



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

**Weddell Sea, Emperor Penguin Voyage
including Helicopters
ANTARCTIC PENINSULA
on board
*m/v Ortelius***

14th November - 24th November 2019



M/V *Ortelius* was named after the Dutch cartographer Abraham Ortelius (1527-1598) who published the first modern world atlas, the *Theatrum Orbis Terrarum* (Theatre of the World) in 1570. MV *Ortelius* was built in 1989 in Gdynia, Poland, as a research vessel for the Russian Academy of Science and was named *Marina Svetaeva*. In 2011 she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions. The vessel was re-flagged and renamed *Ortelius*. Now the ship is sailing as a 125-passenger vessel. *Ortelius* is 91 m long, 17.6 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5.80 m, with an Ice Strength rating of UL1/1A, top speed of 12 knots and one diesel engine generating 3200 kW.



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Captain Yury Marin and his international crew of 52

Including

First Officer:	Mikael Svedberg	[Sweden]
Second Officer:	Svetoslav Tsvetkov	[Bulgaria]
Third Officer:	Andy Mangilit	[Phillipines]
Third Officer:	Luis Oroceo	[Phillipines]
Chief Engineer:	Guntis Dizbite	[Latvia]
Hotel Manager:	Siegfried Penzenleithner	[Austria]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	William Barnes	[Holland]
Head Chef:	Khabir Moraes	[India]
Ship's Physician:	Linda Steutel	[Holland]

and

Expedition Leader:	Claudia Holgate	[South Africa]
Assist. Expedition Leader:	Tim Blakemore	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Catherine Buckland	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Lucas Humbart	[France]
Expedition Guide:	Zet Freiburghaus	[Sweden]
Expedition Guide:	Pippa Low	[United Kingdom]
Expedition Guide:	Ian Peck	[Canada]
Expedition Guide:	Eduardo Rubio	[Guatemala]

Welcome you on board!

Day 1 – Thursday 14th November 2019

Embarkation, Ushuaia, Argentina

GPS position at 1400: 54°49'S 68°17'W

Air Temp: 9°C Sea Temp: 10°C Wind: Var F1 Sea state: Smooth

It was late afternoon on a windy but sunny and beautiful day in Ushuaia. The first passengers to arrive to Ortelius at 2pm were a group of young (or young at heart!) adventurers. All the expedition staff greeted the guests as they climbed the gangway for the first time and hotel manager Sigi quickly had all the guests assigned and shown to their cabins where they will be staying for our trip. After every passenger was onboard and had a cabin we had our mandatory safety drill, everyone seemed to enjoy wearing orange!

We soon left the pier and then waited in the bay for the two helicopters to arrive, what a sight!



We are hoping that the conditions co-operate for us to have this fantastic adventure.

Before dinner all the guides introduced themselves and Claudia, our EL gave us a little introduction about what we are hoping to do on our trip. Our ships doctor (Linda) had a 'patch and pills party' after dinner to try and keep everyone free from feeling too sea sick, the weather forecast looked reasonably good so hopefully not too many of us would feel motion sickness!

Day 2 – Friday 15th November 2019

At Sea, Drake Passage towards Antarctica

GPS position at 0800: 56°45'5 S 64°53'9 W

Air Temp: 10°C Sea Temp: 8°C Wind: W F3 Sea state: Slight

As we pushed on ahead through the Drake passage under nearly ideal conditions, we started to notice the incredible sea birds following the ship. Black-browed Albatross made their presence known in abundance. Cape and Giant Petrels were also neighbouring the ship. We started our day with the necessary mandatory briefings and bio-security of our gear, this was to ensure we all did our part to keep Antarctica pristine. After lunch Lucas gave an interesting lecture on "an introduction to Antarctica." Which was an amazing eye opener and informative prelude to the loneliest of all the continents.

Pippa then in the late afternoon amazed us with a boat load of astonishing facts about our marine mammal friends and how big these baleen whales really are. As we headed further south the anticipation of getting to our destination was palpable.



Day 3 – Saturday 16th November 2019

At Sea, Drake Passage towards Antarctica

GPS position at 0800: 61°10'7 S 60°31'9 W

Air Temp: 3°C **Sea Temp:** 1°C **Wind:** NW F4 **Sea state:** Smooth

For our second night onboard Ortelius we experienced a little bit more movement than the first, but all the passengers could probably not imagine experiencing a more comfortable Drake passage! This new sea day will be busy again!

