



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

02nd August – 15th August 2026



The **M/V Hondius** was built in 2019 as the world's first **Polar Class 6** registered vessel and meets the latest and highest standards of the **Lloyd's Register** for ice-strengthened cruise ships.

The **Hondius** exceeds the requirements of the Polar Code adopted by the **International Maritime Organization (IMO)** and is considered one of the most flexible, modern and innovative expedition ships in the polar regions. She has been consistently optimized for expedition cruises and enables her guests to experience nature in the Arctic and Antarctic at the highest level.

The **Hondius** also complies with the current **SOLAS regulations (Safety of Life at Sea)**.

The **M/V Hondius** is 107.6 m long, 15.3 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5.3 m. She is classified according to **Polar Class 6** (equivalent to **1A Super**), reaches an average cruising speed of 15 knots and is powered by two ABC main engines with a total output of 4,200 kW.



Captain Denis Rada

and his international crew of 74 sailors

Chief Officer:	Sven Holzhausen	[Germany]
Second Officer:	Solina Duguay	[Canada]
Third Officer:	Archer Cultura	[Philippines]
Operation Officer:	Anar Babaiev	[Ukraine]
Hotel Manager:	Albert Don	[Netherlands]
Head Chef:	Felix Lobo	[India]
Sous Chef:	Norman Estrada	[Philippines]
Ships doctor:	Kevin Kooi	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Chris Long	[New Zealand]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Jerry Zhao	[China]
Ass. Expedition Leader:	Koen Jongerling	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Alexander Romanovskiy	[Russia]
Expedition Guide:	Jade Heister	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Jakub Malecki	[Poland]
Expedition Guide:	Meike Sjoer	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Tiphannie May	[Falkland Islands]
Expedition Guide:	Renno Hokwerda	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Wenyan Wang	[China]
Expedition Guide:	Katrin Frosin	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Luce Moussiere	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Hana Spickova	[Czech Rep.]
Expedition Guide:	Andrea Schwetz	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Karoline Baelum	[Denmark]
Expedition Guide:	Jonny Baird	[Scotland/UK]
Expedition Guide:	Pierre Gallego	[Luxembourg]

WE WELCOME YOU ON BOARD!

Day 1 – Sunday 2nd of August, Longyearbyen, Embarkation day

16h00 GPS Position: 78°13.8'N / 015°37.6'E

Wind: WE5 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: P.Cloudy • Air temperature: +10°C

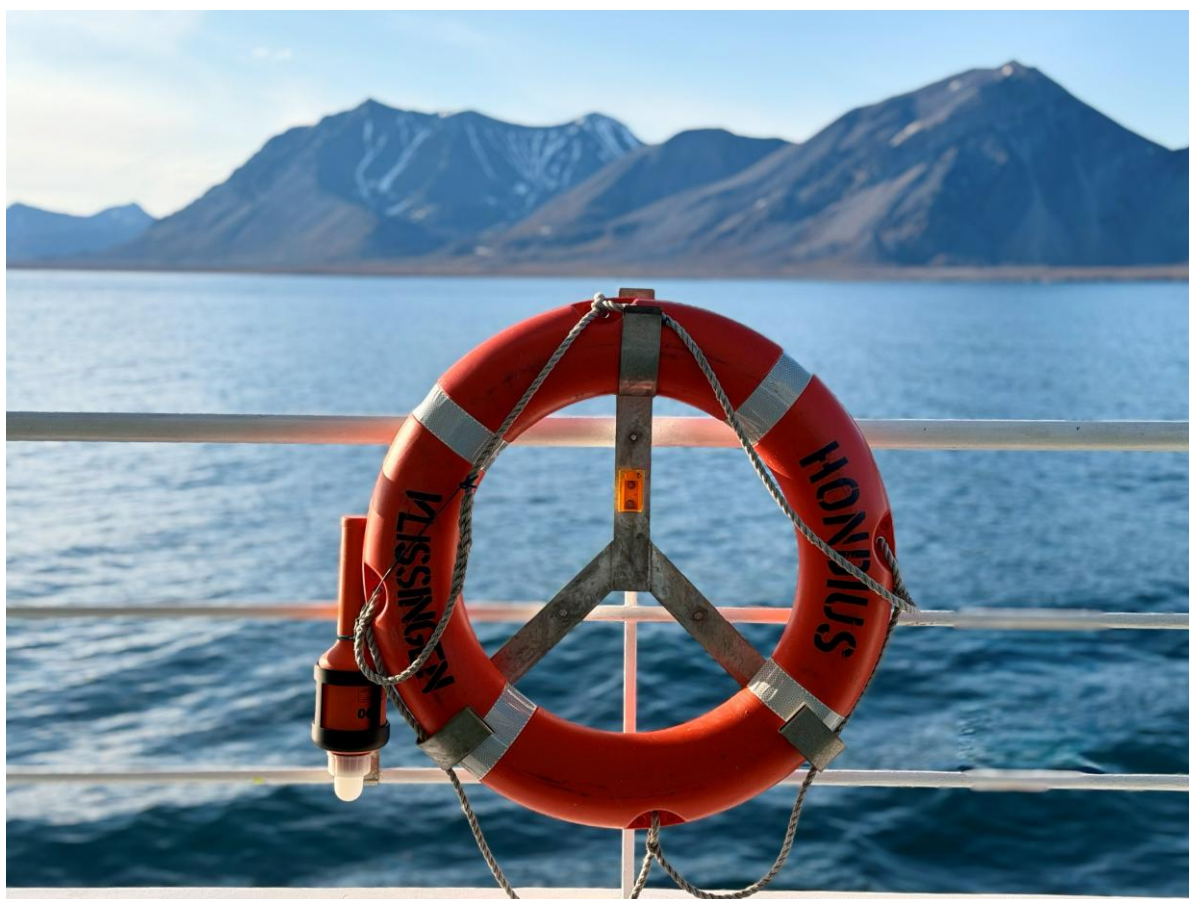
Our Arctic adventure began beneath a blanket of cloudy skies, with a brisk breeze rippling the waters of Adventfjorden. Nestled between rugged mountains and the icy fjord, Longyearbyen—the world's northernmost town with a permanent population—served as our gateway to one of the planet's last great wildernesses. Once a bustling coal-mining settlement, it is now a vibrant centre for Arctic science, tourism, and exploration.

In the afternoon, we arrived and were transferred by Zodiac to *MV Hondius*, an exciting first taste of expedition life. The short journey across the fjord offered sweeping views of the surrounding mountains and glaciers, setting the tone for the adventure ahead. Once aboard, we settled into our cabins, explored the ship, and became acquainted with our home for the coming days as anticipation steadily grew.

With everyone safely on board, we gathered for the mandatory safety briefing. The bridge and hotel teams guided us through the essential procedures, ensuring we were well prepared before departing. Afterwards, our Expedition Leader introduced the voyage ahead, outlining the itinerary and offering a glimpse of the remarkable landscapes and wildlife awaiting us. The expedition team then introduced themselves, sharing the knowledge, experience, and enthusiasm they would bring to every landing, Zodiac cruise, and lecture throughout our journey.



As the evening progressed, the *Hondius* slipped quietly away from Longyearbyen and began her voyage north through Isfjorden. We lined the outer decks despite the cool breeze, watching the colourful buildings of the settlement gradually disappear against the dramatic mountain backdrop. Before long, signs of human habitation gave way to the immense Arctic wilderness—its towering peaks, ancient glaciers, and vast open spaces stretching towards the horizon. With the first miles behind us, the excitement on board was unmistakable. Our Arctic expedition had begun.



Day 2 – Monday 03rd of August, Smeerenburg and Frambukta

08h00 GPS Position: 79°43.9'N / 011°04.1'E

Wind: SW1 • Sea: Calm • Weather: P.Cloudy • Air temperature: +9°C

What a way to begin our voyage aboard *Hondius*! With calm seas, clear skies, warm sunshine, and barely a breath of wind, the Arctic welcomed us in the best possible fashion. Our first day of exploration in the Northwest Spitsbergen National Park set the bar incredibly high—and left us wondering how the days ahead could possibly top it.

Our morning began with a Zodiac cruise around Smeerenburg, one of Svalbard's most fascinating historical sites. Today, the beaches are home to walrus, but four centuries ago this quiet corner of the Arctic echoed with the sounds of one of Europe's busiest whaling stations. Founded by the Dutch in the early 1600s, Smeerenburg—literally "Blubber Town"—was a seasonal settlement where bowhead whales were processed into valuable oil. Scattered remains of blubber ovens, graves, and building foundations are all that remain of this once-thriving outpost, serving as a reminder of both human ambition and the dramatic changes the Arctic has witnessed over the centuries.

The walrus, however, seemed blissfully unconcerned with history. Several animals were hauled out along the shoreline, occasionally lifting their heads to inspect our passing Zodiacs before settling back into a well-earned nap. These remarkable marine mammals can weigh more than 1,500 kilograms, and both males and females carry their impressive ivory tusks. Although their size might suggest otherwise, walrus are graceful underwater, using their sensitive whiskers to detect clams and other invertebrates buried in the seabed before sucking them from their shells with astonishing force.

As we continued exploring the area, we slipped into a quiet bay where a few Harbour seals rested close to the water's edge. Much smaller than walrus and often overlooked, harbour seals are perfectly adapted to life in the High Arctic. Their inquisitive faces and large dark eyes make them one of the Arctic's most endearing residents, although they remain ever watchful in a landscape where predators can appear at any moment.



After lunch we set off once again, this time for Frambukta, where a landing and Zodiac cruise offered a wonderful contrast to the morning's historical focus. Towering glacier ice dominated the landscape, its deep blues and brilliant whites glowing beneath the afternoon sun. Every so often, the silence was broken by a crack like distant thunder as the glacier reminded us that it is very much alive. We witnessed everything from small splashes as pieces of ice dropped into the sea to larger calving events that sent waves rolling across the fjord—a vivid demonstration of the constant reshaping of the Arctic landscape.



Wildlife continued to reward the patient observer. Some guests were fortunate enough to enjoy close views of Bearded seals, instantly recognisable by the long, elegant whiskers that give them their name. These whiskers are among the most sensitive of any marine mammal and allow the seals to locate prey on the seafloor with remarkable precision. Others watched Minke whales

surface nearby, their sleek backs briefly breaking the mirror-like water before disappearing beneath the surface once more. In the calm conditions, every sighting felt especially intimate.



As we returned from the landing, the excitement reached another level. Chris, our Expedition Leader, announced over the radio that a Polar bear had been spotted swimming. At first, the bear blended perfectly into the shimmering landscape, and it took many of us a little while to pick it out. Then, slowly but surely, everyone found it. We watched in awe as it swam purposefully towards the shore before hauling itself onto land, allowing us to fully appreciate the immense size and effortless power of the Arctic's apex predator.

The story did not end there. During dinner, the keen-eyed observers among us continued following the bear from the ship and witnessed an extraordinary scene unfold. The bear

stalked and successfully hunted a hauled-out seal—a dramatic reminder that survival in the Arctic is never easy. While nature can sometimes be harsh, moments like these offer a rare glimpse into the delicate balance of this remarkable ecosystem. Fortunately for the rest of us, one of the guests managed to capture the event on video, giving everyone on board the opportunity to witness this unforgettable encounter.

History, glaciers, sunshine, whales, seals, walruses, and a polar bear hunt—all on our very first day. It was an unforgettable introduction to the Arctic and a spectacular start to our journey from Svalbard towards Greenland. If today has taught us anything, it is to expect the unexpected in this wild and wonderful part of the world.

