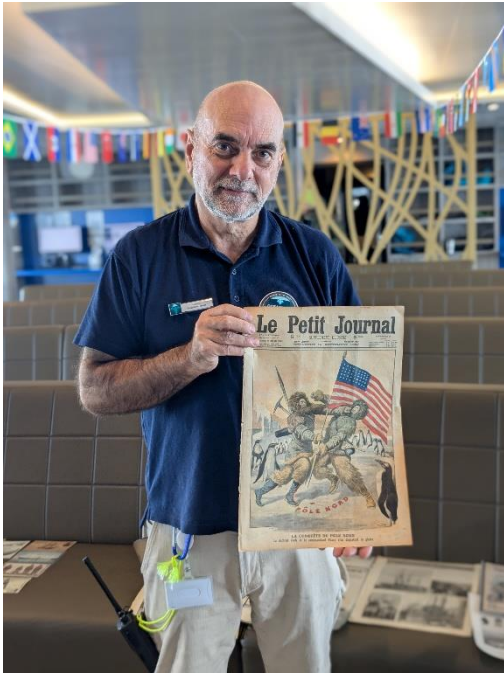
Wind: NE3 • Sea: Ice • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: -1°C

During the night, the vessel drifted quietly within the Arctic pack ice, surrounded by a mesmerizing landscape of ice floes bathed in the golden light of the midnight sun. The stillness of the polar environment provided a unique opportunity to experience the Arctic at its most

pristine. Throughout the drift, the expedition team maintained a vigilant watch for wildlife, and guests were encouraged to listen for onboard announcements regarding any sightings.



In the morning, we continued exploring the sea ice, taking in the ever-changing patterns, textures, and colors of the frozen Arctic Ocean before gradually turning south and beginning our transit toward Alkhornet, located at the mouth of Isfjorden. The journey offered spectacular views of the ice edge and the surrounding polar seascape as we left the pack ice behind.



Following breakfast, guests joined Marcello for an engaging Arctic history session, which explored the fascinating stories of exploration, hunting, scientific discovery, and human activity throughout the High Arctic. The presentation provided valuable context for understanding the region we have been navigating during the expedition.

Later in the morning, Sven delivered an insightful lecture on the geology of Svalbard, explaining the geological processes that have shaped the archipelago's dramatic mountains, fjords, and glaciers over millions of years. The presentation enhanced guests' appreciation of the remarkable landscapes visible throughout the voyage.

After lunch, the ship continued its southbound transit toward Isfjorden. Guests enjoyed time on deck observing seabirds, scanning for wildlife, and appreciating the vast Arctic scenery while reflecting on the unique experience of drifting amongst the sea ice under continuous daylight.

In the afternoon, Meike presented a lecture on the Auks of the Arctic, introducing guests to this remarkable group of seabirds and discussing their adaptations, breeding behavior, and ecological importance within the polar marine ecosystem.

Before dinner, the expedition team hosted the daily recap session, sharing highlights from the day, discussing wildlife observations and ice conditions, and outlining plans for the next stage of the expedition.

The evening concluded with Bill's presentation, *Paintings of the Sea*, an engaging journey through maritime art and the ways artists have captured the beauty, drama, and changing moods of the world's oceans. It was a fitting end to a day spent immersed in the unique environment of the Arctic pack ice.

Day 7 – Friday 19th June, Ymerbukta & Alkhornet

07h00 GPS Position: 78°14.9' N, 013°57.3'E

Wind: SE1 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Cloudy • Air temperature: +4°C

Our final day in Svalbard dawned beneath a blanket of low clouds, with occasional flurries of snow and light rain sweeping across the landscape. While the weather may have hidden some of the dramatic peaks, it lent the Arctic an atmosphere of mystery and wild beauty—an unforgettable setting for our last adventures ashore.

Our first landing took place in Ymerbukta, a beautiful bay named after Ymir, the giant of Norse mythology. After landing, we divided into several hiking groups, each setting off to explore the tundra at its own pace. The terrain was often boggy underfoot, but every step revealed signs of the short yet vibrant Arctic summer. Tiny Purple saxifrages, among the first flowering plants to bloom after the snow melts, dotted the ground alongside cheerful Arctic buttercups, bringing splashes of colour to the otherwise muted landscape.



Wildlife accompanied us throughout the morning. We encountered Rock ptarmigans, perfectly adapted to life in the High Arctic, as well as Skuas patrolling the skies overhead. Groups of Pink-footed geese and Barnacle geese grazed across the tundra, while Reindeer wandered calmly through the valleys. Far out on the water, a few Harbour seals could be seen resting and surfacing between the waves.

After lunch aboard *Hondius*, we headed ashore once more, this time at Alkhornet, one of Svalbard's most iconic bird cliffs. The mountain's summit remained hidden behind clouds when we arrived, creating an almost mythical atmosphere. Yet the wildlife more than compensated for the lack of views. Reindeer were plentiful, but the highlight of the afternoon was undoubtedly a fox den. There, to everyone's delight, several Arctic fox pups emerged to play, tumble, and curiously observe their visitors—a magical encounter and a fitting farewell gift from Svalbard.



As the hike drew to a close, the weather finally relented. The clouds gradually lifted, revealing the towering cliffs of Alkhornet and the sweeping landscapes beyond. Bathed in soft Arctic light, the scenery appeared even more spectacular after having been hidden for most of the day.

Back aboard *Hondius*, we gathered one final time for the Captain's Farewell. Glasses were raised, stories were exchanged, and memories were celebrated. The evening concluded with a wonderful plated dinner, providing the perfect ending to an extraordinary journey through the Arctic wilderness of Svalbard.

Day 8 – Saturday 20th June, Farewell from the Arctic: Disembarkation in Longyearbyen

04h00 GPS Position: 78°14.2' N, 015°03.4'E

Wind: NNW2 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Cloudy • Air temperature: +3°C

In the soft light of early morning, we arrived in Longyearbyen. As we gathered for one final breakfast on board, there was a quiet sense of reflection in the air. Outside, the crew gently unloaded our suitcases, a silent reminder that our Arctic adventure was drawing to a close.

Over these past days, the *Hondius* has been far more than a ship—she's been our shelter, our launchpad into the wild, and our floating home. Within her walls we've shared laughter, awe, and moments that will stay with us for a lifetime.

Together, we ventured deep into the high latitudes, witnessed landscapes sculpted by ice and time, and encountered wildlife most only dream of—polar bears, walrus, whales, and the mesmerizing dance of seabirds in the Arctic skies. Along the way, strangers became companions, and companions became friends.

Now, with hearts full and cameras brimming, we begin the journey home. Though we leave the ice behind, its spirit travels with us—etched into memory, carried in stories, and felt in quiet, unforgettable moments.

Thank you for joining us on this remarkable voyage. Your curiosity, warmth, and camaraderie made this journey truly special. Wherever your path leads next, we hope it brings you back to these wild places—and perhaps, one day, back to us.

Until we meet again—safe travels, and fair winds.



Total distance sailed on our voyage: 873,2 NM

Northernmost point: 80°54.3'N, 013°16.6'E

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Remmert Koster , Expedition Leader Chris Long, Hotel Manager Albert Don and all the crew and staff of M/V Hondius, it has been a pleasure travelling with you.

KAJAK TRIP LOG

Over the course of seven days, a group of 14 guests explored the spectacular landscapes of Svalbard by tandem kayak. We paddled through a variety of Arctic environments, including glacier fronts, remote bays, and coastal wildlife areas, enjoying generally favorable weather conditions throughout the expedition.

The group performed exceptionally well, maintaining schedules, working cooperatively, and demonstrating a positive attitude throughout the trip.

Daily kayaking excursions averaged approximately 1.5 hours and allowed us to experience the Arctic environment up close.

Wildlife sightings were outstanding and included Arctic foxes in transitional summer and winter coats, Beluga whales, Common Eiders, King Eider ducks, Common and Brunich guillemots, Glaucus gull, Kittiwakes, Arctic fulmars, Arctic terns, and numerous other Arctic species from the ship.

One of the highlights was paddling beneath immense seabird cliffs with thousands of nesting birds and active wildlife.

The combination of remarkable wildlife encounters, beautiful scenery, good weather, and an enthusiastic group made this an unforgettable week in the High Arctic.

We hope to see you all back again in Antarctic landscapes to enjoy more of this from the best seat of the ship, our kayaks.