In the morning we all joined the expedition team for our mandatory and necessary helicopter briefing. During which all the operations, from embarkation and disembarkation to the safety procedures were described in order for us to be ready for tomorrow. After a quick break allowing us to have a cup of tea or coffee, we were pleased to hear Ian give us an interesting lecture about the seals of the Antarctic.

After lunch it was time to get dressed for a practical helicopter session, to learn how the helicopter operations on-board will run for

Snow Hill. It was also an opportunity for us to take some pictures of the helicopter and the team. We all have our fingers crossed for a good day tomorrow but of course, we never know how the ice and the weather conditions are going to evolve, and how far from the landing site the Ortelius will be able to approach.

Finally, we finished this second day by joining Eduardo at the bar for listening him speaking on his speciality: astronomy!



Day 4 – Sunday 17th November 2019

GPS position at 0800: 64°06'4 S 56°54'1 W

Air Temp: 0°C **Sea Temp:** -1°C **Wind:** E F3 **Sea state:** Calm

Claudia woke us up and told us that we were only 28.5 nautical miles from our Emperor penguins. We are all excited and waiting to hear more. After a short briefing in the morning it is clear to us all that the weather is not on our side today. There was a steady strong wind and far too much fog for the pilots to fly. Obviously, we are disappointed, especially the pilots! They are keen to get us to the penguins. In the morning we ship cruised the in the pack ice with all eyes looking for





wildlife. A few Adelies are spotted on the ice and then suddenly we see what we all are here to see. Our first Emperor Penguin in the water. We slow down the ship and get a good half an hour with the emperor on ice and in the water. In the afternoon we plan for a zodiac cruise in the fog. All guides take the position of the ship with their GPS to find the way back, but thankfully just as we are getting into the zodiacs the weather clears a bit and we get are rewarded with a magical time among the pack ice with Adelie Penguins. Huge flocks of blue-eyed Antarctic shags fly around all the zodiacs, truly

spectacular to see. During the evenings daily briefing we get the information that we don't want, bad weather tomorrow. Instead we will head to the Antarctic Sound for the best chance of some good weather.

Day 5 – Monday 18th November 2019

GPS position at 0800: 63°22'9 S 56°55'9 W

PM – Brown Bluff 63°30'9 S 56°01'6 W

Air Temp: -2°C Sea Temp: 0°C Wind: SW F3- F8 Sea state: Slight

Overnight we managed to enter the Antarctic Sound, approaching from the South. Our captain and EL had made the decision to sail north in the hope that we could do some sort of activity today. This was instead of waiting at Snow Hill Island, an area where the weather deteriorated quickly the afternoon before and showed no signs of improvement for the next 24 hours in the weather forecast.

The Antarctic Sound, is a body of water of about 30 nm long and around 7-12 nm wide, separating the Joinville Island group from the North East end of the Antarctic Peninsula. The sound was named by the Swedish Antarctic Expedition under command of Otto Nordenskjöld for the expedition ship Antarctic in which in 1902, under command of Carl Larsen was the first vessel to navigate it.

The area is well known for accumulating pack ice and large tabular icebergs however, our transit was not hampered by these significant obstacles. Our plan for the day was to visit Hope Bay in the morning. Conditions for landing were not ideal since the wind was blowing with force 5-8 in the Beaufort scale during the morning, rendering any plan to use our zodiacs impossible. Hence our expedition leader and Captain decided we would have a ship's cruise inside Hope Bay, aiming to have a glance of the scientific station built there, the landscape and some potential wildlife. As we entered Hope Bay early in the morning, we had the view of a large collection of red-orange buildings which makes up "Esperanza Scientific Station" (Hope Scientific Station), built by the Argentinian government in the early 50's, the station houses 55 inhabitants with their families and children. The station has about 43 buildings and occupies a space of about 3800 square meters. Among the buildings there is a school for the children who come with the families. Research is done here across different fields of science such as glaciology, seismology, oceanography, biology and limnology. The base is the place where



the first human was born in Antarctica, Mr. Emilio Marcos Palma. The station is managed by the Argentine Antarctic Institute.

After passing the station, we had a good sight of a large colony of Adèlie Penguins which were nesting by the thousands. As we entered deeper into the bay, we were able to identify a tall peak flanking Esperanza Station named Mount Flora (1705 metres high) to forward port, the Depot Glacier forward from the ship, the Whitten Peak (1462 metres high) to forward starboard side and the Arena Glacier, to starboard.