Day 3 – Tuesday 04th of August, Heading towards Greenland

08h00 GPS Position: 78°29.2'N / 002°28.6'E

Wind: E1 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +2°C

During the night, *Hondius* continued her steady journey westward across the Greenland Sea towards Greenland. The gentle motion of the ship, combined with yesterday's unforgettable wildlife encounters, made for a restful night on board. With a full sea day ahead, there was no wake-up call this morning—a welcome opportunity to enjoy a leisurely breakfast and ease into the day.

We awoke to calm seas, blue skies, and a welcome escort of northern fulmars and black-legged kittiwakes gliding effortlessly around the ship. Fulmars are true masters of ocean travel, capable of covering vast distances with hardly a wingbeat, while kittiwakes seemed to dance around the vessel, taking advantage of the updrafts created by our passage through the water.



The morning was dedicated to learning more about the Arctic we are travelling through. Tiphane introduced us to the fascinating world of Arctic seals, exploring the different species we may

encounter during our voyage and the remarkable adaptations that allow them to thrive in one of the planet's harshest environments. She was followed by Jakub, whose

passion for ice is as impressive as the subject itself. His lecture revealed that Arctic ice is far more than frozen water—it is a dynamic and ever-changing landscape that shapes the lives of everything that depends upon it.

After lunch, Jonny and Karoline presented the exciting programme of all-day hikes that await us in Greenland. Their briefing gave everyone a taste of the adventures ahead, from longer treks across Arctic tundra to spectacular viewpoints overlooking Greenland's dramatic fjords and glaciers.

Later in the afternoon, Pierre completed our educational programme with an engaging lecture on the Arctic's most iconic resident: the polar bear. We learned about the challenges these magnificent predators face in a rapidly changing Arctic, their extraordinary adaptations for hunting on sea ice, and why every sighting is such a privilege.

Between lectures, there was plenty of time to simply enjoy being at sea. Some guests curled up with a good book, others caught up on sleep after yesterday's excitement, while many gathered on the bridge to watch the endless Arctic seascape drift by. These waters, where relatively warm Atlantic currents meet colder polar waters, are among the most productive marine environments in the High Arctic. The mixing of these water masses brings nutrients to the surface, supporting abundant plankton, fish, seabirds, seals, and the whales that we all hope to encounter during the days ahead.



Nature provided another surprise during the afternoon when a delicate fogbow appeared off the starboard side of *Hondius*. At first glance it resembled a rainbow painted in shades of white. Unlike a traditional rainbow, which

forms in raindrops, a fogbow is created when sunlight passes through countless tiny droplets suspended in fog. Because the droplets are so small, the colours become blurred by diffraction, leaving behind an elegant, ghostly white arc that is rarely seen and always appreciated by those lucky enough to witness it.

As the day drew to a close and dinner came to an end, another milestone of our voyage awaited us. Ahead lay our first sea ice of the expedition. Small floes began appearing around the ship, glowing softly in the evening light and hinting at the increasingly polar world we were entering. For many on board, seeing sea ice for the very first time was a memorable moment—an unmistakable reminder that Greenland, and all the adventures it promises, was now drawing ever closer.

Day 4 – Wednesday 05th of August, Approaching Greenland

08h00 GPS Position: 75°35.6'N / 011°38.3'W

Wind: SW4 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +2°C

Today was our second full day at sea as we crossed from Svalbard to Greenland, a journey of about 450 nautical miles. As strange as it sounds, after reaching nearly 80° north in Svalbard, we were now heading south towards northern Greenland. Our destination is the Northeast Greenland National Park – the largest national park on Earth. It is an extraordinary place: remote, rarely visited, and home to the most spectacular Arctic wilderness.

The Greenland Sea reminded us that nature is always in charge. A steady swell of around three metres kept the ship rocking and rolling throughout the day. Fortunately, there was plenty to keep us entertained on board.



The morning began with a photography presentation by QB, who shared practical tips in her talk, *Shooting the Frozen Wild*. We learned how to get the best possible photos in the unique light and conditions of the polar regions.

As we were approaching Greenland, Koen gave a presentation, *First Impressions of Greenland*, introducing us to what we can expect during our expedition.

One of the great privileges of travelling with Oceanwide is the open bridge policy. Guests are welcome to visit the bridge at almost any time and enjoy what must be one of the

world's best office views. After lunch, many of us took advantage of this opportunity, watching rain and storm clouds painting the Arctic sky.

The afternoon continued with more engaging lectures. Meike spoke about seabirds and their important role as indicators of marine pollution. Later, Karoline took us on a journey through the remarkable geology of Svalbard and Greenland. With her infectious enthusiasm and wonderful sense of humour, she made even the most complex rock formations easy to understand and enjoyable to learn about.



After dinner, two exciting announcements came over the speakers. First, Sasha invited us to hear the story of his extraordinary life as a keeper in the Ghost town of Pyramiden on Svalbard. Then came the news everyone had been waiting for—we had our very first views of Greenland!

Day 5 – Thursday 06th of August, Ymer Ø, Kap Humbolt

08h00 GPS Position: 73°06.1'N / 022°58.8'W

Wind: E3 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +7°C

Our first morning in Greenland began with Chris' familiar wake-up call, and before long everyone was peering eagerly through portholes to catch their first glimpse of the dramatic East Greenland coastline. Overnight, *Hondius* had sailed to the entrance of Kaiser Franz Joseph Fjord—the northernmost fjord system in Northeast Greenland National Park—and lay peacefully at anchor off Kap Humboldt on Ymer Ø.

Even breakfast couldn't distract us for long from the incredible scenery outside. Towering mountains rose straight from the sea, enormous icebergs drifted silently across the fjord, and everywhere we looked the landscape seemed to stretch endlessly into the Arctic wilderness. Excitement was high as we climbed into the Zodiacs for our very first Greenland landing.



Once ashore, everyone headed off in different directions. The long hikers wasted no time and set off north across the tundra, enjoying bursts of sunshine whenever the clouds decided to cooperate. The medium and leisurely groups explored closer to the landing site, discovering a charming Norwegian hunting cabin from the 1920s and the remains of ancient Thule winter dwellings—a reminder that people had called this remote place home long before expedition ships ever arrived.



There was plenty to keep photographers busy. Musk ox skulls and scattered bones told stories of the Arctic's hardy wildlife, while brilliant patches of dwarf fireweed (*Chamerion latifolium*) added

unexpected splashes of purple to the tundra. Every few steps seemed to reveal another perfect photo opportunity. As the morning went on, the sun finally won its battle with the clouds, and we lingered a little longer than planned, soaking up the views and listening to snow buntings singing around us. Just before we returned to the Zodiacs, a flock of pink-footed geese flew overhead, providing a fitting farewell to our first Greenland landing.



Back aboard *Hondius*, lunch came with spectacular panoramic views in every direction—and no one seemed to mind lingering over dessert while admiring the scenery.

The afternoon brought two very different adventures. The long hikers continued across Ymer Ø towards Kap Wijkander, where the wildlife stole the show. Several musk oxen appeared on the hillsides, and Arctic hares bounded across the tundra, keeping everyone reaching for their cameras. By the time the group reached the beautiful bay at the end of the hike, the wind had freshened considerably. The Zodiac ride back turned into a wonderfully splashy affair, with plenty of laughs as everyone arrived just a little wetter than when they had left.

For the medium and leisurely groups, however, the weather had other ideas. Building swell and stronger winds made an afternoon landing unsafe, so Plan B came into action. Instead of exploring ashore, we settled into the lounge with tea, coffee and freshly downloaded photographs, watching the waves dance outside while sharing stories from the morning's adventures.

As the day drew to a close, the recap sessions added another layer to everything we had seen. Meike and Hana introduced us to the remarkable world of Arctic plants, explaining how such colourful life thrived in such a challenging environment. Renno then brought the scattered bones we had found into context by telling the story of the East Greenland caribou, a unique animal that disappeared from these landscapes more than a century ago.

After another delicious dinner, tired legs and full camera cards sent everyone happily off to bed. Our Greenland adventure had only just begun, and already it had delivered breathtaking landscapes, fascinating history, wonderful wildlife, and just enough Arctic weather to remind us exactly where we were.

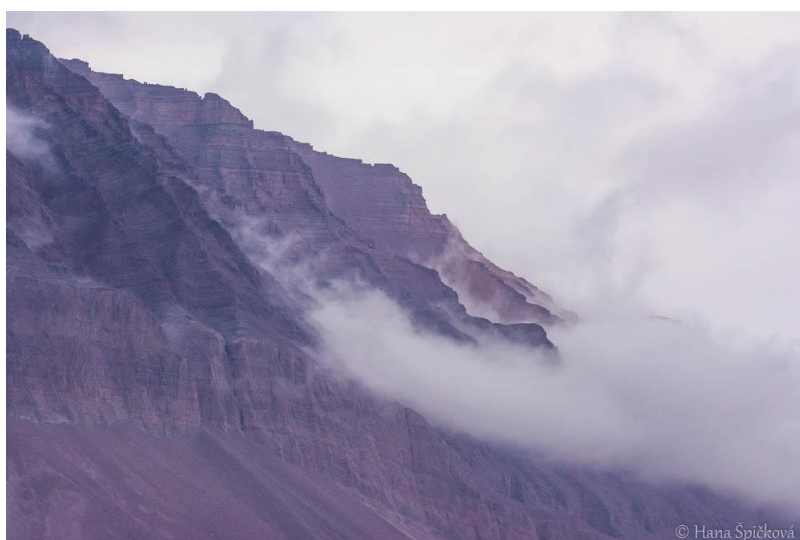
Day 6 – Friday 07th of August, Blomsterbugten & Renbugten

08h00 GPS Position: 73°20.4'N / 025°20.1'W

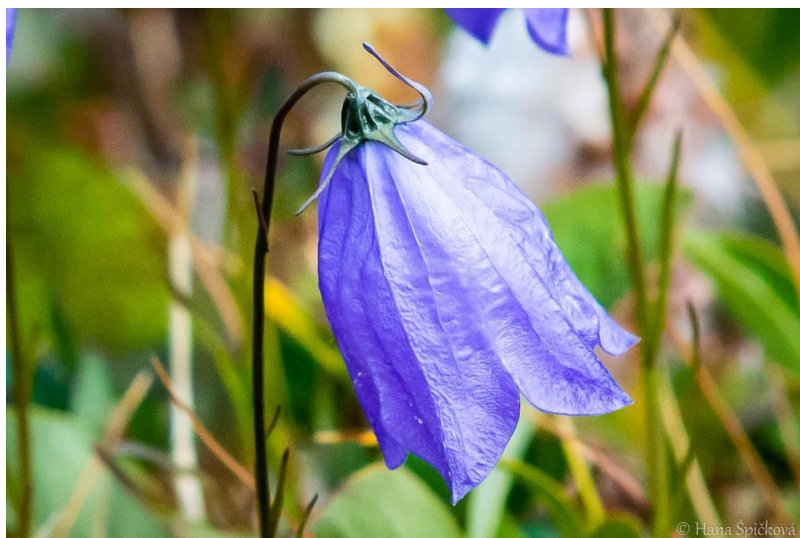
Wind: VAR • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +7°C

This morning, we woke earlier than usual. Our Expedition leader Chris had told us yesterday that we were in for one of the most beautiful sights of the early morning, and it certainly did not disappoint. Some of us were so eager to see it that we ventured out on deck still wearing our pajamas!

Before us stood Teufelsschloss — Devil's Castle, rising dramatically above Franz Josef Fjord. It was our first glimpse of a truly spectacular Greenlandic landscape, and sailing into the fjord was undoubtedly one of the best ways to wake up.



After breakfast, we headed out in the Zodiacs for our landing at Blomsterbugten. Most of us set off on foot to explore the hills of this beautiful valley. Flowers were blossoming everywhere, making it easy to understand how the area earned its name. From higher up, we were rewarded with wonderful views across the lake, framed by steep mountainsides.