**North Spitsbergen Explorer
– Versatile Landscapes
Sea ice and Wildlife
M/V Hondius
13th - 20th 2026**

- 0. Longyearbyen
- 1. Mosøya, polar bear sighting
- 2. Alicehamna, landing
- 3. Texas Bar, landing
- 4. Monocobreen, zodiac cruise
- 5. Alkefjellet, zodiac cruise
- 6. Torellneset, landing & zodiac cruise
- 7. Wijkanderøyane, polar bear sightings
- 8. Exploring the pack ice
- 9. Alkehornet, landing
- 10. Ymerbukta, landing



Birds and Mammals of Svalbard

English Name	Latin	German	Dutch	Breeding / Transient / Vagrant	13-Jun	14-Jun	15-Jun	16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun
Red-throated diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Sterntaucher	Roodkeelduiker	B							x	
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Eissturmvogel	Noordse stormvogel	B	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Kurzschnabelgans	Kleine rietgans	B		x	x	x			x	
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	Weisswangengans	Brandgans	B	x	x		x			x	x
Light bellied Brent Goose	<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>	Ringelgans	witbuik Rotgans	B							x	
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Eiderente	Eidereend	B	x	x	x				x	x
King Eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	Prachteiderente	Konings eider	B			x					
Rock Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus hyperboreus</i>	Alpensneehuhn	Alpensneeuwhoen	B		x	x				x	
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Sandregenpfeifer	Bontbekplevier	B					x			
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Meerstrandläufer	Paarse strandloper	B			x	x				
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Knutt	Kanoetstrandloper	B			x					
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Alpenstrandläufer	Bonte strandloper	B	x							
Grey Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	Thorshühnchen	Rosse franjepoot	B				x				
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Schmarotzerraub-möwe	Kleine jager	B		x	x		x			
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	Skua	Grote jager	B		x	x	x	x			
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Eismöwe	Grote Burgemeester	B		x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Dreizehenmöwe	Drieteenmeeuw	B	x	x	x	x	x		x	x
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	Elfenbeinmöwe	Ivoormeeuw	B					x			
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Küstenseeschwalbe	Noordse stern	B	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
Brunnich's Guillemot	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Dickschnabellumme	Dikbekzeekoet	B	x	x		x	x	x	x	x
Black Guillemot	<i>Cepphus grylle</i>	Gryllteiste	Zwarte zeekoet	B	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Little Auk	<i>Alle alle</i>	Krabbentaucher	Kleine alk	B	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Papageitaucher	Papegaaiduiker	B	x	x				x	x	x
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Schneeammer	Sneeuwgor	B	x	x	x	x			x	x

MAMMALS

English	Latin	German	Dutch	Breeding / Transient / Vagrant	13-Jun	14-Jun	15-Jun	16-Jun	17-Jun	18-Jun	19-Jun	20-Jun
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Walrus	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>	Walross	Walrus	B		x		x			x	
Bearded seal	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>	Bartrobbe	Baardrob	B			x		x	x		
Ringed seal	<i>Phoca hispida</i>	Ringelrobbe	Ringelrob	B					x			
Common /Harbour seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Seehund	Gewone zeehond	B				x		x		
Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Zwergwal	Dwergvinvis	T	x			x	x			
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Finnwal	Gewone vinvis	T						x		
Humpback Whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Buckelwal	Bultrug	T						x		
Bowhead whale	<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>	Grönlandwal	Groenlandse walvis	T					x	x		
Sperm Whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	Pottwal	Potvis	V						x		
Beluga	<i>Dephinapterus leucas</i>	Weisswal	Beloega	B	x			x			x	
Polar Bear	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	Eisbär	Ijsbeer	B		x		x				
Arctic Fox	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>	Polarfuchs	Poolvos	B	x		x	x			x	
Spitsbergen Reindeer	<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus</i>	Svalbard Renntier	Rendier	B		x	x	x			x	

Chris Long – Expedition Leader



Chris grew up as a part of New Zealand's remotest family two long days hike from the nearest road at a place called Gorge River, on the South Islands West Coast, New Zealand.

His family lives as self-sufficiently as possible in a small cabin surrounded by the jungled rainforest, the rough rugged coastline, and an emerald green river. Most of their food came from a huge vegetable garden or was fished from the ocean. This wild untouched natural corner of New Zealand was Chris's home for the first 17 years of his life, until, one day, he set out to explore what the rest of the world had to offer.

Since leaving Gorge River Chris has set out to see, explore and experience as much of the globe as possible. This constant search for adventure has seen him travel to over 60 countries on all seven continents. Along this journey, he spent two full summer seasons living and working as a field trainer at Scott Base, a New Zealand research station in Antarctica, as well as multiple voyages to the Ross Sea and East

Antarctica.

Chris is also no stranger to the arctic. He once sailed the notorious northwest passage across the top of Greenland, Canada, and Alaska and spent much of the covid pandemic living with 150 husky dogs in Tromso, northern Norway, enduring two long cold dark arctic winters training for long distance dog races.

Since recently returning to New Zealand, he has published an autobiography and is training for his commercial fixed-wing pilot's license.

Deutsch

Chris wuchs als Teil einer der abgelegensten Familien Neuseelands auf – zwei lange Tagesmärsche von der nächsten Straße entfernt, an einem Ort namens Gorge River an der Westküste der Südinsel, Neuseeland.

Seine Familie lebt so autark wie möglich in einer kleinen Hütte, umgeben von dichtem Regenwald, einer rauen, zerklüfteten Küste und einem unberührten smaragdgrünen Fluss. Der Großteil ihrer Nahrung stammt aus einem großen Gemüsegarten oder wird aus dem Meer gefischt. Diese wilde, unberührte Ecke Neuseelands war die ersten 17 Jahre seines Lebens Chris' Zuhause – bis er sich eines Tages aufmachte, um zu erkunden, was der Rest der Welt zu bieten hat.

Seit er Gorge River verlassen hat, ist Chris unterwegs, um so viel wie möglich von der Welt zu sehen, zu erkunden und zu erleben. Diese ständige Suche nach Abenteuern führte ihn in über 65 Länder auf allen sieben Kontinenten. Auf diesem Weg verbrachte er zwei komplette Sommersaisons als Field Trainer auf der Scott Base, einer neuseeländischen Forschungsstation in der Antarktis, und unternahm mehrere Reisen in das Rossmeer, zur Antarktischen Halbinsel, nach Ostantarktika und in den Atlantischen Ozean.

Auch in der Arktis ist Chris kein Unbekannter. Einmal segelte er auf einer kleinen Yacht durch die berühmte Nordwestpassage entlang der Küsten Grönlands, Kanadas und Alaskas. Außerdem verbrachte er einen Großteil der COVID-Pandemie in Tromsø im Norden Norwegens, wo er mit 150 Huskys lebte. Dort erlebte er zwei lange, kalte und dunkle arktische Winter und trainierte für Langstrecken-Hundeschlittenrennen. Jeden Sommer arbeitet er zudem als Guide für Oceanwide auf Svalbard.

Im Jahr 2022 veröffentlichte Chris seine Bestseller-Autobiografie „The Boy From Gorge River“. Wenn er nicht auf See ist, findet man ihn beim Training für seine kommerzielle Pilotlizenz für Starrflügelflugzeuge oder dabei, einen neuen Winkel der Welt zu erkunden.

Charlotte Taplin – Asst. Exp. Leader



Charlotte grew up along the rugged coastline of Cornwall, United Kingdom, where her fascination with wildlife and the ocean began at an early age. Inspired by the natural world around her, she went on to study Wildlife Conservation at University, laying the foundation for a life devoted to research, adventure, and the protection of marine ecosystems.

Her love for ships and life at sea began in 2013, when she worked aboard Research and Dive vessels exploring the remote regions of the Great Barrier Reef. During her time in Australia and New Zealand, Charlotte's passion for Marine Biology deepened as she studied Humpback Whales, Minke Whales, and Sperm Whales. Between 2020 and 2022, Charlotte joined the Superyacht and Explorer vessel industry, working as a Deckhand and Divemaster in remote and challenging regions. These experiences further honed her seamanship and deepened her appreciation for the ocean environment. A keen traveller, Charlotte has been exploring the world since the age of 18, backpacking across Asia, Australasia, and South America. In 2015, she undertook an overland journey from South Africa to

Jordan in a Land Rover before settling in Mozambique in 2018. There, she founded her own backpacker hostel - combining her entrepreneurial spirit with her love of travel. Alongside managing the hostel, she worked as a Researcher studying Whale Sharks and Manta Rays along the Mozambican coast. Most recently, she completed a 7,000 km journey in a 4x4 across Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan. When she's not at sea Charlotte loves scuba diving, surfing, freediving, and hiking, but she also enjoys life's simple pleasures - drinking tea and walking her dog. She feels very fortunate to call Oceanwide her second home and looks forward to continuing to combine her love of the sea, wildlife, and adventure in a career dedicated to exploration and the frozen wilderness.