The wind chill was quite strong on the decks of our ship but despite this a lot of brave passengers spent their time taking photos of the fantastic landscape lying ahead of us. As the ship turned to exit the bay, we had the chance to witness a pod of Type B Orcas swimming around the ship. Pippa our marine biologist on board identified them after careful inspection of her pictures.

Before lunch time, we headed towards Brown Bluff a very scenic place located 9 miles south of Hope Bay. Brown Bluff is an ice capped flat-topped mountain 745 metres high with a prominent cliff of reddish-brown volcanic rock on the North side of the Tabarin Peninsula. The name was given by the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey made from 1943 to 1962. The area is important since it hosts many different breeding species, such as the Adèlie Penguin, Cape Petrel, Gentoo Penguin, Kelp Gull, Skuas, Snow Petrels, Wedell Seals, Leopard Seals and Giant Petrels.

We arrived after lunch and sadly, the landing area was completely covered by brash ice making landing virtually impossible and dangerous. A zodiac cruise was the only safe way to enjoy this site, the decision paid off very well, since as soon as our cruise started, we were able to see many Adèlie Penguins either swimming around the ice or perching on top of icebergs. Later we were able to observe a Crabeater



Seal, a Leopard Seal and a very secluded Weddell Seal, all of them resting on icebergs, under the sunny sky. In the time we spent cruising, we also were able to see lots of birds in the area: the Antarctic Skua, a couple of Southern Giant Petrels, Kelp Gulls and a Snow Petrel. One of the most exciting sights from a couple of zodiacs was a Wilson's Storm Petrel, which flew around a few zodiacs showing its distinctive black plumage and its great flying skills.

Day 6 – Tuesday 19th November 2019

Snow Hill Emperor Penguin Colony - 64°31'11 S 57°27'33 W

Air Temp: 3°C Sea Temp: 0°C Wind: ENE 2 Sea state: Smooth

We awoke in great anticipation this morning. We are positioned just north of the pack ice freezing the Weddell Sea, just off Cockburn Island. Unfortunately, the wind speed measures 40 knots, meaning we are unable to begin any helicopter operations. By noon however, the wind had subsided to below 20 knots and we were given the go ahead from the Captain and the Pilots to begin operations. And with that the helicopters are readied, and the staff are flown to the colony to set up for our arrival. Very quickly the logistics put in place by the expedition team begin, and in our helicopter groups we commence flying. The helicopter takes off from our dear ship Ortelius, and heads over the frozen Weddell sea. After a stunningly

beautiful 20 minute flight from the ship we land on the great expanse of sea ice, and are welcomed by the expedition team and Jose, the helicopter mechanic. Our walk from the drop zone to the colony is like being on another planet; the vast, flat sea ice is broken only by towering trapped icebergs, pressure ridges and of course, what we came for, the largest penguin alive; Emperor Penguins! We are joined on our walk by graceful gliding Emperors, which speed past us clumsy humans. We reach the colony to find approximately 2000 Emperor Penguins; the colony is a busy place with many adults gliding in and out with food from the sea, and many of the cutest penguin chicks awaiting them.



The chicks huddle in the crèches to keep warm, but on a calm, sunny day like today, they are busy waddling around, pestering the adults for food, and trying to wander away.

Back on the ship, the anticipation grows as each group is called to the bar to prepare for their flight and visit to Snow Hill Emperor colony. We prepare ourselves with warm clothes, lifejackets and cameras at the ready. Meanwhile the incredible hospitality staff and expedition staff onboard keep us well fed, and entertained with documentaries in the lecture room. The heli crew and technicians are kept busy on the heli deck all day long, guiding the helicopters in, refuelling both helicopters and pilots and ensuring we are all kept safe when embarking and disembarking from the helicopters.



As the day goes on, there is anticipation whether we would all manage to go today due to our late start but as the evening comes, the last groups head off for their adventure to the colony, and indeed, those that waited the longest, are rewarded with the most beautiful light as the sun sets behind the frozen mountains of the Eastern peninsula.

As darkness falls on Antarctica, we have all returned to the ship, and after an epic day many celebrate in the bar. The staff, crew and helicopter crew worked tirelessly to complete an incredible day for everyone, and we are

sincerely grateful for all their hard work.