The landscape was quiet and incredibly peaceful. There was plenty of wildlife to keep us company, too. Arctic hares were hopping around the hills in such numbers that we quickly lost count. A few lucky hikers also had the chance to spot majestic musk oxen, grazing peacefully among the vegetation.



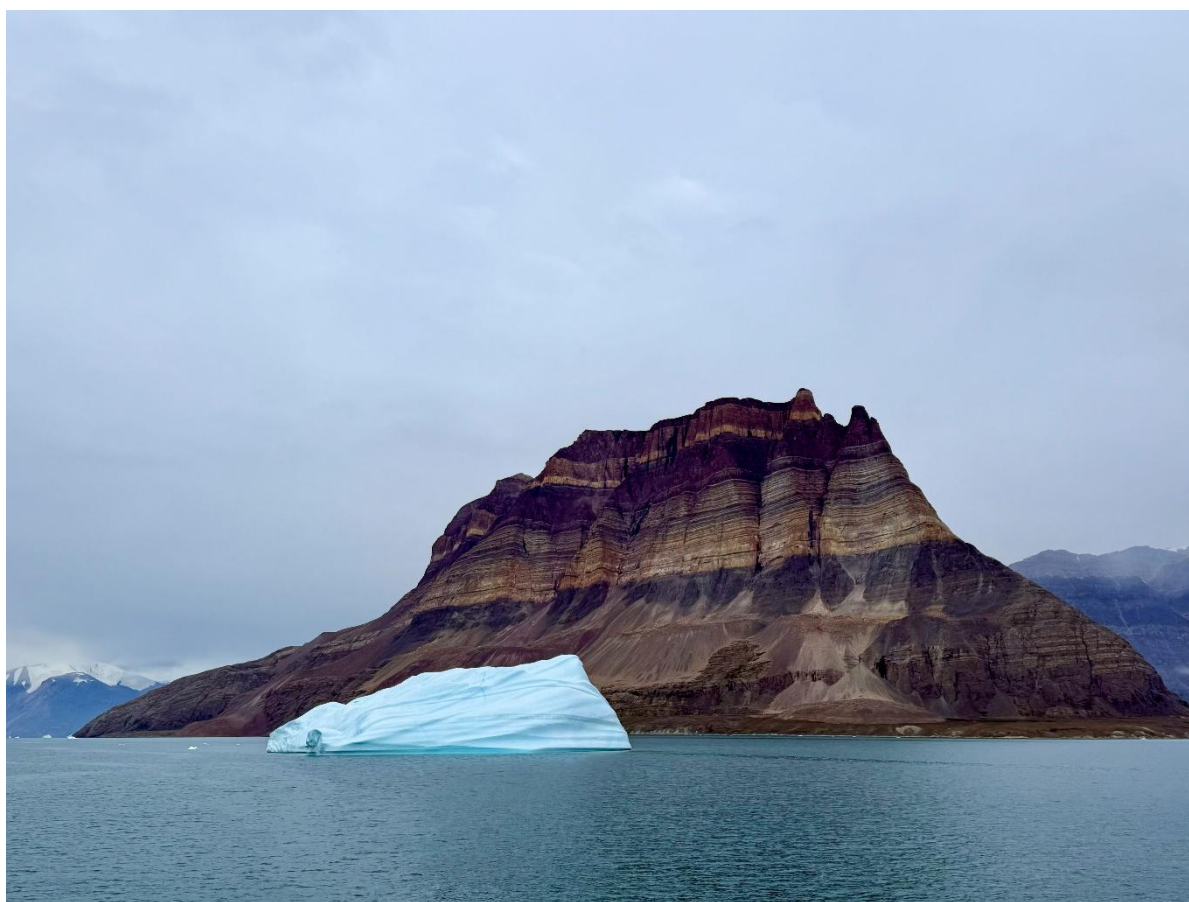
After lunch, some of us took the opportunity for a well-deserved nap, while others remained outside, unwilling to miss a moment of the ever-changing scenery. We continued our journey toward Renbugten, where the guides organized an unforgettable Zodiac cruise beneath towering, steep-sided mountains and among enormous icebergs.



We all climbed into our Zodiacs and set off to explore. The icebergs seemed to take on endless shapes and shades of blue and white, each one different from the last. Some of us even ventured through the brash ice, weaving our way between the smaller pieces of floating ice. It was an experience in itself and made the landscape feel even more remote and wild.

For several hours, we simply cruised, explored and admired the scenery around us. Eventually, it was time to turn back toward Hondius — although, after such a spectacular afternoon, none of us found it easy to leave.

Back on board, we gathered for recap, where Chris introduced us to tomorrow's program. We had barely had time to process everything we had experienced today before becoming excited about what was still to come.



Day 8 – Saturday 08th of August, Segelsällskapets Fjord & Pohlen Dal

08h00 GPS Position: 72°25.4'N / 024°53.8'W

Wind: SW2 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: P. Overcast • Air temperature: +6°C

This morning we woke up in Segelsällskapets Fjord a stunning fjord famous for its brilliantly coloured and dramatic sedimentary rock formations.



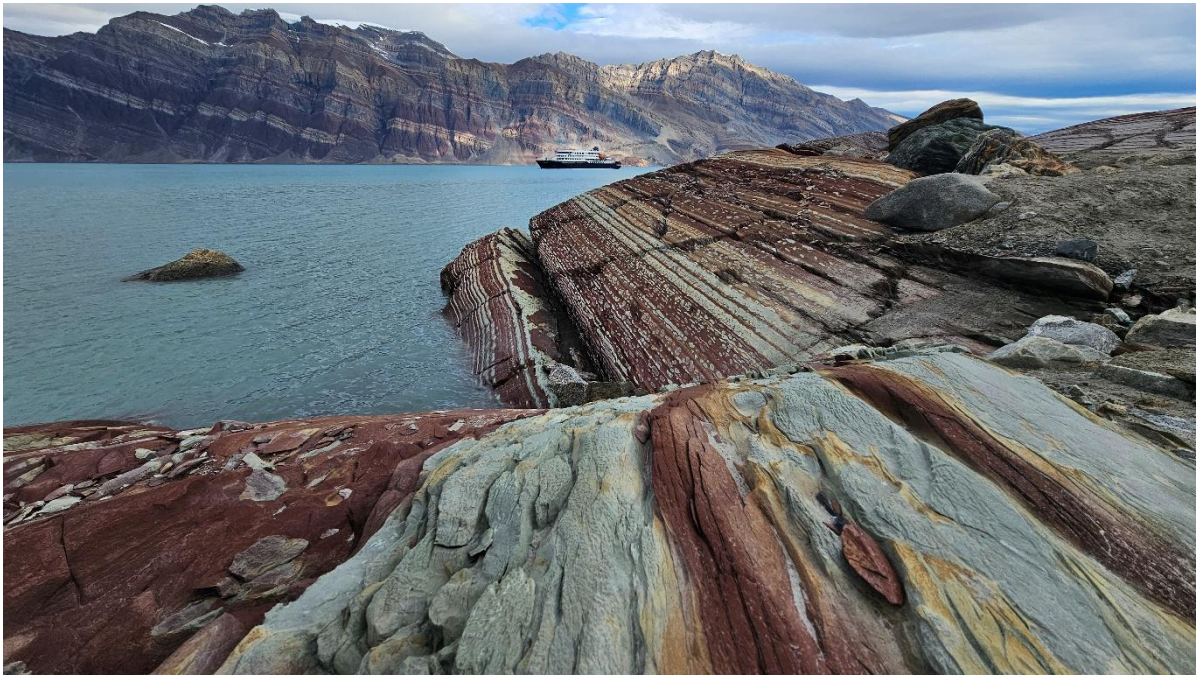
The morning greeted us with calm waters, a sandy beach and towering mountain cliffs. With hikes in all different combinations and levels, there was something to suit everybody. Some of us headed up onto the mountain ridge, where a small freshwater lake revealed a beautiful family of Red-throated Divers with their two chicks.

It was one of those perfect Arctic moments: sitting quietly and taking in the view, with nothing but the sound of the river running through the valley, Snow Buntings flying overhead and the occasional call of a Ringed Plover.

Our hike took us across the tundra, through patches of dwarf birch and willow, with even a few mushrooms making an appearance. But, of course, the real stars of the morning were the extraordinary shapes and colours of the mountains and their ancient rocks.

Onboard geologist Karoline helped us understand the story written into these cliffs. The rocks here are around 950 million years old, with alternating layers of limestone, dolomite, mudrocks and quartzite creating the wonderfully vibrant, striped patterns

along the fjord. Looking at the landscape afterwards, it was hard not to see the mountains a little differently.



Greenland's flowers are also becoming increasingly familiar to us now, and our beloved Broad-leaved Fireweed seems to be everywhere, adding splashes of colour to the tundra.



Back onboard, the Galley Team and Chef Felix served up a varied lunch with a wonderful mix of flavours, giving us plenty of energy for another afternoon of exploring the fjord.



The afternoon brought full sunshine and breathtaking views as we hiked along the slopes. We encountered a few Arctic Hares, Long-tailed Skuas and fields of cotton grass swaying in the breeze. Others chose their

own way to enjoy this beautiful place sitting quietly on the beach, leaning against a rock and simply taking in the landscape, or even sketching the mountains in front of them.



And then, for the brave among us, came the Polar Plunge.

The water temperature was a surprisingly mild 11°C although somehow it still felt absolutely freezing when we got in! A quick, refreshing dip, followed by a very happy zip back to the warmth of Hondius.

As the evening light settled over the fjord and the mountains glowed in the late Greenland light, we returned to Hondius another extraordinary day in a voyage that still has so much more to discover

Day 9 – Sunday 09th of August, Ittoqqortoormiit

08h00 GPS Position: 70°46.5'N / 020°47.2'W

Wind: No Wind • Sea: Calm • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +6°C

This morning, we were making our way towards Scoresby Sund, cruising southbound along the east coast of Greenland aboard Hondius. The weather was sunny, the sea was calm, and visibility was excellent. It was a beautiful morning to be at sea.

Shortly after Tyler's lecture on the solar eclipse, we spotted several large blows in the distance. Hondius turned around so we could get a closer look, and what followed was a truly memorable wildlife encounter. We found a group of three fin whales, but among them was something even more spectacular: a Blue whale, the largest animal ever to have lived on our planet. We were incredibly lucky to have several good views of this enormous animal as it surfaced and disappeared again into the calm Greenlandic waters. Eventually, we had to turn back towards our planned route, but the sight of the blue whale will undoubtedly remain one of the highlights of the expedition.



Just before lunch, we had already entered Scoresby Sund and were approaching Ittoqqortoormiit, our landing destination for the afternoon. After lunch, we disembarked and set out to explore this beautiful Greenlandic settlement, known for its brightly coloured houses scattered across the landscape.



As it was Sunday, many of the town's attractions were closed, including the community centre, supermarket, two small souvenir shops, and even the church. This did not stop us from exploring. The settlement was remarkably quiet, with only a few people around.

Many locals were away visiting family in other settlements or on mainland Denmark, while others were spending the weekend out in the fjords.



We wandered through the settlement, visiting the football field, weather station and sled dogs, among other sights. With the weather so wonderfully calm and sunny, simply sitting at one of the viewpoints and looking out across the fjord, dotted with icebergs, was an experience in itself. The only convenience store that was open provided

another charming glimpse into local life, as Greenlandic children arrived on bicycles to buy sweets and chips.

Around 5:30 pm, we all returned to Hondius and continued sailing deeper into Scoresby Sund towards our destination for the following day. As we sat down for dinner, the sun began to sink towards the horizon, bathing the fjord and its icebergs in beautiful golden light. For us, it was the first sunset we had seen since the beginning of the expedition. Although it lasted only briefly before the sun disappeared once more, it was a spectacular way to end an already unforgettable day.