Deutsch

Charlotte wuchs an der zerklüfteten Küste von Cornwall, Großbritannien, auf, wo ihre Faszination für Wildtiere und den Ozean schon in jungen Jahren begann. Inspiriert von der natürlichen Welt um sie herum, studierte sie Wildtier- und Naturschutz an der Universität und legte somit den Grundstein für ein Leben, das der Forschung, dem Abenteuer und dem Schutz der marinen Ökosysteme gewidmet ist. Ihre Liebe zu Schiffen und dem Leben auf See begann 2013, als sie auf Forschungs- und Tauchschiffen arbeitete, die abgelegenen Regionen des Great Barrier Reef erkundeten. Während ihres Aufenthalts in Australien und Neuseeland vertiefte sich Charlottes Leidenschaft für Meeresbiologie, mit dem Schwerpunkt Ihres Studiums für Buckelwale, Zwergwale und Pottwale. Zwischen 2020 und 2022 arbeitete Charlotte in der Superyacht- und Explorer-Schiffindustrie als Deck Hand und Dive Master in abgelegenen und herausfordernden Regionen. Diese Erfahrungen verfeinerten ihre nautischen Fähigkeiten und verstärkten ihre Wertschätzung für die Meeresumwelt. Als begeisterte Reisende hat Charlotte die Welt seit ihrem 18. Lebensjahr erkundet, indem sie durch Asien, Australasien und Südamerika reiste. 2015 unternahm sie eine Überlandreise von Südafrika nach Jordanien in einem Land Rover, bevor sie 2018 in Mosambik sesshaft wurde. Dort gründete sie ihr eigenes Hostel für Rucksacktouristen und kombinierte ihren Unternehmergeist mit ihrer Liebe zum Reisen. Neben der Leitung des Hostels arbeitete sie als Forscherin und studierte Walhaie und Mantarochen entlang der Küste Mosambiks. Zuletzt absolvierte sie eine 7.000 km lange Reise in einem 4x4 durch Kasachstan, Kirgisistan, Usbekistan und Tadschikistan. Wenn sie nicht auf See ist, liebt Charlotte es, tauchen, surfen, freitauchen und wandern zu gehen. Aber auch die einfachen Freuden des Lebens genießt sie – Tee trinken und mit ihrem Hund spazieren gehen. Sie fühlt sich sehr glücklich, Oceanwide als ihr zweites Zuhause zu bezeichnen und freut sich darauf, ihre Liebe zum Meer, zu Wildtieren und zum Abenteuer in einer Karriere zu vereinen, die der Erkundung und der gefrorenen Wildnis gewidmet ist.

Jerry Zhao – Asst. Expedition Leader



Jerry has been in love with nature and wildlife and traveling all his life. Soon after completed his degree in Business Administration at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Jerry began a career in the travel industry. Jerry first started as an international travel consultant and tour leader and led exclusive small high-end groups throughout Europe.

He then became partner in an international traveling consulting firm and focused on route planning and employee training.

As he searched for more adventure, He collected skills and knowledge while he traveled around to world. Finally, his step stopped at Polar regions, and joined Oceanwide Expeditions as Expeditions Guides, He has guided expeditions to the North Pole, Svalbard, Greenland, Antarctic Peninsula, South Georgia many times.

Along the way as he spent more time in polar regions, learns more about polar regions, he is more interested in polar regions. He has self-studied the geography, wildlife and history of the Polar regions. He is

beginning to learn wildlife photography.

When he is not in polar regions, he likes to spend his time in the forest, dessert, and plains in Northwestern part of China. He loves nature, wildlife, and he loves to share all that he knows to everyone who comes across.

Deutsch

Jerry ist bereits sein ganzes Leben in die Natur und die Tierwelt verliebt und vor allem unterwegs. Kurz nach seinem Abschluss in Betriebswirtschaftslehre an der Drexel University in Philadelphia begann seine Karriere in der Reisebranche. Jerry arbeitete zunächst als internationaler Reiseberater und Tourguide und leitete exklusive kleine High-End-Gruppen in ganz Europa.

Danach wurde er Partner in einer internationalen Reiseberatungsfirma und konzentrierte sich auf Routenplanung und Mitarbeiterschulung.

Auf der Suche nach mehr Abenteuer sammelte er Fähigkeiten und Wissen während er um die Welt reiste. Schlussendlich führte ihn sein Weg in die Polarregionen, und schloss sich Oceanwide Expeditions als Expeditionsführer an, er bereits viele Male Expeditionen zum Nordpol, Spitzbergen, Grönland, Antarktische Halbinsel und Südgeorgien geführt.

Während seiner Zeit in den Polarregionen hat er viel über die Polarregionen gelernt und ist mit einem Studium über Tierfotografie begonnen.

Wenn er nicht in Polarregionen unterwegs ist, verbringt er seine Zeit gerne im Wald und in den Wüstenebenen im Nordwesten Chinas. Er liebt die Natur und die Tierwelt, und vor allem sein Wissen zu Teilen an jedem der ihm begegnet.

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.

Deutsch

Juan ist ein professioneller Fotograf und Drohnenpilot, geboren in Ushuaia, Argentinien, und ist ein Zodiac-Fahrer, Expeditions- und Fotografie-Guide.

Er ist eine junge und hochmotivierte Person, die es liebt, die Natur zu genießen und in den Bergen zu sein. Zu seinen Hobbys gehören Wandern, FPV-Drohnenfliegen und Fotografie.

Seine Leidenschaft für die Natur begann schon in jungen Jahren mit seiner Familie, welche die Wochenenden am Ende der Welt beim Camping verbrachte und während der Ferien im Land reiste. Er studierte Fotografie in Buenos Aires und entschied sich, in seine Heimatstadt zurückzukehren, um seine Karriere zu starten und eine unabhängige Lebensweise zu entwickeln.

Juan arbeitet seit mehreren Jahren in den Polarregionen, einschließlich der Antarktis, Südgeorgien, Falklandinseln, Spitzbergen, Grönland und den Großen Seen in Nordamerika.

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.

Deutsch

Lucia ist eine extrovertierte und neugierige Person, die immer auf der Suche nach neuen Herausforderungen und Erfahrungen weltweit ist.

Sie wurde in Puerto Madryn, einer kleinen Stadt an der Küste der argentinischen Patagonien, geboren und aufgezogen und wuchs umgeben von Meereswildtieren und einem Outdoor-Lifestyle auf. Dies führte sie dazu, ihre Karriere zu wählen, mit einem Bachelor-Abschluss in Gastgewerbe und Tourismus sowie als professionelle Reiseleiterin und Kajakführerin.

Sie liebt es, ihre Leidenschaft für Entdeckung, Lernen, Erkundung, Naturschutz und Wildtiere zu teilen. Mit über 12 Jahren Erfahrung in der Leitung von Gruppen durch Patagonien, konzentriert sie sich nun auf die Wunder und die Biodiversität der Polarregionen.

Bill Smith - Expedition Guide



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

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

He has 55 years’ experience of Art and Design Education and Design for Industry. Plus 55 years leading and instructing a range of outdoor pursuits.

He has the following qualifications: -

- Royal Yachting Association Advanced Powerboat Instructor
 - Royal Yachting Association Senior Sailing Instructor
 - Royal Yachting Association Windsurfing Instructor
 - British Canoe Union Open Canoe Instructor
 - British Association of Ski Patrollers National Patroller
 - British Association of Ski Patrollers First Aid Trainer
- Snow Sport Scotland Ski leader
 - President of the Assynt Highland Games
 - Honorary member of Assynt Crofters Trust
 - Member of the Federation Internationale des Patrouilles de Ski

Bill delights in producing humorous cartoon logs of each trip.