We head to bed to dream of Emperors, sea ice and mountainous trapped icebergs, and with the realisation that we landed on a place on Earth where only a very small handful of people manage to visit.

A big thank you to all passengers for the humility, patience and enthusiasm, on such a momentous day!

Day 7 – Wednesday 20th November 2019

GPS position at 0800: 64°05'9 S 56°51'5 W

Air Temp: -1°C Sea Temp: -1°C Wind: NNE F6 Sea state: Moderate

In the morning we were all still buzzing from the incredible day we had had the day before. As we sailed away around 8 am from Snowhill Island our plan was to try a scenic flight at Paulet Island. Frustratingly we were met with high winds through the Terror and Erebus Gulf. Hoping conditions would improve we moved back west through the Sound and experienced incredible icebergs and scenery. The wind didn't let up, and unable to fly today we took in the beautiful scenery that Antarctica had to offer spending the morning on the outer decks. After a scrumptious lunch Catherine delighted us with her diving lecture, looking at "What lies beneath", all the strange and wonderful marine creatures who call Antarctica home.

At 6pm we recapped the day with Claudia describing our intentions for Deception Island and Halfmoon island the following day and of course Sigi called us in for dinner. With an early morning in store for us a lot of us aimed for a early night! The weather had other ideas and a lot of us ended up being pitched around in our bunks for a few hours!



Day 8 – Thursday 21st November 2019

GPS at 0800: 62°59'2 S 60°22'8 W

Air Temp: -3°C Sea Temp: -1°C Wind: W F7 Sea state: Smooth - Moderate

Over night we had sailed in the Bransfield Strait and been met with some rough weather, this had slowed our progress. So instead of arriving early we got to Deception a little later than planned, we headed through Neptune's Bellows with a few us braving the outside decks. We ship cruised Deception, this still active caldera is a fascinating island to look at, with the last eruption being in 1969. It's black volcanic sand is a very different kind of beach to the ones we had seen in Antarctica.

Once we had braved the cold we went and then enjoyed our breakfast! Claudia kept us busy by giving us a lecture on Climate Change in the bar before lunch. It was quite poignant to think of this pristine environment we had been visiting, it certainly needs our protection.

After lunch we were treated to excellent weather and our final landing in Antarctica at Half Moon Island. What a spectacular way to finish our trip in Antarctic. The chinstrap penguins seemed pleased to see us, and there were a few gentoo penguins too. At the end of our landing a few of us



braved the cold to experience a 'polar plunge'! Certainly a breath-taking experience. After a short zodiac drive back to our 'home', we enjoyed hot showers and another lovely dinner. It had been brilliant to enjoy this last chance of seeing Antarctica.

Day 9 – Friday 22nd November 2019

GPS position at 0800: 60°01'2 S 61°44'0 W

Air Temp: 3°C Sea Temp: 1°C Wind: NW F5 Sea state: Moderate

Overnight, we left the waters of the South Shetlands and shortly after dinner we could feel the rolling and pitching of the ship among the deeper waters of the southern tip of the Drake Passage. The weather overnight was foggy and remained like that during the period of darkness. We woke up in the middle of a thick fog. The wind speed did not reduce and it keep on blowing relentlessly with a force 4-6, and gusts blowing up to 35-40 knots. Sadly the movement of the ship and the harsh winds were a reminder that we were leaving behind the white continent of Antarctica.

Sharp at 07:45, Claudia made the wake up call and a few minutes later, Ziggy our hotel manager, announced that the doors of the dining room were open for breakfast. Later at 09:30, the staff collected the rental gear, the zodiac life jackets and the boots that the ship provided to us. This activity was done by calling the cabins per deck and was quickly finished before 11:00.

At 11:30, Claudia gave a very well documented lecture entitled "Sea Birds of the Southern Ocean". The topic of sea birds in this area of the world is vast and there are a couple of dozens of species of birds that can be seen here in the Southern Ocean. Once she clarified this fact, Claudia presented various informative slides about the most representative birds that we can see here, such as the Wondering Albatross, the Light Mantled Albatross and the Black Browed Albatross, the three largest and most conspicuous species we have seen in this trip. Later she addressed the various types of Petrels such as the Snow Petrel, the Cape Petrel and the Wilson's Snow Petrel and the Giant Petrels, again presenting, the most sighted species of petrels so far by us.