Day 10 – Monday 10th of August, Sydkap

08h00 GPS Position: 71°11.3'N / 024°44.8'W

Wind: SW2 • Sea: Calm • Weather: P.Cloudy • Air temperature: +9°C

We woke up to another glorious, sunny, and warm day in East Greenland, with the MV Hondius arriving near Sydkap in Scoresby Sund, specifically at Nordostbugt.

After a hearty breakfast, the landscape greeted us with gentle, hilly terrain blanketed in rich, vibrant tundra. Action began early for our adventurous spirits: our long hikers departed for an ambitious 8-hour trek across the rugged terrain. Shortly after, the rest of us headed ashore to soak in the serene beauty of the coast, taking our time to explore this remote wilderness. The morning set a lovely, leisurely tone as massive, sculptural icebergs drifted peacefully through the water around us.



Following a delicious lunch on board, the ship repositioned to a nearby small island called Immikkeerigajik. We stretched our legs with an afternoon climb up the rocky hills,

wandering and exploring through fascinating canyon-like passages. The island offered incredible encounters with both nature and history. Some of us spotted a group of ptarmigans resting right on the boulders. Their phenomenal camouflage made them almost impossible to see until they moved! We also came across the stark, evocative remains of muskoxen skeletons and explored fascinating remnants of the ancient Thule culture, including their traditional winter houses built cleverly into the ground with stones designed to trap and keep warmth inside. After a thoroughly lovely stroll, we re-embarked and picked up our long hikers from their morning landing site, bringing everyone back together.



As evening settled, we gathered together in the lounge. Chris announced the exciting plans for the next day, followed by insightful recaps from our staff members. We wrapped up the day with dinner, feeling deeply grateful for another perfect day exploring the wonders of East Greenland.



Day 11 – Tuesday 11th of August, Milneland

08h00 GPS Position: 71°02.5'N / 025°39.7'W

Wind: S1 • Sea: Calm • Weather: P.Cloudy • Air temperature: +8°C

Today's expedition took us to Milneland, one of the islands within the vast Scoresby Sund fjord system of East Greenland. Scoresby Sund, known in Greenlandic as Kangertittivaq, extends roughly 350 kilometres inland and is one of the largest fjord systems in the world. Milneland itself is part of a landscape shaped by glaciers, with local ice caps and mountain terrain rising around the fjords.

We began with a morning landing on the shore. In the short Arctic summer, the coastline was surprisingly alive with colour. Broad-leaved fireweed grew across the shallow tidal flats, its pink flowers standing out against the muted greens and browns of the tundra. Beyond the shoreline, snow-covered mountains rose above the fjord, their slopes showing the marks of long-term glacial erosion.



Following the coast, we came across a narrow stream carrying clear meltwater from the surrounding ice and snow. It crossed the shore before reaching the sea, creating a small but active connection between the mountains and the fjord. Around it, Arctic skuas moved overhead, while snow buntings searched among the rocks and vegetation. Bumblebees were also busy among the flowers, a reminder that even in this high-latitude environment, the brief summer brings a burst of activity.

In the afternoon, we headed out by Zodiac into the fjord. The ice became increasingly prominent as we moved among the floating bergs. Each one had its own structure: smooth blue walls, layered folds, sharp ridges and occasional dark openings where meltwater and seawater had worked their way into the ice. The blue colour comes from

the way dense glacier ice absorbs longer wavelengths of light, allowing more blue light to be scattered back to the eye.

Milne Land and the surrounding Scoresby Sund landscape also carry a long geological and glacial history. The region contains ancient crystalline rocks as well as younger volcanic and sedimentary formations, while glaciers have repeatedly advanced and retreated through the fjord system. The landscape we see today is therefore the result of both geological processes and repeated glacial activity.



The most memorable moment came when a glacier began to calve. A fracture travelled through the ice before a large section broke away with a deep, echoing roar. The event was brief, but its scale was unmistakable. Around the newly disturbed water, glaucous gulls remained on the floating ice, while a ringed seal rested on a nearby floe,

seemingly undisturbed by the movement around it.

By the end of the day, the contrast was striking: flowers and bumblebees along the shore,



birds moving through the clear Arctic air, seals resting on the ice, and glaciers slowly shaping the landscape around them.

Milneland offered a close view of an Arctic environment where summer brings a short period of colour

and activity, while the glaciers and mountains continue the much slower work of shaping the coast.

Day 12 – Wednesday 12th of August, Røde Ø & the Total Eclipse

08h00 GPS Position: 70°51.1'N / 027°45.8'W

Wind: SW1 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Clear • Air temperature: +8°C

We enjoyed a slightly later start this morning as we prepared for the main event of the day: a total solar eclipse over the wild landscapes of Northeast Greenland. Excitement was palpable throughout Hondius as the bridge and expedition teams studied the latest weather forecasts, debated our options, and carefully considered where we should position the ship for the afternoon.

After a wonderful breakfast, the expedition team invited us outside for a morning Zodiac cruise. Under brilliant sunshine, we climbed aboard and set off among the enormous icebergs of Rødefjord in the Scoresby Sound. For a couple of hours, we explored this spectacular frozen landscape, weaving between towering walls of blue and white ice.



Our luck was in almost immediately. A radio call came through announcing that musk ox had been spotted nearby. We headed towards the shoreline and approached quietly, careful not to disturb them. Our patience was richly rewarded. Several magnificent adult musk ox appeared, accompanied by a number of calves. We spent a long time watching them as they slowly ambled across the tundra, stopping to graze on the sparse vegetation.

It was an incredibly special encounter. We were able to approach remarkably close without disturbing the animals, allowing us to quietly observe these iconic Arctic

survivors in their natural environment. Eventually, we continued our exploration, once again surrounded by the spectacular icebergs scattered throughout the fjord.



The sunshine and unusually warm conditions made for a wonderful morning on the water. It was almost a moment of calm before the great celestial event that awaited us. All too soon, it was time to return to Hondius for lunch.

After a hearty meal, the expedition changed pace. Cameras, tripods and an array of specialist equipment appeared across the decks as everyone prepared to record the eclipse. The anticipation was growing by the minute. All eyes were on the weather, and all attention was focused on the clock. At 4:33 pm, the Moon would begin its passage across the face of the Sun.

Hondius continued to manoeuvre through the fjord, searching for the perfect position and, most importantly, a clear view of the sky for the entire two-hour event. As the crucial moment approached, the ship settled into position. Everyone found their chosen vantage point on the decks, cameras were prepared, eclipse glasses were donned, and we waited.

We were exactly at **70°53.5'N / 027°47.3'W** when it began.



Through our eclipse glasses, we watched as the Moon slowly started to take a bite out of the Sun. Across the ship, people watched in quiet fascination. Some carefully recorded the changing light and landscape, while others simply stood and marvelled at the extraordinary sight unfolding above us.

As totality approached, the atmosphere became increasingly tense. This year, we would have just two minutes of totality, and photographers across the ship were poised for the shot they had been waiting for: the solar corona.

And then, suddenly, daylight disappeared.

An eerie twilight descended over Scoresby Sound, with the delicate, ghostly light of the corona surrounding the black disc of the Moon. For those precious moments, the Arctic landscape seemed to fall completely silent. Then came the first glimpse of the diamond ring.

Glasses came off and shutters began firing. Across the decks there was a sudden flurry of activity as everyone tried to capture the fleeting spectacle. Two minutes had never passed so quickly. Almost as soon as totality had begun, it was over, and brilliant sunlight began to return to the fjord.



There was an almost collective sigh of relief across Hondius. We had done it. The clouds had stayed away, and we had been fortunate enough to witness the entire eclipse from beginning to end.

As the Moon continued its journey away from the Sun, the excitement slowly gave way to celebration. Everyone began making their way towards the lounge, ready to raise a glass with friends, share photographs and stories, and celebrate an unforgettable day in Northeast Greenland.

Among the icebergs and immense wilderness of Scoresby Sound, we had experienced something truly extraordinary: a morning spent alongside musk ox, an afternoon exploring one of the Arctic's greatest landscapes, and finally, a total solar eclipse beneath the Greenlandic sky.

A day that will remain etched in our expedition memories for many years to come.

Day 13 – Thursday 13th of August, Makkorpalaap Nuua

08h00 GPS Position: 70°55.4'N / 025°16.7'W

Wind: E4 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Overcast • Air temperature: +7°C

Our final morning in East Greenland began at Bregne Pyat, where the long hikers headed ashore at 9:30 am after breakfast, ready to make the most of our final day in Greenland. Meanwhile, the rest of us climbed aboard the Zodiacs and set out among the spectacular icebergs, exploring the coastline and keeping watch for wildlife.



There was a wonderful atmosphere across the ship. The excitement of yesterday's total solar eclipse was still very much with us, and there was a shared sense that we had been incredibly fortunate to experience such extraordinary moments together in one of the most remote corners of the Arctic.



For the long hikers, the final morning became a true expedition. Their route covered almost 16 kilometres with around 600 metres of ascent, following an exploratory route that Oceanwide had never taken before. This was adventure in its purest form: heading into unfamiliar terrain,

following the landscape rather than a well-trodden path, and never quite knowing what the day might bring. The Greenland wilderness rewarded their efforts with a wonderful selection of wildlife encounters. Ptarmigan were spotted along the route, along with a hare, geese and even butterflies. Against the immense scale and remoteness of the landscape, every encounter seemed all the more remarkable.



After lunch, the exploration continued. The long hikers pressed on with their route, while the short and medium hiking groups headed out around Makkorpalaad Nuua. They explored the beautiful surroundings and spent time enjoying the stunning beach, making the most of our final opportunity to set foot on the Greenlandic coast.



And then, almost before we were ready for it, it was time to leave.

One by one, the Zodiacs returned to Hondius. Equipment was gathered, final photographs were taken and the last passengers climbed aboard. We watched as the final Zodiac was lifted from the water, marking the end of our last landing in Greenland.

There was a definite sense of sadness.

After all the places we had explored, the wildlife we had encountered and the adventures we had shared, it was difficult to believe that our time on the east coast was coming to an end. Greenland had become more than simply a destination. It had been the backdrop to an extraordinary expedition filled with discovery, challenge and moments none of us were likely to forget.

But alongside the sadness was an enormous sense of achievement. We had come to Greenland to explore, and explore we certainly had.

As Hondius finally turned towards out towards the open ocean, we gathered for our final expedition recap. QB shared some of her incredible imagery from yesterday's total solar eclipse, transporting us back to that extraordinary afternoon and reminding us once again just how remarkable the experience had been.

Around the tables, stories were shared, photographs compared and favourite moments relived. There was plenty of laughter, some quiet reflection, and perhaps a growing realisation that somewhere along the way, this group of travellers had become part of something rather special.



Day 14 – Friday 14th of August, At sea to Iceland

08h00 GPS Position: 69°09.2'N / 020°56.2'W

Wind: NNW4 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Clear • Air temperature: +8°C

Our final day aboard Hondius began with the gentle, persistent rhythm of the Denmark Strait. After the landscapes of Svalbard and the vast fjords of East Greenland, there was something wonderfully humbling about waking to nothing but open ocean stretching in every direction. The swell was certainly feelable beneath our feet, but rather than unsettling, it seemed to soothe the ship into a steady oceanic rhythm as we continued south-east towards Iceland.

The Denmark Strait may appear as simply a stretch of blue on a map, but beneath us an extraordinary oceanographic drama was unfolding. The strait separates Greenland from Iceland and forms an important gateway between Arctic and Atlantic waters. Deep

below the surface, cold, dense water tumbles over the Greenland-Iceland Rise in what is considered the world's largest waterfall by volume—an invisible cascade carrying millions of cubic metres of water every second into the deep Atlantic.