Deutsch

“Super Bill” wie er von seinen Mitarbeiter und Mitreisenden genannt wird, ist ein spassiger Aussenwelt Enthusiast, Karikaturist und früherer Leiter von Kunst und Design Ausbildung am Ellon Academy Aberdeenshire.

Bill kam zu Oceanwide Expeditions als Führer als die Plancius gebaut und über den letzten Jahre ist er süchtig nach den Polargegenden geworden.

Er hat 55 Jahre Erfahrung in Kunst und Design für die Industrie. Er hat auch über 55 Jahre Erfahrung als Führer und Instruktor in verschiedenen Aussenwelt Aktivitäten.

Bill genießt es für jede Reise Karikaturen für den Log zu entwickeln.

Marcelo Tarapow – Expedition Guide



Marcelo Tarapow has a Master's degree in Social Sciences, specialized in History from the National University of Quilmes, retired Rear Admiral of the Argentine Navy, Honorary Professor at the Nikola Vaptsarov Academy (Bulgaria) and Graduate in Naval Systems.

He participated in twelve expeditions to Antarctica between 1988 and 2017, occupying different roles until being the leader on his last two occasions, spending around 900 days in Antarctic activity.

He has also carried out studies in Environmental Preservation, Climate Change, Energy Efficiency and Tourism.

He has been a professor in pre-Antarctic courses taught in Argentina, Colombia and Bulgaria, especially on navigation, meteorology, the Antarctic Treaty and the Madrid Protocol.

He is the President of the Academy of Antarctica, a lecturer and researcher especially on topics related to the White Continent, having presented on historical

Antarctic expeditions in Argentina, Belgium, Bulgaria, Colombia, France and Romania.

He is a member of the Council at Polar Educators International for the 2024-2025 biennium.

His main hobbies are swimming, cycling, tango, reading, an enthusiastic collector of ancient objects linked to Antarctic history and an amateur photographer.

Always ready to learn from other cultures, listen to stories, passionately share their experiences and care for the environment.

Deutsch

Marcelo Tarapow hat einen Masterabschluss in Sozialwissenschaften mit Spezialisierung auf Geschichte von der Nationalen Universität von Quilmes, ist pensionierter Konteradmiral der argentinischen Marine, Ehrenprofessor an der Nikola-Vaptsarov-Akademie (Bulgarien) und Absolvent im Bereich Marinesysteme.

Zwischen 1988 und 2017 nahm er an zwölf Expeditionen in die Antarktis teil und übernahm dabei verschiedene Rollen, bis er bei seinen letzten beiden Einsätzen die Leitung innehatte. Insgesamt verbrachte er rund 900 Tage in der Antarktis.

Darüber hinaus absolvierte er Studien in den Bereichen Umweltschutz, Klimawandel, Energieeffizienz und Tourismus.

Er war als Dozent in vorbereitenden Antarktiskursen in Argentinien, Kolumbien und Bulgarien tätig, insbesondere zu Themen wie Navigation, Meteorologie, dem Antarktisvertrag und dem Madrider Protokoll.

Er ist Präsident der Akademie der Antarktis sowie Referent und Forscher, insbesondere zu Themen rund um den „Weißen Kontinent“. Dabei hat er Vorträge über historische Antarktisexpeditionen in Argentinien, Belgien, Bulgarien, Kolumbien, Frankreich und Rumänien gehalten.

Zudem ist er Mitglied des Rates von Polar Educators International für die Amtszeit 2024–2025.

Zu seinen wichtigsten Hobbys zählen Schwimmen, Radfahren, Tango, Lesen sowie das leidenschaftliche Sammeln antiker Gegenstände mit Bezug zur Antarktischgeschichte. Außerdem ist er ein Hobbyfotograf.

Er ist stets bereit, von anderen Kulturen zu lernen, Geschichten zuzuhören, seine Erfahrungen mit Begeisterung zu teilen und sich für den Schutz der Umwelt einzusetzen.

Rose Li- 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.

Deutsch

Rose Li ist eine erfahrene Expeditionsfachfrau mit einem vielseitigen Hintergrund in Innenarchitektur, Gastgewerbe und Polarführung.

Ursprünglich aus China stammend, schloss sie ihr Studium im Bereich Innenarchitektur am Wuhan College ab. Seit 2014 widmet sich ihre Karriere dem immersiven Reisen und begann auf internationalen Kreuzfahrtschiffen, wo sie ihre Fähigkeiten als Expeditionsguide, VIP-Service-Managerin und Head Cruise Ambassador in Asien und Europa entwickelte.

Im Jahr 2018 wechselte Rose in die Expeditionsbranche, in der ihre Leidenschaft für Geologie und Geschichte eine zentrale Rolle einnimmt. Sie arbeitet als Polar-Expeditionsguide und Vortragende und begeistert Gäste mit Einblicken in die Erdgeschichte und Landschaften. Ihr vielseitiges Können umfasst zudem Interpretation, das Fahren von Zodiacs sowie das Management von Gästeservices.

Als begeisterte Abenteurerin hat Rose über 50 Länder bereist. Außerhalb der Arbeit widmet sie sich kreativ und energiegeladent dem Skifahren und dem Veranstalten von Events. Sie freut sich stets auf ihr nächstes Abenteuer und setzt sich dafür ein, außergewöhnlichen Service zu bieten und die faszinierende Reise des Entdeckens mit ihren Mitreisenden zu teilen.

Pierre Gallego – Expedition Guide



Pierre is a veterinarian specialised in marine mammal medicine. He has been working in the field of marine biology for 18 years, and has been organising marine mammal research internships around the world since 2004. He represents the Government of Luxembourg at the International Whaling Commission and CCAMLR, and works with numerous international NGOs to promote marine mammal conservation and to fight cetacean captivity.

He is currently carrying out his PhD with the Oceanology Lab of the University of Liege, Belgium. His PhD thesis deals with pollutants and stable isotopes in humpback whales off Ecuador and Mozambique.

He is a keen birdwatcher and enjoys photography. The ocean is his passion, and water is his element!

Deutsch

Pierre ist Tierarzt und hat sich auf Meeressäuger spezialisiert. Er arbeitet im Gebiet der Meeresbiologie seit 18 Jahre und organisiert Ausbildungen über Meeressäuger rundum die Welt seit 2004. Er vertritt die Regierung Luxemburgs an der Walfangkommission und CCAMLR, und arbeitet mit mehreren internationalen Umweltschutzorganisationen um die Erhaltung von Meeressäuger zu promovieren und deren Gefangenschaft zu bekämpfen.

Er macht gerade eine Doktorarbeit am Ozeanologie Lab der Universität Lüttich in Belgien. Seine Doktorarbeit beschäftigt sich mit stabile Isotopen und Schadstoffen in Buckelwalen aus Mosambik und Ecuador.

Er ist ein eifriger Vogelbeobachter und hat viel Spass an Fotografie. Das Meer ist seine Leidenschaft, und Wasser ist sein Element.

Isabelle Schulz – Expedition Guide



Isabelle Schulz is a marine biologist whose career has taken her from research expeditions in the Southern Ocean and Red Sea to leading research stations in the Arctic and Caribbean.

After studying Marine Biology in Germany, Isabelle completed her PhD in Marine Ecology at the Alfred Wegener Institute, Helmholtz Centre for Polar and Marine Research (AWI), where she investigated the role of iron in regulating phytoplankton growth in the Southern Ocean.

She subsequently spent four years as a postdoctoral researcher at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology in Saudi Arabia before moving to Brussels, where she worked in marine science policy, helping to strengthen collaboration in European marine research and ocean governance.

She later served as Station Leader of the French-German research station AWIPEV in Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard, where she spent 18 months coordinating logistics, supporting international research projects, ensuring safe field operations and contributing to long-term environmental monitoring programmes in the High

Arctic.

After her time in the Arctic, Isabelle decided it was time to warm up and moved to the Caribbean. As Field Station Manager at the Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI) on Little Cayman, she oversaw the operations of a remote marine research station supporting research, conservation, and education programmes.

Today, Isabelle has come full circle, returning to the polar regions as an expedition guide after a couple of years in the tropics. She enjoys sharing stories from life and work in remote environments and inspiring others to appreciate the fascinating wildlife and landscapes of the polar regions

Deutsch

Isabelle Schulz ist Meeresbiologin, und ihre berufliche Laufbahn führte sie von Forschungsexpeditionen im Südlichen Ozean und im Roten Meer bis hin zur Leitung von Forschungsstationen in der Arktis und der Karibik.