In her lecture she showed the vast distances these beautiful birds cover and the perils they face today with all the fishing activities affecting the Southern Ocean as well as with the pollution. Nicely, after the end of her lecture, the skies cleared up a little bit and on the outside decks it was possible to see many of the species she discussed in her presentation.

Also very well timed after the lecture, a Minke whale was spotted swimming close to the ship and all the eyes and attention on board turned onto this large animal. By lunch time, the skies cleared completely and we were able to enjoy the sun and many of us went to the upper decks to sit and relax.

A delicious lunch was served and this time all of the meal options were centred around a mexican fusion kitchen. Fajitas, guacamole and chicken in adobo sauce were among the options for lunch. After lunch, the ship became a quiet place for a while since many of us were enjoying an afternoon nap and only a few remained on the bridge or in the outer decks.

Later in the afternoon we had our ship's quiz with Zet and Tim as our quiz masters. Their quiz was made based on some of the staff's peculiarities, information given in lectures, recaps or general information provided at any moment during our cruise. The idea of the quiz was to have a good laugh together and have a good time while crossing the Drake Passage. In total, we had enough people to make 8 groups who choose the following names:

- Group 1, "What does ABCD mean?"
- Group 2, "The Type A Killer Whales"
- Group 3, "Polar Bears In Antarctica"
- Group 4, "The Big Eaters"
- Group 5, "Weddell One"
- Group 6, "Killer Whales"
- Group 7, "Half Moon Bay Humpbacks" and,
- Group 8, "Team Finland"



After presenting 30 questions, having fun and having a good laugh, our quiz masters Tim and Zet showed the answers. Then, after some deliberation the quiz masters pronounced the winner team. The winning team was "Type A Killer Whales", who won with 25 points. The team won a bottle of wine of their choice, glory, fame, the blessing of His Majesty King Neptune, ruler of the Seas and the admiration from all the Ortelius team.

At 18:30 we had our daily recap, Claudia showed the plans for tomorrow, our last day at sea, Sigi presented the protocol for disembarkation and Lucas, one of our guides, made a short but interesting presentation about the naming of places in Antarctica. Then, at 19:00 the call for dinner came and everybody went to the dining room. Our ship was still rocking among the waves as we sailed into a foggy night in the middle of the Drake Passage.

Day 10 – Saturday 23rd November 2019

GPS position at 0800: 56°07'4 S 65°27'8 W

Air Temp: 9°C **Sea Temp:** 7°C **Wind:** NW F5 **Sea state:** Slight

Our last day in the Drake started at 0745 with our wake up call, breakfast followed soon afterwards and we all settled in for another day at sea. Thankfully the wind had calmed down over night and it was now starting to be a 'Drake Lake'. Some of us enjoyed the sea birds still flying outside, and in the morning we had a fascinating talk from Eduardo talking about the 'Anthropocene – surviving the age of humans'. Certainly, a thought-provoking topic.

After another excellent lunch we enjoyed a talk on Ice and Icebergs with Lucas, and we could remember seeing these enormous blocks of ice that had dominated our trip. It was nice to reminisce and think about the shapes of the ice and what caused them to be like that. Later on in the afternoon Tim shared some of his experiences of working and living in Antarctica. Very different to the trip we had just had and certainly interesting to see how everyday challenges were overcome when he was working in the field. A lot of us had been out on deck enjoying what wildlife we could spot, birds and whales!



The time had now come in the evening for us to enjoy our last recap in the bar and a glass of something bubbly to toast our fantastic voyage. Pippa had put together a brilliant slideshow that everyone enjoyed seeing. It was great to see a short synopsis of our trip, and think about how many amazing memories had been made in the last 10 days.

Captain Yuri came down from the bridge to toast us and thank all of the passengers for sailing with Oceanwide.

Sigi made the last call for dinner and we all headed down to enjoy our last spectacular evening meal on board Ortelius.

Day 11 – Sunday 24th November 2019

GPS position at 0800: 54°49'S, 68°17'W

Air Temp: 8°C **Sea Temp:** 7°C **Wind:** N F2 **Sea state:** Slight

We awoke for the last time with a wake up call from our EL, this was sadly our disembarkation day. We had enjoyed our two days at sea watching the sea birds, and it was with mixed emotions we found ourselves in Ushuaia, happy to have had an amazing trip but sad that it was now over. After our breakfast on board we said our goodbyes, and left the good ship Ortelius, although our trip was over it was simply fantastic and all of us have memories to last a lifetime.