Our sea day was anything but empty. The lecture programme kept us busy with fascinating talks on humpback whales, eclipses, the hidden world beneath the ocean, and the far-flung destinations reached by Oceanwide expeditions. And, as if the lectures were not enough, the sea itself provided a spectacular final chapter.

Wildlife appeared throughout the day: fin whales slicing through the swell, humpbacks surfacing with their characteristic blows, and even a blue whale. A lively school of white-beaked dolphins joined the spectacle, racing through the water, while fulmars and gannets wheeled overhead, perfectly at home in the windswept North Atlantic.

Then came our final evening.

At the Captain's Farewell, glasses were raised and stories exchanged as we said goodbye to the crew and expedition staff who had guided us through this remarkable journey. One last beautifully plated dinner was served, and for a moment it was easy to forget that tomorrow we would step ashore in Akureyri.

From Svalbard, across the wild coast of East Greenland and now through the Denmark Strait, the voyage had carried us through some of the most remote landscapes and extraordinary waters on Earth.

Tonight, Hondius felt less like a ship—and more like a home we were not quite ready to leave.

Day15 – Saturday 15th of August, Disembarkation | Akureyri

08h00 GPS Position: 65°68.6'N / 018°07.5'W

Wind: S1 • Sea: Calm • Weather: P.Clear • Air temperature: +6°C

After an unforgettable journey through the Arctic, today marked the end of our adventure aboard M/V Hondius. It was a bittersweet morning as we enjoyed one last hearty breakfast together, sharing stories, favourite moments and plenty of laughs from the past two weeks exploring Svalbard and North east Greenland .

Before long, it was time to gather ourselves and prepare to leave the ship that had been our home throughout the voyage. As we stepped ashore in Akureyri, there was a real mix of emotions. While everyone was looking forward to the next stage of their travels, it was also hard to say goodbye to the wonderful crew, Expedition Team and new friends who had become our Oceanwide family.

From towering icebergs and dramatic landscapes to the incredible solar eclipse and unforgettable Zodiac cruises, we've shared experiences that will stay with us for years to come. Together we've explored one of the most remote and spectacular places on Earth, creating memories that are sure to be retold long after we've returned home.

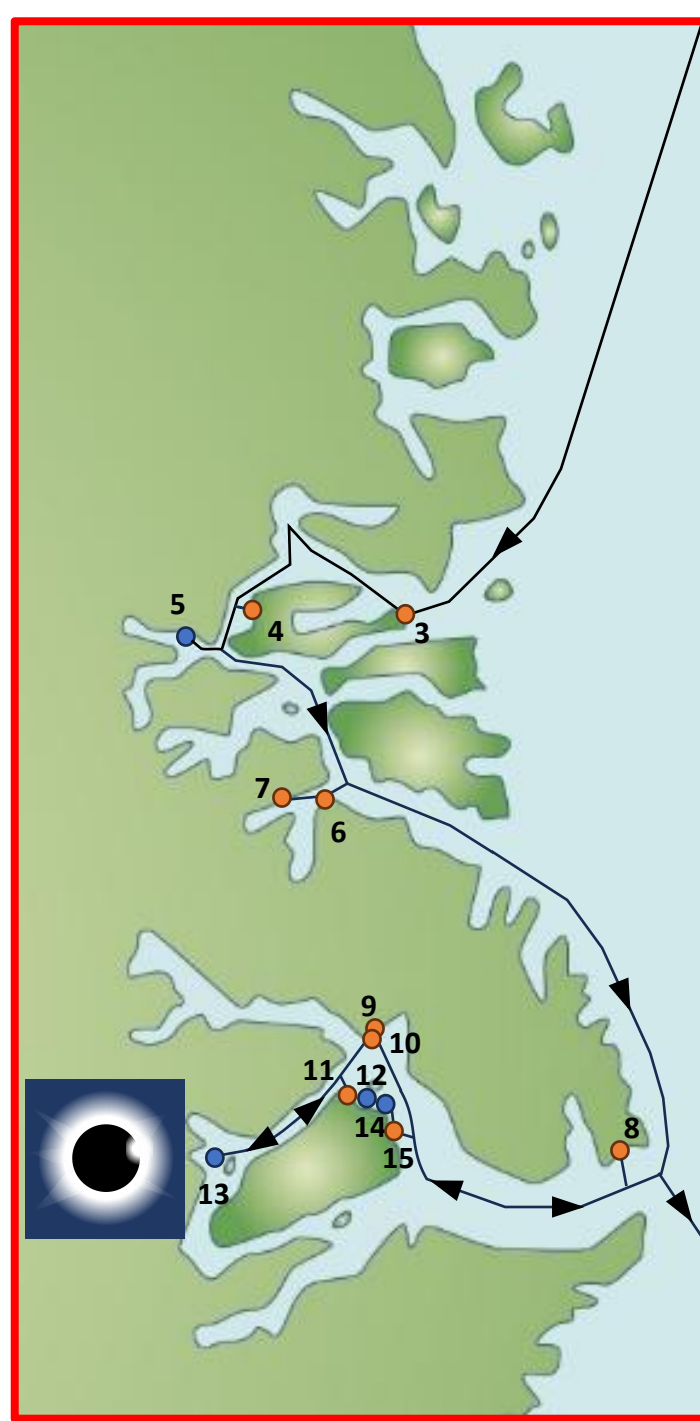
Although our expedition has come to an end, the memories, photographs and friendships made along the way will remain. We leave Hondius with full hearts, incredible stories to share and a deeper appreciation for the beauty and fragility of the Arctic. Safe travels, and we hope our paths cross again on another adventure.



Total distance covered during our trip: 1891.2 nM (3502km\ 2176 miles)

Northernmost point: 79°43.5'N, 10°59'42'E

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, Captain Dennis Rada, Expedition Leader Chris Long, Hotel Manager Albert Don and the entire crew and expedition team of the *M/V Hondius*, it was our great pleasure to travel with you.



Svalbard – Greenland – Iceland Polar Solar Eclipse Expedition 2-15 August 2026

onboard MV Hondius, Oceanwide Expeditions

START – Longyearbyen, 2/8/2026

1. Smeerenburg & Virgohamna – zodiac cruise, 3/8
2. Frambukta, 3/8

3. Kap Humboldt, 6/8
4. Blomsterbugt, 7/8
5. Renbugt – zodiac cruise, 7/8
6. Segelsallskapets, 8/8
7. Polhem Dal, 8/8
8. Ittoqqorrortormiit village, 9/8
9. Sydd Kapp, 10/8
10. Immikkeerigajik, 10/8
11. Milne Land, 11/8
12. Bjørneøer (Bear Islands) – zodiac cruise, 11/8
13. Harefjord – zodiac cruise and solar eclipse, 12/8
14. Bregne Pynt – zodiac cruise, 13/8
15. Makkorpalaap Nuua, 13/8

FINISH – Akureyri, 15/8/2026

English Name	Latin	German	2-Aug	3-Aug	4-Aug	5-Aug	6-Aug	7-Aug	8-Aug	9-Aug	10-Aug	11-Aug	12-Aug	13-Aug	14-Aug	
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Eistaucher						x						x		
Red-throated diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Sterntaucher		x				x	x		x		x			
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Eissturmvogel	x	x	x	x				x	x			x	x	
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Kurzschnabelgans				x		x	x		x			x		
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	Weisswangengans	x	x			x							x		
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Eiderente		x					x	x	x	x	x	x		
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Eisente									x					
Rock Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus hyperboreus</i>	Alpenschneehuhn					x		x		x	x		x		
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Sandregenpfeifer				x	x	x	x		x			x		
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Meerstrandläufer		x												
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Steinwälzer						x								
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Schmarotzerraub-möwe		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x			
Long-tailed Skua	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	Falkenraubmöwe					x	x			x					
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	Skua								x						
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Eismöwe	x	x		x	x	x			x	x				
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	Sturmmöwe														
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Silbermöwe														
Lesser black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Heringsmöwe														
Great black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Mantelmöwe									x					
Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Dreizehenmöwe	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x	
x	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Küstenseeschwalbe	x	x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	
Brunnich's Guillemot	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	Dickschnabellumme	x	x	x					x						
Black Guillemot	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	Grylleiste	x	x							x					
Little Auk	<i>Alle alle</i>	Krabbentaucher								x				x		
Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Papageitaucher	x	x	x										x	
Snowy Owl	<i>Nyctea scandiaca</i>	Schneeeule							x						x	
Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Schneeammer				x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	Bachstelze														
Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	Steinschmätzer						x	x		x	x	x	x		
Raven	<i>Covus corax</i>	Kolkrabe				x			x	x	x			x		
Arctic Redpoll	<i>Carduelis hornemanni</i>	Polarbirkenzeisig										x	x			
MAMMALS																
English Name	Latin	German	2-Aug	3-Aug	4-Aug	5-Aug	6-Aug	7-Aug	8-Aug	9-Aug	10-Aug	11-Aug	12-Aug	13-Aug	14-Aug	15-Aug
Walrus	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>	Walross		x												
Bearded seal	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>	Bartrobbe		x												
Ringed seal	<i>Phoca hispida</i>	Ringelrobbe		x												
Common /Harbour seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Seehund		x												
Minke Whale	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Zwergwal	x	x												
Sei Whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Seiwal														
Blue Whale	<i>Balaenopentera musculus</i>	Blauwal								x					x	
Fin Whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	Finnwal								x					x	

[illegible]

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.

Jerry Zhao – Asst. Exp. Leader



Jerry has been in love with nature and wildlife and traveling all his life. Soon after completing 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.

中文

Jerry 一直都很喜爱自然野生动物和旅行。从美国 Drexel University 毕业后，开始从事旅游业。开始作为高端客户旅行顾问和领队走遍了欧洲。然后作为一家旅行社的合伙人，主要从事路线规划和员工培训。为寻找更多的冒险，Jerry 去往世界各地学习所需技能，足迹踏遍 7 大洲 4 大洋，然后在 2015 年作为探险队员加入 Oceanwide 探险队。他曾多次前往北极点，北极斯瓦尔巴地区，和南极地区，在这期间他自学关于极地的地理，野生动物和环境知识。他热爱大自然和野生动物并喜爱与人分享他的故事。

Koen Jongerling – Asst. Exp. Leader



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

Chile.

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

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

Alexander Romanovskiy – Exp. Guide



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

In the year of 2011 however, Alexander decided to pause his scientific career and start doing something completely

different, which means working in tourism and traveling the world. He spent 2 seasons working as a trekking guide in Fann mountains (Tajikistan), 1 season on Novolazarevskaya Antarctic scientific station (Queen Maud Land, Antarctica) working as a member of a guesthouse crew.

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

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

Jade Heister – Expedition Guide



Jade is a science communicator from the Netherlands. She is currently working as a TV editor, writing for various family-oriented programs on public channels. She is mostly involved in shows that highlight Earth's biodiversity, striving to help people of all ages understand and appreciate nature, sustainability, and the importance of protecting wildlife.

Jade is a passionate nature lover herself. She enjoys hiking, skiing, and exploring on horseback. She has always been fascinated by the polar regions and ocean wildlife, and feels right at home in cold climates. Back home in the Netherlands, she enjoys performing improvised theatre and starting new DIY projects, such as woodworking.

She holds a degree in Molecular Life Sciences, where she studied the chemical and biological interactions within organisms. Her particular interests lie in genetics, evolution, and ecosystems, with a special focus on (marine) mammals and microorganisms — quite the size range.

After completing a Master's degree in Science Communication and Education, she worked as a primary school science teacher and performed in a scientific theatre show that aired for two seasons across the Netherlands. She also spent a summer assisting in various citizen science and ocean conservation outreach programs for students and tourists, focusing on marine ecosystems in South Africa.