Nach ihrem Studium der Meeresbiologie in Deutschland promovierte Isabelle in Meeresökologie am Alfred Wegener Institute, wo sie die Rolle von Eisen bei der Regulierung des Phytoplanktonwachstums im Südlichen Ozean untersuchte.

Anschließend arbeitete sie vier Jahre lang als Postdoktorandin an der King Abdullah University of Science and Technology in Saudi-Arabien, bevor sie nach Brüssel zog. Dort war sie im Bereich der meereswissenschaftlichen Politik tätig und trug dazu bei, die Zusammenarbeit in der europäischen Meeresforschung sowie die Meeressgovernance zu stärken.

Später übernahm sie die Leitung der französisch-deutschen Forschungsstation AWIPEV in Ny-Ålesund auf Svalbard. Dort koordinierte sie während eines 18-monatigen Aufenthalts die Logistik, unterstützte internationale Forschungsprojekte, sorgte für sichere Feldforschungseinsätze und wirkte an langfristigen Umweltbeobachtungsprogrammen in der Hocharktis mit.

Nach ihrer Zeit in der Arktis beschloss Isabelle, sich etwas wärmeren Regionen zuzuwenden, und zog in die Karibik. Als Leiterin der Forschungsstation des Central Caribbean Marine Institute (CCMI) auf Little Cayman verantwortete sie den Betrieb einer abgelegenen Meeresforschungsstation, die Forschungs-, Naturschutz- und Bildungsprogramme unterstützte.

Heute hat sich für Isabelle der Kreis geschlossen: Nach einigen Jahren in den Tropen ist sie als Expeditionsleiterin in die Polarregionen zurückgekehrt. Sie teilt mit Begeisterung Geschichten aus ihrem Leben und ihrer Arbeit in abgelegenen Regionen und inspiriert andere dazu, die faszinierende Tierwelt und die beeindruckenden Landschaften der Polargebiete zu schätzen.

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.

Deutsch

Sven ist ein Arktis-Enthusiast aus Bonn, Deutschland mit einer Leidenschaft und Expertise im Bereich der Geomorphologie. Während seines Grundstudiums der Geographie an der Universität Bonn war es sein Auslandssemester in Joensuu, Finnland das sein Interesse an der Wildnis des Nordens und der Arktis weckte.

Seitdem hat er seine Begeisterung für Abenteuer durch mehrere Reisen nach Nordnorwegen weiterverfolgt und setzt derzeit seine akademische Reise mit einem Masterstudium mit Schwerpunkt Friedens- und Konflikttransformation an der Arktischen Universität in Tromsø, Norwegen fort, der nördlichsten Universität der Welt. Von hier aus kann er seiner Leidenschaft für die Natur und die Kälte nachgehen, indem er Ski fährt, wandert und diese weiten und abgelegenen Gebiete erkundet.

Als begeisterter Hobbyfotograf und zunehmend begeisterter Vogelbeobachter, seitdem er ein Praktikum in einem Vogelschutzgebiet auf der Insel Fehmarn absolviert hat, werden Sie ihn in seiner Freizeit während der Reise höchstwahrscheinlich an Deck finden, um Fotos von der Landschaft und der Tierwelt zu machen.

Er freut sich darauf, sein Wissen und seine Erfahrung in allen Aspekten der polaren Weiten zu erweitern und lädt Sie ein, während der Reise mit ihm über Ihre Fragen oder Ihre eigenen polaren Interessen und Geschichten zu sprechen.

Meike Sjoer - Expedition Guide



From early on Meike has been a passionate naturalist and traveller who just loves birds.

At the age of 7 she bought her first bird book. Being outdoors all the time, she wanted to learn more about the amazing creatures she encountered. Investigating and learning about nature and wildlife has been a passion ever since.

Meike has a master degree in film and television from the University of Utrecht. For the last 25 years she has been working as a television director. Her stories involve nature, wildlife and environmental topics. If not travelling, she is directing the prime-time wildlife television program Vroege Vogels.

When time permits, she volunteers as a nature guide for the Dutch institute for nature and education. As a teenager Meike started sailing the oceans but her true love for the life in the oceans began 14 years ago when she started working with Sea Shepherd on the mediateam.

Meike is thrilled to be your guide on this trip and looking forward to sharing knowledge and the passion for this magical polar world with you.

Deutsch

Es war in den Wäldern der Niederlande das Meike in Ihrer Kindheit die Liebe zur Natur, Tier & Pflanzenwelt und Abenteuer entwickelt hat. Vögel hatten immer einen besonderen Platz in Ihrem Herzen.

Meike ist von Natur aus ein Storyteller. Andere teilhaben zu lassen, an Ihren Erfahrungen in der Natur war Teil Ihres Jobs als TV Director fürs Niederländische Fernsehen. In den Letzten 26 Jahren waren Die Themen gebiete Ihrer Sendungen Natur, Tier & Pflanzenwelt und Umwelt. Wenn die Zeit es erlaubt begleitet sie auch Exkursionen für das Niederländische Institute for Nature and Education.

In der Antarktis und Arktis gelingt es Ihr weiter outdoor Erfahrungen zu schaffen, die Menschen herauszufordern eine stärkeres Gefühl und Bewusstsein für unsere Umwelt zu entwickeln.

Meike arbeitet für OEX seit 2018 in der Nördlichen und Südlichen Hemisphäre. Durch Ihre Erfahrungen ist es ihr möglich das Wissen und die Leidenschaft für die magische Polarewelt mit Euch zu teilen.

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!

Deutsch

Geboren in Budapest, aufgewachsen in Deutschland war Andi als Kind schon immer von Tieren und Natur fasziniert gewesen, besonders Meeressäuger hatten es ihr angetan. Sie wollte Walforscherin werden, wurde zu einer Walexpertin, zwar ohne Studium an einer Universität, aber mit Passion. Sie widmete sich in ihrem früheren Leben dem Studium der Soziologie und betrieb 10 Jahre lang ihre eigene Cocktailbar. Ihre Begeisterung für die Meeresgeschöpfe liess sie dennoch nie los und sie begann die Welt zu bereisen um diesen faszinierenden Tieren nahe zu sein und sie zu beobachten.

Als Taucherin und Freediverin konnte sie vielen Walarten besonders nahe kommen und Abenteuer erleben. Zum Beispiel ist sie im arktischen Norwegen bereits dreimal mit Orcas geschwommen. Weil sie ihre Leidenschaft mit Herz und Begeisterung teilen möchte, kam sie zu Oceanwide. Sie konnte bereits im Frühjahr dieses Jahres Erfahrungen sammeln als Trainee in der Antarktis. Die polaren Regionen mit ihrer speziellen Fauna üben eine ganz besondere Anziehung auf sie aus. Sie interessiert sich ausserdem für Landschaftsfotographie und hat tolle Tips für gelungende Handyfotos. Ausserdem ist eine ihrer weiteren Leidenschaften Yoga, was sie auch als Yogalehrerin praktiziert. Sie spricht englisch, deutsch, ungarisch und ein wenig spanisch und französisch. Andi freut sich auf weitere tolle Abenteuer als Teammitglied von Oceanwide!

Valeria Sainz Herrera – Exp. guide



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

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

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

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

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

Deutsch

Valeria Sainz Herrera ist eine argentinische Fotografin. Sie wuchs in Buenos Aires, der Hauptstadt Argentiniens, auf. Im Laufe der Jahre entdeckte sie, dass eine ihrer größten Leidenschaften das Reisen in die wildesten und entlegensten Orte der Welt ist. Auf ihren zahlreichen Reisen fand sie in der Fotografie einen Beruf, der ihr die Freiheit gibt, an verschiedenen Orten zu leben und diese kennenzulernen.

Heute verbringt sie ihr Leben „zwischen den Polen“, indem sie als Reiseleiterin für Oceanwide Expeditions arbeitet. Den Rest des Jahres findet man sie auf einer wunderschönen Insel namens Ilhabela in Brasilien, wo sie im Tourismusbereich tätig ist.

Das Leben in verschiedenen Ländern ermöglicht es ihr, viele Aktivitäten auszuüben, die sie liebt – vor allem in der Natur. So geht sie beispielsweise gerne klettern und Skifahren in den argentinischen Anden Patagoniens oder wandert und zeltet in der zentralen Region Argentiniens. In Brasilien lernte sie außerdem neue Sportarten wie Tauchen, Kajakfahren und Segeln kennen.