*Thank you all for such a wonderful voyage, for your company,
good humour and enthusiasm. We hope to see you again in the future,
wherever that might be!*

Total Distance Sailed: 1740 Nautical Miles

**On behalf of
Oceanwide Expeditions,
Captain Yury Marin,
Expedition Leader Claudia Holgate,
Hotel Manager Sigi
and all the crew and staff,
it has been a pleasure travelling with you.**



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

Weddell Sea And Emperor Penguins

ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

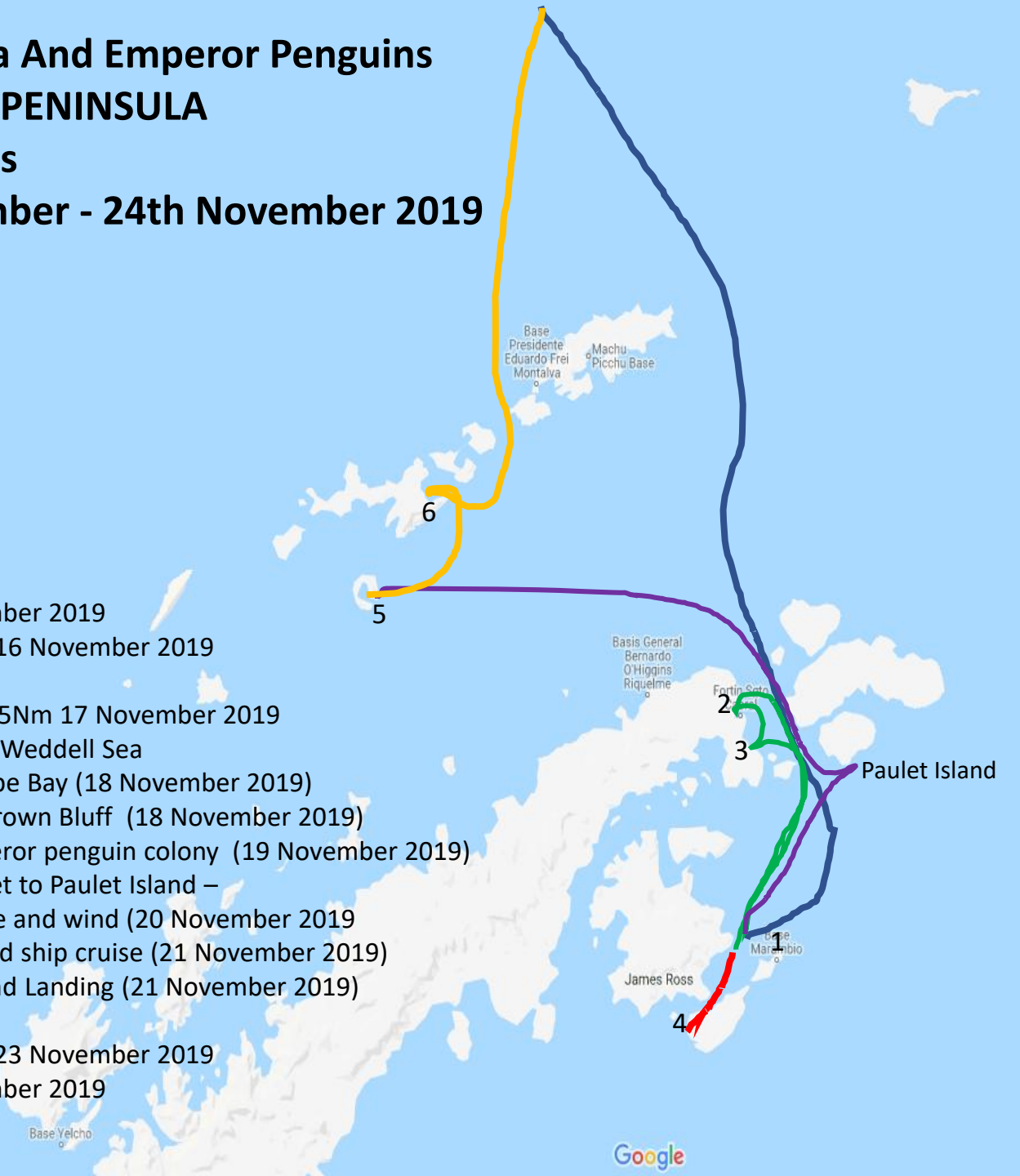
M/v Ortelius

14th November - 24th November 2019

Ushuaia – 14 November 2019
Drake Passage – 15-16 November 2019

- 1) Ship in ice at 28.5Nm 17 November 2019
Zodiac cruise Weddell Sea
- 2) Ship cruise Hope Bay (18 November 2019)
- 3) Zodiac cruise Brown Bluff (18 November 2019)
- 4) Snow Hill Emperor penguin colony (19 November 2019)
Attempt to get to Paulet Island –
Blocked by ice and wind (20 November 2019)
- 5) Deception Island ship cruise (21 November 2019)
- 6) Half Moon Island Landing (21 November 2019)

Drake Passage – 22-23 November 2019
Ushuaia – 24 November 2019





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Claudia Holgate - Assistant Expedition Leader



Claudia, or “Clouds” as she is known on the ship, is a Polar guide with a passion for sharing her knowledge and experience. Claudia, a South African native, has worked at all levels in government, for the United Nations, as an independent environmental consultant and as an academic, but being an expedition guide is the best job by far. She has an MSc. and a Diploma in Higher Education, and considers herself to be a general naturalist, able to speak authoritatively many natural history subjects, from climate and geology to birds and marine biology. Her research has focused on climate change and she will

point out some of the changes that we are seeing during our journey. Claudia’s contribution to geographical research, teaching, outreach and exploration lead to her being elected a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (FRGS).

Claudia’s has been working in the polar regions for 12 years and she still never tires of the White Wilderness and she will tell you that each trip is different and special in its own way.

Claudia is also a Critical Care flight paramedic and when she is back home in South Africa, she teaches doctors and nurses courses in Advanced Cardiac, Paediatric and Trauma Life Support and is currently working on a PhD in Emergency Medicine through the University of Cape Town. In her time off, Claudia loves going into the African bush, photographing, hiking and birding, as well as, doing community work as part of Soroptimist International (Johannesburg club).