Her deepening love for the ocean and its creatures naturally led her to the field of expedition guiding. First she worked as a whale watching guide in Plettenberg Bay, South Africa, where she could combine her expertise on marine mammals with public education. She then joined Oceanwide Expeditions as an expedition guide, sharing her knowledge and passion on journeys to both the Arctic and Antarctic.

Deutsch

Jade ist Wissenschaftskommunikatorin aus den Niederlanden. Derzeit arbeitet sie als Fernsehredakteurin und schreibt für verschiedene Familiensendungen. Besonders engagiert sie sich für Programme, die die Vielfalt des Lebens auf der Erde zeigen. Ihr Ziel ist es, Kindern und Erwachsenen die Natur näherzubringen und ihr Interesse an Umwelt und Biodiversität zu wecken.

Jade liebt die Natur auch privat. Sie geht gerne wandern, fährt Ski und unternimmt Ausritte mit dem Pferd. Schon seit ihrer Kindheit ist sie von den Polarregionen und dem Meeresleben begeistert und fühlt sich in kalten Klimazonen besonders wohl. Da es in ihrer Heimatstadt Utrecht leider keine Berge oder Meere und kaum Schnee gibt, beschäftigt sie sich zu Hause mit ihren anderen Hobbys: Improvisationstheater und DIY-Projekten.

Sie hat einen Abschluss in Molekularen Lebenswissenschaften von Radboud Universität und interessiert sich besonders für biologische und chemische Zusammenhänge in Organismen, mit einem Schwerpunkt auf Genetik und Evolution. Auch Mikroorganismen sowie Meeressäuger sind ihre Spezialität.

Nach ihrem Master in Wissenschaftskommunikation und -bildung unterrichtete sie zwei Jahre lang Naturwissenschaften an mehreren Grundschulen. Außerdem spielte sie in einer wissenschaftlichen Theatershow, die zwei Staffeln lang in den Niederlanden zu sehen war.

Um ein breiteres Publikum zu erreichen, begann sie als Redakteurin und arbeitete einen Sommer lang in Südafrika bei verschiedenen Projekten im Bereich Meeresschutz und Citizen Science mit. Danach war sie als Whale-Watching-Guide in Plettenberg Bay tätig, bevor sie sich Oceanwide Expeditions anschloss. Seitdem begleitet sie mit großer Freude Expeditionen in die Arktis und Antarktis.

Jakub Malecki – Expedition Guide



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

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

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

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

Meike Sjoer – Expedition Guide



Meike Sjoer, a dedicated birder, nature enthusiast, and polar expedition guide, has spent her life immersed in the beauty of the natural world.

Growing up in the heart of the Dutch forest, Meike developed a profound love for nature from a young age, a passion that would shape her journey as a birder and wildlife explorer. She holds a Master of Film and Television from the University of Utrecht.

For the past 26 years, she has devoted her talents as a television director for the Dutch National Television. In this role, she dedicated herself to directing programs that involved stories of nature, wildlife, and environmental conservation. Meike's talent for filming and editing led her to directing the renowned Dutch National Wildlife television program *Vroege Vogels* for the past 15 years. Meike is a certified nature guide for the Dutch Institute for Nature and Education. When she is not sailing across polar waters, she takes great pleasure in guiding birding and wildlife tours within the National Parks of the Netherlands.

Additionally, driven by her deep concern for the well-being of our planet, Meike was part of the Sea Shepherd media-team for 5 years. Meike now coordinates the Educational Program for the Society of Environmental Awareness. With the mission reconnecting people with nature and inspire deeper environmental awareness. Yet, it is in the polar regions of Antarctica and the Arctic that Meike finds her greatest fulfilment. Here, surrounded by icy vastness and abundance of wildlife, she is happiest creating outdoor experiences that challenge individuals to connect with their inner selves and develop a profound respect for the planet we call home. Meike is thrilled to be your guide on this trip and looking forward to sharing her passion and knowledge for wildlife with you.

Deutsch

Meike ist eine leidenschaftliche Vogelbeobachterin, Naturliebhaberin und Polar-Expeditionsguide, deren Leben und Karriere von einer tiefen Verbundenheit zur Natur geprägt sind. Aufgewachsen in den Wäldern der Niederlande entwickelte sie schon früh eine große Begeisterung für Wildtiere und natürliche Lebensräume. Diese Leidenschaft bildet bis heute die Grundlage ihres Engagements für Naturschutz, Umweltbildung und Entdeckungsreisen.

Sie war für über 26 Jahre als Fernsehregisseurin für das Niederländische Fernsehen tätig. In ihrer Arbeit widmete sie sich vor allem Dokumentationen und Beiträgen über Natur, Wildtiere und Umweltthemen und verband dabei ihre Begeisterung für das Erzählen von Geschichten mit dem Wunsch, das Bewusstsein für die Natur zu stärken.

Ihre Verbindung zum Meer begann bereits in ihrer Jugend beim Segeln. Vor 14 Jahren vertiefte sich ihr Interesse am Meeresschutz durch ihre Mitarbeit im Medienteam von Sea Shepherd. Seither engagiert sie sich in verschiedenen Projekten, die den Schutz der Umwelt und die Verbindung der Menschen zur Natur fördern. Außerhalb der Polarregionen begleitet sie Vogelbeobachtungs- und Wildtierexkursionen in den Niederlanden. Zudem ist sie zertifizierte Naturführerin des niederländischen Instituts für Natur- und Umweltbildung.

Meike ist begeistert, Sie auf dieser Reise begleiten zu dürfen und freut sich darauf, Ihr Wissen und Ihre Leidenschaft für diese magische Polarwelt mit Ihnen zu teilen.

Tiphanie May – Expedition Guide



Tiphanie May is an 8th generation Falkland Islander and holds an MSc in Marine Biology. She guides in the Arctic and Antarctic with warmth and curiosity. A certified first responder and trained firefighter, she brings calm, practical leadership to every trip. Raised on her family's island in the Falkland Islands, Tiphanie grew up on boats and developed a lifelong love of the sea and its wildlife. From the penguins on the doorstep to the fish in the rock pools Tiphanie has always had an affinity for all creatures great and small.

Tiphanie started her career at 21 working aboard spanish trawlers for the Falkland Islands Government working in fisheries research and protection. Spending 200 days per year at sea she later moved on to manage an inshore boating project. Nowadays when shes not on the ship she works doing marine mammal observation, habitat restoration and occasionally working on her parent's farm.

She enjoys sharing simple, memorable moments on deck — spotting whales, pointing out seabirds, or watching guests meet their first iceberg. Friendly, down-to-earth, and passionate about conservation, Tiphanie loves helping guests connect with the polar world and leave with a little more wonder than when they boarded.

Renno Hokwerda – Expedition guide



The Arctic bug bit me hard when I was 13 years old and looking at a bus timetable of Nuuk, Greenland. A micro metropole in the wilderness, far away from the world and even difficult to access within Greenland. A little cosmos on its own. I needed to see that with my own eyes. Ever since, I have passionately been following the developments of Greenland and the Arctic.

I studied Spatial Planning and Geography at the University of Groningen, with supplementary courses in physical geography, Danish and Arctic studies. The latter I also taught myself, at the Arctic Centre. I also guided school children on the Wadden Sea coast.

After the journey to Greenland, many northern travels followed. I love the Faroe Islands and Svalbard, with their impressing landscapes and coastlines that truly humble. The grander the nature, the more minute you feel. But as a true Dutchman I can also recognise the sheer beauty of eternal flatlands in which you can lose your soul.

My fascination has stretched in various directions: sea birds, whales, seals, whaling, Arctic societies and icebergs. I'm also developing a neck for geology.

In everyday life I work at the Research Council and coordinate the Netherlands Polar Programme, which is the national funding for Arctic and Antarctic science. Although it's behind a desk, I'm involved in the polar regions on a daily basis. As an expedition guide I get the chance to trade the office with the real places and share my passion.

Deutsch

Das Arktis-Fieber packte mich im Alter von 13 Jahren, als ich mir den Busfahrplan von Nuuk, Grönland, ansah. Ein Minimetropole inmitten der Wildnis, weit weg von der Welt und sogar 'insuliert' innerhalb Grönlands. Das musste ich mit meinen eigenen Augen sehen. Seitdem habe ich die Entwicklungen in Grönland und der Arktis immer verfolgt.

Ich habe Umweltplanung und Geografie an der Universität Groningen studiert, mit zusätzlichen Kursen in physischer Geografie und Arktisstudien. Letzteres habe ich am Arktischen Zentrum gemacht, wo ich nach meinem Abschluss auch Kurse gegeben habe.

Nach der Reise nach Grönland folgten viele Reisen in den Norden. Ich liebe die Färöerinseln und Svalbard, mit ihren überwältigende Landschaften und Küsten, die ich stundenlang bestaunen kann. Je größer die Natur, je kleiner man sich fühlt. Wie ein richtiger Holländer finde ich auch Schönheit in die große Flachländer, wo man sich total verlieren kann.

Meine Faszination erstreckt sich auf Seevögel, Wale, die Geschichte des Walfangs, die heutige menschliche Einwohner und Eisberge. Ich interessiere mich auch immer mehr für Geologie.

Im Alltag arbeite ich für den Forschungsrat und belegeleite das niederländische Polarprogramm, das die Finanzierung der Arktis- und Antarktisforschung überwacht. Von meinem Schreibtisch aus habe ich also tagtäglich mit den Polarregionen zu tun! Als Expeditionsguide habe ich die Möglichkeit, den Schreibtisch gegen das Feld zu tauschen und meine Leidenschaft zu teilen.

QB Wenyang Wang-Expedition Guide



In addition to working as an expedition guider and photographer in the Antarctica and Arctic for several months every year, Qiu Bi has been travelling to remote areas and ethnic minority regions in China and abroad for more than ten years to photograph scientific research and environmental protection and other humanities projects, including topics such as environmental protection, community development, agriculture and forestry cultural heritage preservation, women empowerment, climate change, preservation of traditional cultures, biodiversity conservation, children, and so on. As a curator, she has curated numerous photography exhibitions. She has curated photo exhibitions in Beijing, Kunming, Hong Kong, Montreal and many other cities and different foreign embassies in China. Her photographs and stories have been exhibited in over a thousand spots on the Beijing Metro. Her photos have been published in many magazines such as Geography, Chinese National Geography, China Weekly, Chinese Photographers, China Philanthropist and Cultural Geography.

As a humanistic photographer, curator and Canon official lecturer, her photographic life story has been interviewed and told by many magazines. In December of 2022, she was invited to participate in the 15th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15), where she gave a talk to show how humanistic photographers connect the scientific research institutes, the public welfare organizations, with the public. Her photos have also won numerous photography awards in China and abroad. In 2023, she was invited by TED to give a talk on climate change and sustainable community development. During 2023-2024, she collaborated with different scholars to publish three sets of thematic photography books about traditional culture preservation and agriculture cultural heritage preservation.

中文

南北极极地探险队员&极地摄影师，人文摄影师，策展人，佳能官方讲师。

除了每年数月在南北极从事探险队员工作、极地摄影师工作之外，秋笔逾十年持续前往国内外偏远地区、少数民族地区拍摄科研环保等人文专题项目，包括环境保护、社区发展、农业/林业文化遗产保护、女性赋权、气候变化、传统文化保护、生物多样性保护、儿童等议题。作为策展人，她策划了众多摄影展，包括生物多样性保护、气候变化、传统文化保护等专题。她在北京、昆明、香港、蒙特利尔等多个城市及国外驻中国大使馆策划举办摄影展。她所摄照片及故事在北京地铁一千多个点位展出。作品在《国家地理》、《中国国家地理》、《中国周刊》、《中国日报》、《中国摄影家》、《中国慈善家》等众多杂志发表。

作为一名人文摄影师，她的摄影人生故事被众多杂志采访讲述。2022年12月，她受邀参加联合国《生物多样性公约》第十五次缔约方大会，在大会上以一位女性摄影师的视角阐述人文摄影师在生物多样性保护领域如何连接科研机构、公益机构与公众，展示人文摄影的力量。她的照片也在国内外获得了众多摄影奖项。2023年12月，她受TED邀请，做了一场关于气候变化与社区可持续发展的专题演讲。

2023-2024年期间与不同学者合作，围绕传统文化保护、农业生物多样性保护等出版三套专题摄影书籍。

Katrin Frosin – Expedition Guide



Katrin is a marine ecologist and commercial diver with a fascination for extreme and vulnerable marine ecosystems and the cryptic creatures inhabiting them. Originally from Düsseldorf, Germany, she spent many years studying, travelling and exploring different Ocean environments, eventually settling on the shores of the beautiful Eryri National Park in North Wales, UK.