Besonders interessiert sie sich auch für die Geschichte der Expeditionen, die jene Orte entdeckten und kartierten, die sie heute bereist. Das gibt ihr die Möglichkeit, an Bord spannende Geschichten zu erzählen und zu teilen.

Die Antarktis und die Arktis waren für sie schon immer ein Traum – und sind nun ein fester Bestandteil ihres Lebens geworden.

Bjarni Ólafsson - Expedition Guide



Bjarni was born in Reykjavík, Iceland a country with large amount of untouched wilderness, right on the doorstep of the Arctic. When he was a child he was always fascinated in subjects such as history and nature. Iceland being one of best places for nature and wilderness enthusiast he became very interested in hiking and exploring the highlands of Iceland. Every summer he makes sure to devote ample time to explore the solitude of the Iceland's remote regions.

In university, he chose to study history and is now close to completing a masters in medieval history at the university of Iceland. At university a lot of his focus was devoted to the history of Greenland, especially the Viking settlements on the west coast of Greenland. That later turned out to be a great starting point for exploring more history related to human habitation and expeditions in the Arctic.

He started to guide for Oceanwide Expeditions in 2017 on trips in his native Iceland. After that he moved on to also guiding in Greenland, North-Norway and Svalbard alongside his studies.

Deutsch

Bjarni wurde in Reykjavík, Island, geboren – einem Land mit großen unberührten Wildnisgebieten direkt vor den Toren der Arktis. Schon als Kind war er von Themen wie Geschichte und Natur fasziniert. Da Island zu den besten Orten für Natur- und Wildnisliebhaber zählt, entwickelte er früh eine große Leidenschaft für das Wandern und die Erkundung des isländischen Hochlands. Jeden Sommer nimmt er sich bewusst viel Zeit, um die Abgeschiedenheit der entlegenen Regionen Islands zu entdecken.

An der Universität entschied sich Bjarni für ein Geschichtsstudium und steht heute kurz vor dem Abschluss seines Masterstudiums in mittelalterlicher Geschichte an der University of Iceland. Während seines Studiums widmete er sich intensiv der Geschichte Grönlands, insbesondere den Wikingersiedlungen an der Westküste Grönlands. Dies erwies sich später als idealer Ausgangspunkt, um sich eingehender mit der Geschichte menschlicher Besiedlung sowie mit Expeditionen in die Arktis zu beschäftigen.

Im Jahr 2017 begann er für [Oceanwide Expeditions](#) als Reiseleiter auf Touren in seiner Heimat Island zu arbeiten. Anschließend erweiterte er seine Tätigkeit und führte neben seinem Studium auch Reisen in Greenland, Nordnorwegen und Svalbard durch.

Alexis Bellezze - Kayak Leader



Alexis Bellezze was born in San Luis, Argentina in 1973. He spent his childhood in the center of the country, in a rural area, then moved to the city of Mendoza close to the Central Andes and studied in the Army High School where he fell in love with the mountains and the outdoors. Then moved to Cordoba where he spent 3 years in the Air Force Academy. After that he moved to Italy where he worked and finished a paragliding course, then returned to Argentina to finish his studies as a Veterinarian. In 2006, he did a Residency in the ICU Service of the Large Animal Hospital of the Royal "Dick" Veterinary College in Edinburgh, Scotland. In 2006 and 2008 he did an internship as a veterinarian surgeon at Milano, Italy. Then he moved to Villa La Angostura, an isolated village in the middle of the Patagonian Lake District where he works as a veterinarian surgeon and runs a kayak company in the Nahuel Huapi National Park. Since 2018 he has been working as a Polar Kayak Guide and Expedition Guide. He has guided in the Antarctic Peninsula many times, reaching the Antarctic Polar Circle, Svalbard, circumnavigated Spitzbergen,

East coast of Greenland and many rivers and lakes in Patagonia. During the last years he travelled the south and north of Chile and Argentina as a Wilderness First Responder instructor working in different environments like the jungle, the Patagonian mountain range, the windy Patagonian estepa and the desert of Atacama. Since 2014 Alexis is the owner and Director of endurance kayak & mountain expeditions based in Patagonia Argentina, offering multiple days kayak trips in this pristine area.

He speaks fluently Spanish, Italian and English.

Deutsch

Alexis Bellezze 1973 in San Luis, Argentinien geboren. Er verbrachte seine Kindheit in ländlicher Gegend im Zentrum des Landes, zog dann nach Mendoza in die Nähe der Zentralen Anden und studierte an der Army High School, wo er sich in die Berge und die Natur verliebte. Hiernach lebte er in Cordoba, wo er drei Jahre an der Air Force Academy verbrachte. Nach einem Aufenthalt in Italien, wo er arbeitete und einen Gleitschirmkurs absolvierte kehrte Alexis nach Argentinien zurück um sein Studium als Tierarzt zu beenden. 2006 absolvierte er einen Aufenthaltsstatus im ICU Service des Large Animal Hospital Royal "Dick" Veterinary College in Edinburgh, Schottland. 2006 und 2008 absolvierte er ein Praktikum als Tierarzt in Mailand, Italien. Danach zog es ihn zurück nach Villa La Angostura, einem abgelegenen Dorf mitten im Patagonischen Seenland, arbeitete als Tierarzt und gründete eine Kajakfirma im Nahuel Huapi Nationalpark. Seit 2018 arbeitet er als polar Kajak Guide und Expeditions Guide. Er hat auf der Antarktischen Halbinsel viele Reisen begleitet und den Antarktischen Polarkreis, Spitzbergen, die Ostküste Grönlands und viele Flüsse und Seen in Patagonien besucht. In den letzten Jahren reiste er als Wilderness First Responder Lehrer durch den Süden und Norden Chiles und Argentinien und arbeitete in verschiedenen Umgebungen wie dem Dschungel, dem patagonischen Gebirge, dem windigen patagonischen Estepa und der Wüste von Atacama. Seit 2014 ist Alexis Inhaber und Direktor von Langstrecken-Kajak- und Bergexpeditionen mit Sitz in Patagonien Argentinien und bietet mehrtägige Kajaktouren in diesem unberührten Gebiet an. Alexis spricht fließend Spanisch, Italienisch und Englisch.

Chris Forrest – Kayak Guide



Retired from Joint Services Mountain Training as Chief Instructor.

Former Senior Instructor at Plas y Brenin and Instructor at Glenmore Lodge.

UIAGM Guide, Level 5 Kayak and Canoe Coach, Climber, skier, paddler and family man.

My motivation is developing people to enjoy the outdoor environment whether in the mountains, sea or journeying down rivers.

My career has taken me to far corner of the globe and yet still discovering new places.

Deutsch

Nach seinem Ausscheiden aus dem gemeinsamen militärischen Bergrtraining (*Joint Services Mountain Training*) war er dort als Chefausbilder tätig.

Zuvor arbeitete er als leitender Ausbilder am Plas y Brenin sowie als Ausbilder am Glenmore Lodge.

Er ist UIAGM-Bergführer, Kajak- und Kanutrainer der Stufe 5 sowie leidenschaftlicher Kletterer, Skifahrer, Paddler und Familienmensch.

Seine Motivation besteht darin, Menschen dabei zu unterstützen, die Natur aktiv zu erleben und zu genießen – sei es in den Bergen, auf dem Meer oder auf Flüssen und längeren Touren.

Seine berufliche Laufbahn hat ihn in die entlegensten Winkel der Erde geführt, und dennoch entdeckt er immer wieder neue faszinierende Orte.

Brian Veltrop – Expedition Guide



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

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

In recent years, Brian has completed various courses in the outdoor world.

In 2021 he started the training as a hike & survival instructor, hike & backpacking guide, international wilderness guide lvl 1. He trained for this in the Netherlands, France and Canada. He also followed the training of BICO, Baby it's cold outside and Mountain 101 (University of Alberta, Canada).

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

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

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

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

Deutsch

Das ist Brian, er ist 31 Jahre jung und lebt in den Niederlanden.

Brian ist ein echter Naturliebhaber. Seit seiner Kindheit ist er in der Natur unterwegs und hat in den letzten Jahren seine Leidenschaft dafür entdeckt.