After being introduced to the Ocean at a young age as a young diver, a fascination was sparked that eventually grew into a career centering marine ecosystems and the conservation efforts to protect and support them. Today, Katrin works in and around the Sea and has spent countless hours observing and surveying some of the world's most dynamic and quickest changing marine habitats. Her previous background as a diving instructor first allowed her to share her passion by teaching guests about local marine wildlife and the importance of protecting and respecting them. She now combines her academic, teaching and commercial skills to introduce people to the unique and beautiful marine species of polar regions, which are at the forefront of environmental change. Katrin is especially interested in the ecology of

benthic marine species as well as trophic ecosystem structures, and the temporal threats and changes affecting them. Recently, she found a renewed fascination of documenting invertebrate species diversity, for which she commonly utilizes macro photography. After all, in the sea every part of the Foodweb is important, from the smallest plankton and krill to the largest Whales crossing the world's deepest Oceans.

If you are interested in discussing marine animals you may see on the shore or from deck, be sure to start up a conversation with her. Be aware you may be met with more enthusiasm and fun facts than you bargained for!

Deutsch

Katrin ist eine Meeresbiologin und Berufs-Taucherin mit einer besonderen Begeisterung für extreme und gefährdete marine Ökosysteme und die oft gut versteckten Lebewesen, die dort zuhause sind. Ursprünglich aus Düsseldorf, hat sie viele Jahre damit verbracht, verschiedene Meere zu bereisen und zu erforschen, bevor sie schließlich ihr Zuhause an den Ufern des wunderschönen Eryri-Nationalparks in Nordwales fand. Schon als junge Taucherin kam Sie mit dem Meer in Berührung; eine Erfahrung die sie so geprägt hat, dass sie schließlich zu einer Karriere mit Fokus auf Marine Ökosysteme und deren Schutz und Erhaltung führte. Heute arbeitet sie sowohl wissenschaftlich als auch praktisch rund um das Wasser und hat viele Stunden damit verbracht, marine Lebensräume zu dokumentieren, die zu den dynamischsten und sich am schnellsten verändernden Ökosystemen der Welt gehören.

In ihrer vorherigen Tätigkeit als Tauchlehrerin konnte Katrin ihre Begeisterung an Gäste weitergeben und sie für die Vielfalt der heimischen Unterwasserwelt sensibilisieren – für den respektvollen Umgang mit- und Schutz dieser empfindlichen Lebensräume. Heute verbindet sie ihre akademischen und beruflichen Kompetenzen, um Menschen die vielfältigen Meeresarten der Polarregionen vorzustellen, welche besonders stark vom Klimawandel betroffen sind. Ihr besonderes Interesse gilt benthischer Lebewesen, den komplexen Nahrungsnetzen im Meer und den Veränderungen und zeitlichen Bedrohungen, denen sie ausgesetzt sind. Sie widmet sich mit Begeisterung der Dokumentation der Artenvielfalt wirbelloser Tiere, wofür sie häufig Makrofotografie einsetzt. Denn im Meer ist jeder Teil der Nahrungskette wichtig, von dem kleinsten Plankton und Krill, zu den grössten Walen die die tiefsten Welt-Ozeane durchqueren.

Wenn Sie neugierig auf die Meeresbewohner sind, die sich vom Ufer oder vom Deck aus beobachten lassen, sprechen Sie Katrin gerne an. Seien Sie allerdings vorbereitet – Sie erhalten möglicherweise mehr spannende Fun Facts als Sie erwarten!

Hana Spickova – Expedition Guide



Hana is a chemist who is working the last two years at the University Centre on Svalbard. She comes originally from the Czech Republic and has spent the last 11 years in Norway.

Her love for nature and outdoor life brought her first to Tromsø in Northern Norway where she did her master degree while working as a northern light guide, photographer, dog sledding guide and dog handler. She likes to spend her free time in the mountains skiing, hiking, kayaking and diving. She spent two years traveling to Asia, Africa, South America and Patagonia. She worked as

a volunteer in rescue stations for wild animals in Bolivia and Peru and as a humanitarian helper in Iraq, Rwanda and Ethiopia. After finishing her studies, she has been working as an analytical chemist in Norway. Her curiosity and enthusiasm for outdoor life brought her all the way to Svalbard where she enjoys ski touring, dog sledding and exploring new places on a snowmobile. She speaks Czech, English and Norwegian.

Luce Moussiere – Expedition Guide



Luce learned to swim before she could walk. Originally from Ardèche, a rugged region in the south of France, she developed a strong connection with nature, particularly the underwater world, from an early age.

She is an Expedition Guide, Polar Dive Guide, Scuba Diving Instructor, Lifeguard, and Safety Diver for technical diving projects around the world.

While diving has always been her primary focus, her career has taken her across a wide range of environments, from guiding hikes on Iceland's active volcanoes and through the rainforests of Malaysia to leading guests on land and underwater in both the Arctic and Antarctica.

Throughout her career, Luce has spent countless hours observing, surveying, and interpreting marine ecosystems. Her experience includes monitoring marine life, supporting scientific and technical diving projects, and helping others better understand the diversity and function of ocean environments.

On board, Luce enjoys introducing guests to the underwater world, from plankton and benthic organisms to larger marine species, while explaining the ecological connections between the ocean, the surrounding landscapes, and the wildlife encountered throughout each voyage.

She believes that a greater understanding of our oceans encourages its protection, and she hopes every guest leaves with a deeper appreciation for the ecosystems that support life on our planet.

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!

Karoline Bælum – Expedition Guide



Karoline came to Svalbard as an undergraduate geology student in 2001 and never managed to leave. After more than 20 years on the island she has so far acquired a team of sled dogs, a master's degree in glaciology, a PhD in Geology, a kid and a trapper station.

In addition to guiding part time since 2002 she has worked both at the University Centre in Svalbard as a scientist and as a senior advisor for the Norwegian Research Council. She has guided trips for Oceanwide in Svalbard, Greenland, and Antarctica since 2007.

Together with her son, partner and 7 dogs she has done two overwinterings at Farmhamna Trapper station in Forlandssundet, keeping Svalbard's 400-year-old trapper tradition alive. When not working you can find her out with the dogs, up on a glacier or training with the Red Cross Avalanche rescue team.

Working and guiding in the Polar regions is a geoscientists dream as most of the landscape consists of rocks and ice. With no trees or much other vegetation

to obscure the rocks the fascinating geological history is visible and easily accessible.

Deutsch

Karoline kam 2001 als Geologiestudentin im Grundstudium nach Spitzbergen – und hat es seither nie geschafft, die Insel zu verlassen. Nach über 20 Jahren auf Spitzbergen hat sie mittlerweile ein Team von Schlittenhunden, einen Masterabschluss in Glaziologie, einen Dokortitel in Geologie, ein Kind und eine Trapperstation.

Seit 2002 arbeitet sie nebenbei als Guide und war außerdem sowohl als Wissenschaftlerin am Universitätszentrum in Spitzbergen als auch als leitende Beraterin für den Norwegischen Forschungsrat tätig. Seit 2007 führt sie für Oceanwide Expeditions Touren in Spitzbergen, Grönland und der Antarktis durch.

Zusammen mit ihrem Sohn, ihrem Partner und sieben Hunden hat sie zwei Überwinterungen an der Trapperstation Farmhamna im Forlandssundet verbracht und damit geholfen, die über 400-jährige Trappertradition Spitzbergens am Leben zu erhalten. Wenn sie nicht arbeitet, ist sie oft mit den Hunden unterwegs, auf einem Gletscher oder beim Training mit dem Lawinenrettungsteam des Roten Kreuzes.

In den Polarregionen zu arbeiten und zu guiden, ist für eine Geowissenschaftlerin ein wahr gewordener Traum – denn die Landschaft besteht größtenteils aus Fels und Eis. Ohne Bäume oder viel Vegetation, die den Blick auf die Gesteine verdecken könnten, ist die faszinierende geologische Geschichte dieser Regionen deutlich sichtbar und leicht zugänglich

Jonny Baird – Expedition Guide



Jonny Baird grew up in the small village of Taynuilt near Oban on Scotland's west coast, where he first discovered his passion for climbing and skiing. He is now based in the French Alps near the Chamonix Valley and has worked as an IFMGA-certified Mountain Guide since 2005. Since 2017, Jonny has worked regularly as a mountaineering guide aboard the Oceanwide expedition ship Ortelius and as Lead Mountain Guide aboard Hondius on the Antarctic Peninsula. Over the years, his deep appreciation for the Antarctic has

grown—not only for its mountaineering potential but also for its unique and abundant wildlife. In winter, Jonny primarily guides ski mountaineering trips across France, Italy, and Switzerland, with regular expeditions further afield. His Arctic guiding experience includes trips to Arctic Norway (Lofoten Islands, Kvaløya, Tromsø, and Arnøya), Greenland, and Iceland's Troll Peninsula.

During the summer months, Jonny focuses on alpine climbing, mountaineering, and rock climbing, sharing more than 35 years of personal climbing experience with his clients. His climbing has taken him around the world, including the European Alps, Kyrgyzstan, Peru, Canada, the U.S., Morocco, New Zealand, Australia, and of course Scotland, where it all began.

Beyond guiding, Jonny has worked in mountain safety for television, film, and photography projects. He is the co-author of a ski touring guidebook and has contributed to several online publications.

Jonny is a member of the Syndicat National des Guides de Montagne (SNGM), the French national mountain guiding association. Over the years, he has climbed, skied, and guided on every continent.

Pierre Gallego – Expedition Guide



Pierre is a veterinarian specialized in marine mammal medicine. He has been working in the field of marine biology for 18 years, and has been organizing 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!



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage Welcome on Board!

Date: 2nd August 2026

Day 1: Longyearbyen

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

PLEASE LISTEN FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 17:15+/- Ship safety briefing, in the **Observation Lounge on Deck 5**. Attendance to this is **MANDATORY**. After the briefing the emergency alarm will be sounded, and you will need to go back to your cabin and get your life jacket. All guests accommodated on Deck 3 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+/- Please join the Captain and Expedition Team in the **Observation Lounge on Deck 5** for a celebratory toast to the voyage.
- This will be followed by an introductory briefing by the Hotel Manager and Expedition Leader to orientate you to life on board and explain the plan for the forthcoming days.
- 19:30-20:30 Buffet dinner in the **Restaurant on Deck 4**.
- 20:30+/- We will call you deck by deck down to **Deck 3** to collect your Muck Boots, please bring your thick socks so you can try them for size

"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



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 3rd August 2026

Day 2: Smeerenburg and Frambukta.

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 and lecture room on Deck 5. Attendance to this is **MANDATORY** so please join us straight after breakfast.

In the morning we will be in the area of 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.

09:45+/- We invite **Red** group to the shell door on deck 3 for a zodiac cruise at Smeerenburg

10:00+/- We invite the **Blue** group to the shell door for a zodiac cruise at Smeerenburg

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

In the afternoon, we hope to land in a bay called Frambukta, a small Arctic bay located on the northwestern coast of Spitsbergen. It is a popular stop for expedition cruises, known for offering breathtaking views of the polar landscape and providing safe waters to observe local wildlife, such as the occasional lounging walrus.