In den letzten Jahren hat Brian verschiedene Kurse im Ausland absolviert.

Im Jahr 2021 begann er die Ausbildung zum Wander- und Überlebenslehrer, Wander- und Rucksackführer und internationalen Wildnisführer der Stufe 1. Eine entsprechende Ausbildung erhielt er in den Niederlanden, Frankreich und Kanada. Er absolvierte auch die Ausbildung von BICO, Baby it's cold out und Mountain 101 (University of Alberta, Kanada).

Nach Abschluss dieser Kurse stieg er in die Spezialisierung ein und absolvierte die Ausbildung zum Wildnisführer Stufe 2 und die Winterreise & Überleben Stufe 3 im Winter Kanada.

Als Prüfung hierfür musste er ein 48-stündiges Solo bei -30 (Celsius) über sich ergehen lassen.

Darüber hinaus ist es Brian eine große Leidenschaft, Flora und Fauna zu identifizieren. Er sucht gerne nach Tierspuren und -schildern und redet darüber.

Neben Oceanwide Expeditions arbeitet Brian bei zwei niederländischen Unternehmen als Überlebenslehrer und Wildnisführer. Diese bieten Wildnisreisen in skandinavische Länder, nach Frankreich, Polen, Kanada und Spanien an. Und ist Mitglied der Wilderness Guide Association und der Interpretive Guide Association.

Zusätzlich zu seiner Arbeit in der Außenwelt arbeitet Brian im Gesundheitswesen. In diesem Bereich verfügt er mittlerweile über 12 Jahre Erfahrung.

Ingrid Lieverse – Ships Doctor



Ingrid (38) has been working as a general practitioner since 2019 in the area around Leiden, The Netherlands. In addition, she works as a medical manager at a large out-of-hours primary care service. She enjoys variety in her work and is committed to high-quality emergency care and strong collaboration. She also enjoys providing training for colleagues.

Recently, she became a GP with a specialization in emergency care - a role that fits well with both her work and her passion for adventure and challenging work situations.

Before becoming a GP, Ingrid worked for over two years in the Emergency Department and Intensive Care Unit, where she learned to act quickly in unpredictable situations.

Ingrid has worked in many remarkable places. During her medical training, she completed internships in Malawi and Suriname. As a doctor, she provided care for refugees on Lesbos and worked in a general practice in Vanuatu. She has also visited GP practices in New Zealand and Scotland. Last summer, she worked as a GP on the island of Vlieland in The Netherlands. And one

year ago she completed a course in expedition and wilderness medicine in Wales.

In her free time, Ingrid loves being outdoors. She enjoys cycling through the Dutch dunes and, when traveling, prefers exploring wide, natural landscapes - from mountains to glaciers - in places like Nepal, Patagonia, Peru and Norway. Her next destination? Spitsbergen, where she also hopes to see a polar bear in the wild.

Ingrid combines her medical expertise with an adventurous spirit and quickly feels at home wherever she goes. She looks forward to meeting new people and sharing unique experiences together.

Deutsch

Ingrid (38) arbeitet seit 2019 als Hausärztin in der Region um Leiden in den Niederlanden. Darüber hinaus ist sie als medizinische Leiterin in einem großen ärztlichen Bereitschaftsdienst tätig. Sie schätzt die Abwechslung in ihrer Arbeit und setzt sich für eine hochwertige Notfallversorgung sowie eine enge Zusammenarbeit ein. Außerdem engagiert sie sich gerne in der Ausbildung von Kolleginnen und Kollegen.

Kürzlich hat sie sich als Hausärztin mit Schwerpunkt Notfallmedizin spezialisiert – eine Rolle, die gut zu ihrer Arbeit sowie zu ihrer Leidenschaft für Abenteuer und herausfordernde Arbeitssituationen passt. Bevor sie Hausärztin wurde, arbeitete Ingrid über zwei Jahre in der Notaufnahme und auf der Intensivstation, wo sie lernte, in unvorhersehbaren Situationen schnell zu handeln.

Ingrid hat an vielen besonderen Orten gearbeitet. Während ihrer medizinischen Ausbildung absolvierte sie Praktika in Malawi und Suriname. Als Ärztin versorgte sie Geflüchtete auf Lesbos und arbeitete in einer Hausarztpraxis in Vanuatu. Zudem besuchte sie Hausarztpraxen in Neuseeland und Schottland. Im vergangenen Sommer war sie als Hausärztin auf der Insel Vlieland in den Niederlanden tätig. Vor einem Jahr absolvierte sie außerdem einen Kurs in Expeditions- und Wildnismedizin in Wales.

In ihrer Freizeit ist Ingrid am liebsten draußen unterwegs. Sie fährt gerne Rad durch die niederländischen Dünen und erkundet auf Reisen bevorzugt weite Naturlandschaften – von Bergen bis zu Gletschern – in Ländern wie Nepal, Patagonien, Peru und Norwegen. Ihr nächstes Reiseziel? Spitzbergen, wo sie hofft, auch einen Eisbären in freier Wildbahn zu sehen.

Ingrid verbindet ihre medizinische Expertise mit einem abenteuerlichen Geist und fühlt sich überall schnell zu Hause. Sie freut sich darauf, neue Menschen kennenzulernen und gemeinsam besondere Erfahrungen zu teilen.



DAILY PROGRAM



North Spitsbergen Explorer – Versatile Landscapes, Sea ice and Wildlife

Date: 13/06/2026

Day: 1: Longyearbyen - Embarkation

Please make yourselves at home in your cabins and check you have received all your luggage!
Tea/coffee is available in the bar located on Deck 5.

PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Once onboard and settled into your cabins please join our representatives of Oceanwide in the lounge to hear a presentation regarding the start of our season onboard M/V Hondius

17:00+/- Ship safety briefing, in the **Observation Lounge on Deck 5**. Attendance to this is **MANDATORY for ALL GUESTS**.

For ALL GUESTS. After the briefing the emergency alarm will be sounded, and you will need to go back to your cabin and get your life jacket. All guests 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**.

18:15+/- We would like to invite you to **Captains Cocktails** in the **Observation Lounge on Deck 5**. The Hotel Manager and Expedition Leader will do a welcome briefing to orientate you to life on board and explain the plan for the forthcoming days and you will meet your Expedition Team.

19:30 Dinner in the Restaurant on Deck 4.

20:30+/- The Expedition Team invites you to **Deck 3** the zodiac loading area to collect your Muck boots. You will be called by deck. Please bring your thick socks for the perfect fit and please listen for the announcements for your turn.

20:45 Kayakers, please meet Alexis and Chris in the lecture room on deck 5 for your kayak safety briefing.

Tonight we head for the open sea, please make sure that all your belongings are put away safely and that doors and drawers in your cabin are tightly closed. Walk slowly on the ship, always use one hand for yourself and one for the ship and beware of your fingers because of doors slamming!



DAILY PROGRAM



North Spitsbergen Explorer – Versatile Landscapes, Sea ice and Wildlife

Date: 14/06/2026

Day 2: Smeerenburg and Alicehamna.

In the morning, we hope to do a zodiac cruise at the stunning Smeerenburg after our MANDATORY AECO and Bear safety briefings.

Smeerenburg, also known as 'Blubber Town' is a former Dutch settlement which in 1617 was once the flourishing centre of the European Whale oil industry. At its peak 200 men worked here processing the blubber of Bowhead Whales. Nowadays, a herd of Atlantic Walrus call this place home which rest on its white sandy beaches.

06:45 Wake-up call. Good morning!

07:00-08:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

08:00 Please join us for AECO, Bear safety, and Zodiac safety briefing, in the Observation Lounge on Deck 5. Attendance to this is **MANDATORY** so please join us straight after breakfast.

09:45+/- We invite the **Red Group** to Zodiac loading area on Deck 3 for a Zodiac cruise at Smeerenburg.

10:00+/- We invite the **Blue Group** to Zodiac loading area on Deck 3 for a Zodiac cruise at Smeerenburg.

In the afternoon, we hope to land in a bay called Alicehamna, after the ship "Princesse Alice," used by Prince Albert I of Monaco during his oceanographic expeditions to Svalbard. The area also features Raudfjordhytta, a recent cabin, and the site of a former trapper's hut built by Sven Olsson in the 1920s.

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

15:15 We invite the Long hikers to the shell doors for a long hike at Alicehamna.