14:30+/- We invite the **Blue** group to the shell door for a landing at Frambukta

15:00+/- We invite **Red** group to the shell door on deck 3 for a zodiac cruise at Frambukta

Please note that we will swap the groups halfway through the afternoon

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

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

Please note that tonight we will be sailing into the open sea towards Greenland. Take your seasickness medication before you really feel the movements of the vessel, the doctor will be available in the bar after dinner to assist with such matters.

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



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 4th August 2026

Day 3: At sea heading towards Greenland

Today there will be no wake up call

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

09:15 Please join Tiphane in the Observation lounge on deck 5 for her lecture all about the History of Svalbard.

11:15 Please join Jakub in the Observation lounge on deck 5 for his lecture, On Thin Ice: The Global Role of Glaciers and Ice Sheets.

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

13:45 For all those guests wanting to do the **long hikes**, there will be a **Mandatory** briefing in the lecture room. Anyone who hasn't signed up for the long hikes before the voyage but still want to join are all welcome.

16:15 Please join Pierre in the Observation lounge on deck 5 for his lecture, King of the North - Polar Bear

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

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

Please note the ships clocks go back 1 hour over night.

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



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 5th August 2026

Day 4: Approaching the East Coast of Greenland

Please note the ships clock went back 1 hour over night.

No Wake-up call

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

09:15 QB welcomes you to the observation lounge for a lecture titled 'Shooting the frozen Wild' – Photography Tips in Polar Regions

11:00 Please join Koen in the observation lounge for a presentation titled "First Impressions of Greenland".

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

14:15 Please join Meike in the observation lounge for a presentation about "Life of the Northern Fulmar and its role as marine pollution indicator"

16:15 Please join Karoline in the observation lounge for a presentation about "the magnificent geological features of Svalbard and Greenland"

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

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

20:45 Please join Sasha in the lecture room, for his story about Pyramiden.

**Please note the ships clock goes back again 1 hour over night.
Another extra hour of sleep! After this time change we will be on Iceland time, also the same at UTC time.**

"It is of no purpose to discuss the use of knowledge. Man wants to know, and when he ceases to do so he is no longer man". - Fridtjof Nansen



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 6th August 2026

Day 5:

Kap
Kap

Ymer Ø |
Humbolt –
Wijkander

Please note the ships clock went back 1 hour over night.

- 07:15 Wake-up call
- 07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
Please can long hikers go into breakfast first and remember to make your lunch bag to take with you.
- 08:30 Please can the Extended **long hikers** be ready to go ashore at Kap Humbolt, this is our first extended long hike.
- 09:00 We welcome the **medium hikers** ashore for a landing at Kap Humbolt.
- 09:15 We welcome the **short hikers** ashore for a landing at Kap Humbolt. Zodiac shuttles will be available for those that wish to go back to the ship sooner.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 14:45 We welcome the **medium hikers** ashore for a landing at Kap Wijkander.
- 15:00 We welcome the **short hikers** ashore for a Perimeter landing at Kap Wijkander. Zodiac shuttles will be available for those that wish to go back to the ship sooner.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the lounge for daily recap.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

"It is of no purpose to discuss the use of knowledge. Man wants to know, and when he ceases to do so he is no longer man". - Fridtjof Nansen



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 7th August 2026

Day 6: Blomsterbugten and Renbugten

- 06:45 Wake-up call
- 07:00-08:00 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
Please let the Long hikers in first to maximize their time for breakfast.
- 08:00 We invite the **long hikers** for a long hike at Blomsterbugten (5+/- hours).
- 08:30 We welcome the **medium hikers** ashore for a landing at Blomsterbugten, this will be a 3-3.5hour hike.
- 09:00 We welcome the **short hikers** ashore for a landing at Blomsterbugten, this will be for 2-2.5 hours. Zodiac shuttles will be available for those that wish to go back to the ship sooner.
- 13:00-14:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 15:15 We invite the **RED** group for a Zodiac cruise of Renbugten.
- 15:30 We invite the **BLUE** group for a Zodiac cruise of Renbugten.
- 18:30 Please join the Expedition Team in the lounge for daily recap.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the dining room.

"To dine with a glacier on a sunny day is a glorious thing and makes feasts of meat and wine ridiculous. The glacier eats hills and drinks sunbeams." – John Muir



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 8th August 2026

Day 7: Segelsällskapets Fjord

07:15 Wake-up call

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

This morning we hope to take you to Skipperdal in Segelsällskapets Fjord, a stunning fjord famous for its brilliantly coloured, dramatic sedimentary rock formations. These ancient, 700-million-year-old cliff strata consist of alternating layers of limestone, dolomite, mudrocks, and quartzite that create vibrant, striped patterns along the water. There is usually a good chance of seeing arctic hair, ptarmigan and sometimes musk oxen.

08:45 We invite the **long hikers** ashore at Segelsällskapets Fjord, this will be for a hike of about 3.5+/- hours.

09:15 We welcome the **medium hikers** ashore for a landing at Segelsällskapets Fjord, this will be a for a 2-2.5-hour hike.

09:45 We welcome the **short hikers** ashore for a landing at Segelsällskapets Fjord, this will be for 1-1.5 hours. Zodiac shuttles will be available for those that wish to go back to the ship sooner.

13:00-14:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

15:00 We invite the **long hikers** ashore at Polhem Dal, this will be for a hike of about 2.5+/- hours.

15:30 We welcome the **medium hikers** ashore for a landing at Polhem Dal, this will be a for a 2+/- hour hike.

16:00 We welcome the **short hikers** ashore for a landing at Polhem Dal, this will be for 1-1.5 hours. Zodiac shuttles will be available for those that wish to go back to the ship sooner.

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

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

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



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 9th August 2026

Day 8: Heading south and Ittoqqortoormiit

07:45 Wakeup call.

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

10:00 We invite Everyone to join the presentation from astronomer Tyler Nordgren titled “When the Sun and Moon align with you.”

11:30 We invite you to join the photography workshop with QB on the bow.

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

14:00 We invite the **BLUE** group for a landing at Ittoqqortoormiit.

14:15 We invite the **RED** group for a landing at Ittoqqortoormiit.

Please respect the indigenous people and please ask before you take any photo of people.

There will be shuttles back to the ship all afternoon, the last shuttle will be 17:15, please do not be late.

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

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

“I am prepared to go anywhere, provided it be forward.” - David Livingstone



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 10th August 2026

Day 9: Nordøstbugten and Sydkap

- 07:15 Wakeup call.
- 07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4. Please let the long hike go first to breakfast and long hikers please pack your lunch.
- 08:30+/- We invite the **long hikers** for a landing at Nordøstbugten, this will be a 7-8 +/- hour hike.
- 09:00+/- We invite the **Medium hikers** for a landing at Nordøstbugten, this will be a 2+/- hour hike with lots of available breaks
- 09:15+/- We invite **all other guests** for a perimeter style landing at Nordøstbugten, this will be a 1.5 +/- hour hike. Zodiac shuttles will be available for those that wish to go back to the ship sooner.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 14:45+/- We welcome the **medium hikers** ashore for a landing at Sydkap, this will be a 3+/- hour hike.
- 15:00+/- We invite **all other guests** for a perimeter style landing at Sydkap, giving you the chance to roam at your own pace and enjoy the afternoon.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the lounge for daily recap.
- 19:00 BBQ Dinner

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



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 11th August 2026

Day 10: Milne Land

- 07:15 Wakeup call.
- 07:30-08:30 Breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4. (Please let the long hike go first for breakfast)
- 08:30+/- We invite the **long hikers** for a landing at Milne Land, this will be a 7 +/- hours hike.
- 09:00+/- We welcome the **medium hikers** ashore for a landing at Milne Land, this will be a 2.5+/- hours hike.
- 09:15+/- We invite **all other guests** for a perimeter style landing at Milne Land, giving you the chance to roam at your own pace.
- 12:00-13:00 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 13:45 We invite the **RED** group for a Zodiac cruise around Milneland.
- 14:00 We invite the **BLUE** group for a Zodiac cruise of Milneland.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the lounge for daily recap.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

"We have probed the earth, excavated it, burned it, ripped things from it, buried things in it. That does not fit my definition of a good tenant. If we were here on a month-to-month basis, we would have been evicted long ago."
- Rose Elizabeth Bird



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 12th August 2026

Day 11: Harefjord and Rode fjord

07:15 Wake up call.

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

08:45 We invite the **BLUE** group for a Zodiac cruise of Rodofjord.

09:00 We invite the **RED** group for a Zodiac cruise of Rodofjord.

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

Expedition Solar Eclipse Chasing Afternoon

We will be viewing the eclipse from the decks of the ship, giving us the chance to move at the last minute if we need to.

Please be respectful of our fellow ship mates who will also be viewing the eclipse. And follow ALL SAFETY GUIDANCE

16:33 Start of partial eclipse

17:34 Maximum eclipse

18:34 End of eclipse

18:45 Please join the Expedition Team in the lounge for daily recap.

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

“The reappearance of the crescent moon after the new moon; the return of the Sun after a total eclipse... spoke to our ancestors of the possibility of surviving death. Up there in the skies was also a metaphor of immortality.” Carl Sagan



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 13th August 2026

Day 12: Makkorpalaap Nuua

- 07:45 Wakeup call
- 08:00-09:00 A breakfast buffet will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4. Please long hikers pack your lunch.
- 9:30 We invite the **long hikers** for a landing at Bregnepynt this will be a 7-8 +/- hour hike.
- 9:45 We invite the **RED** group for a Zodiac cruise to explore the surroundings.
- 10:00 We invite the **BLUE** Group for a Zodiac cruise to explore the surroundings.
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 14:30+/- We welcome the **medium hikers** ashore for a landing at Makkorpalaap Nuua, this will be a 2.5+/- hours hike.
- 14:45+/- We invite **all other guests** for a short hike and perimeter style landing at Makkorpalaap Nuua, giving you the chance to roam at your own pace.
- 18:15 Please join the Expedition Team in the lounge for daily recap.
- 19:00 Dinner will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.

"The ice and the long moonlit polar nights, with all their yearning, seemed like a far-off dream from another world, a dream that has come and passed away. But what would life be without dreams?"
-Fridtjof Nansen



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 14th August 2026

Day 13: Heading towards Iceland.

Today there will be no wake-up call. You may wake up at your leisure

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

Please pass by reception any time after breakfast to settle your account at reception, please ensure this is done before 17:00.

- 09:15 Pierre welcomes you to the Lounge for a presentation about Humpback whales.
- 11:15 Please join Tyler for his lecture titled, Discovering the sun through Eclipses
- 12:30-13:30 Buffet lunch will be served in the Dining Room on Deck 4.
- 14:00 Please join Hana for a presentation about “Oceanwide’s other destinations”
- 16:15 Please join Luce for her presentation about “Life beneath the surface: the start of the food web”
- 18:00 Join the Expedition Team in the Lounge for Captain’s Farewell Cocktails and a viewing of the slideshow from Sasha. 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 to do so.
- 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.



Northeast Greenland – Solar Eclipse Explorer Voyage

Date: 15th August 2026

Day 14: Akureyri.

07:15 Wakeup Call.

Please ensure your luggage is outside your room by 07:00am as we need to move it to the pier for you during breakfast.

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

08:00+/- We will invite you to begin disembarking. This will be a slow process as we all need to go through immigration on the pier. You will proceed down the gangway, past the immigration, then collect your luggage, if you have pre-book the buses, then proceed to the busses. Otherwise you can process to town which is nearby. Please do not leave anything on the ship when you go to immigration.

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