15:30 We invite the medium hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Alicehamna.

16:00 We invite the short hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Alicehamna.

18:30 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for recap.

19:30 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.



DAILY PROGRAM



North Spitsbergen Explorer – Versatile Landscapes, Sea ice and Wildlife

Date: 15/06/2026

Day 3: Texas Bar and Monacobreen

This morning we plan to do a hike at Texas Bar, the site of a legendary trapper's hut built in 1927, nestled along the scenic Liefdefjorden. This historic site offers a glimpse into Svalbard's rugged past and is a great place for a good hike.

07:15 Wake-up call.

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

08:45 We invite the long hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Texas Bar.

09:00 We invite the medium hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Texas Bar

09:15 We invite the short hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Texas Bar.

We plan to do a **polar plunge** at the end of the landing, so please put your swim suit under your expedition gear. We will have a towel ashore for you so don't worry about bringing your towel from your cabin.

In the afternoon we hope to do a zodiac cruise at Monacobreen. Marvel at its towering 50-meter-high ice face as it drops chunks of white and blue ice into the sea. The glacier is named after Prince Albert I of Monaco. He was a wealthy ruler and a true pioneer of early oceanography.

12:30-12:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

14:45+/- We hope to invite the **Blue Group** to Zodiac loading area on Deck 3 for a Zodiac cruise

15:00+/- We hope to invite the **Red Group** to Zodiac loading area on Deck 3 for a Zodiac cruise

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

19:00 Special Arctic Dinner, Please dress warmly.

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



DAILY PROGRAM



North Spitsbergen Explorer – Versatile Landscapes, Sea ice and Wildlife

Date: 16/06/2026

Day 4: Alkefjellet and Torellneset.

In the morning, we plan to cruise at Alkefjellet, one of the Arctic's most dramatic seabird cliffs. Towering basalt walls rise 100m from the sea, providing nesting grounds for 60,000 breeding pairs of Brünnich's guillemots during the summer months.

07:15 Wake-up call.

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

08:45 We hope to invite the **Red Group** to the Zodiac loading area on Deck 3 for a Zodiac cruise.

09:00 We hope to invite the **Blue Group** to the Zodiac loading area on Deck 3 for a Zodiac cruise.

In the afternoon we wish to do a landing and zodiac cruise at Torellneset to visit a Walrus haul out. Please note that both groups will swap halfway through the afternoon so both groups get to do both activities. Located on the desert-like shores of Nordaustlandet, this stark beach is famous for its massive haul-outs of giant Walruses. Named after a famous Swedish geologist, it is a place where you can feel the true, raw power of the High Arctic.

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

15:15 We hope to invite the **Blue Group** to the Zodiac loading on Deck 3 for a short walk to see the Walrus. We will then swap you halfway through the afternoon for a zodiac cruise.

15:30 We hope to invite the **Red Group** to the Zodiac loading area on Deck 3 for a Zodiac cruise. We will then swap you halfway through the afternoon to take you ashore to visit a Walrus haul out.

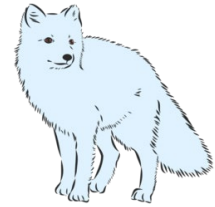
18:30 Please join the Expedition Team in the Bar for daily recap.

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

"When your feet are cold, cover your head." - Inuit proverb



DAILY PROGRAM



North Spitsbergen Explorer – Versatile Landscapes, Sea ice and Wildlife

Date: 18/06/2026

Day 5: Magdalenafjorden

Today we plan to make a zodiac cruise and landing in the stunning Magdalenefjorden. The morning will consist of a zodiac cruise to the Gullybreen Glacier, and past a walrus haul out. In the afternoon we will land at Gravnaset and zodiac cruise to look for seals.

07:15 Wake-up call.

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

08:15+/- We hope to invite the **Blue Group** to Zodiac loading area on Deck 3 for a Zodiac cruise.

08:30+/- We hope to invite the **Red Group** to Zodiac loading area on Deck 3 for a Zodiac cruise.

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

14:15+/- We hope to invite the **Red Group** to the Zodiac loading on Deck 3 for a landing at Gravnaset. We will then swap you halfway through the afternoon for a zodiac cruise.

14:30+/- We hope to invite the **Blue Group** to the Zodiac loading area on Deck 3 for a Zodiac cruise. We will then swap you halfway through the afternoon to take you ashore to visit Gravnaset.

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

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

“People do not decide to be extraordinary. They decide to accomplish extraordinary things.” - Sir Edmund Hillary



DAILY PROGRAM



North Spitsbergen Explorer – Versatile Landscapes, Sea ice and Wildlife

Date: 18/06/2026

Day 6: Overnight in the sea ice and at sea

Overnight we plan to drift in the pack ice, and in the morning explore further the ice of the Arctic, before turning south and transiting towards Alkhornet, at the mouth of Isfjord. Enjoy the midnight sun above the ice floes as we sit quietly amongst the ice through the night. Once again listen for announcements regarding and wildlife spotting's and if we have wildlife close by the announcements will only be made inside the ship to avoid disturbing the wildlife.

07:45 Wake-up call.

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

09:00-11:00 Join Marcello for his Arctic history museum in the lecture room.

11:00 Please join Sven for his lecture about Svalbard Geology!

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

16:00 Please join us for a bird lecture with Meike about: Auks of the Arctic!

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

19:00 Dinner will be served in the dining room on deck 4

20:30 Please join Bill in the Observation Lounge for a journey discovering 'Paintings of the Sea'.

Throughout the afternoon and evening keep your eyes on the horizon as we transit south over the continental shelf of Svalbard for wildlife



DAILY PROGRAM



North Spitsbergen Explorer – Versatile Landscapes, Sea ice and Wildlife

Date: 19/06/2026

Day 7: Ymerbukta and Alkhornet

This morning we hope to hike at Ymerbukta, a beautiful deep-water bay on the Northern side of Isfjorden. The tundra landscape gives great opportunities to see reindeer, arctic fox, eider ducks and other wildlife, both along the shoreline and up on the slopes of the jagged ridge line.

06:45 Wake-up call.

07:00-08:00 Buffet breakfast will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

08:15 We invite the long hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Ymerbukta.

08:30 We invite the medium hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Ymerbukta

08:45 We invite the short hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Ymerbukta.

In the afternoon, we hope to offer a landing at Alkhornet, a spectacular landmark and a designated important bird area. Thousands of Kittiwakes and Guillemots nest high on the mountain cliffs, creating a natural fertilizer that turns the tundra below incredibly green and lush. We will enjoy a walk to photograph Svalbard reindeer, spot Arctic foxes hunting under the cliffs, and admire the majestic polar landscape.

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

14:15 We invite the long hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Alkhornet.

14:30 We invite the medium hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Alkhornet.

14:45 We invite the short hikers to the shell doors for a hike at Alkhornet.

When you return to the vessel please leave your clean muck boots and zodiac life jackets on deck three between the two shell doors.

18:15 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for Captain's Farewell Cocktails and a viewing of the voyage slideshow. You will receive the slideshow by email after the voyage. Please make sure you have scanned the QR code and registered for the trip log.

19:00 A final farewell dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

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



DAILY PROGRAM



North Spitsbergen Explorer – Versatile Landscapes, Sea ice and Wildlife

Date: 20/06/2026

Day 8: Longyearbyen

07:15 Wake-up call. Please ensure your luggage is outside your room before 7:30am.

07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Restaurant, Deck 4.

PLEASE NOTE: Upon arrival in Longyearbyen, we will provide free busses to town and the airport. All luggage must be left outside your cabins by 7:30am and we will move it onto the pier.

For passengers on flight SK4497 at 19:45; please use a **Blue Luggage Tag**. We will provide a bus to Svalbard Butikken, where you can spend the day in town. There will then be a shuttle from Svalbard Butikken to the airport at 17:30. Your luggage will be waiting for you at the airport.

For all other passengers take your luggage from the pier with you on the bus to town and hotels. Your luggage stays with you.

08:45+/- We invite all guests to disembark. Please identify your luggage on the pier and ensure it is placed in the right transport before boarding your bus.

From all the Expedition Team and Crew on board the MV Hondius, we wish you safe onward travel, and thank you for sharing this incredible voyage with us. We look forward to sailing with you again in the future.

"It's when you are safe at home that you're having an adventure. When you're having an adventure, you wish you were safe at home." - Thorton Wilder