Tim Blakemore - Mountain Leader

Since his teens Tim has been clinging to mountainsides and sliding down them in pursuit of fun and adventure. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to Oceanwide Expeditions throughout the world.

Tim has a varied background which has taken him to all of earth's continents and he continues to travel widely. He has worked for the British Antarctic Survey, Plas y Brenin, Outward Bound and was a former Deputy Head of Dukeshouse Wood Centre. In the UK Tim acts as a Technical Advisor to many organisations and has been a Mountain Training (England) Provider for all their awards for many years. He has been published in various magazines and journals including 'Summit' and 'Scottish Mountaineer'. He's also delivered the BMC's Winter Safety Lectures in England and Wales over a three year period. He is currently a Director of the British Mountain Guides.

Tim is an IFMGA Mountain Guide and holds the Mountain Instructor Certificate (MIC). He's climbed many of the Alpine North Faces and 'Grande Courses' (mostly with a slow and heavy approach), too many Scottish winter routes to remember to grade VIII, and still enjoys struggling on rock climbs in the UK. Skiing is also a passion and he enjoys touring in wilder, quieter areas. He is father to Michael who is growing older considerably faster than his dad. He believes that your time is important and strives to maximise your experience in the mountains

Catherine Buckland - Expedition Guide



Although born inland in the UK this didn't stop Catherine from developing a love for the water and sea. She began sailing at an early age and completed longer sea voyages as she got older. Her maritime interests meant it wasn't a huge leap to start scuba diving. Predominantly Catherine is a commercial diving instructor and diver medic based in Plymouth, on the south coast of England. Diving year-round, she trains commercial divers, including teams from the British Antarctic Survey and some work with the UK military. In between time she enjoys working for Oceanwide on their

dive trips, helping experienced tourist divers to explore these frigid waters. Land guiding for Oceanwide in the Antarctic and Arctic has enabled Catherine to really enjoy working above the water and appreciating the wildlife in these fascinating environments.

Lucas Humbert - Expedition Guide



My name is Lucas Humbert . I am French and I live in Saint Claude in the Jura mountains, 50 km from Geneva. I was a soldier in the mountain troops of the French army and then a gendarme before becoming a mountain guide in 2012. I now exercise all year round my full time activity

When I'm not sailing on the Oceanwide ships or mountaineering for Grand Nord Grand Large, I work for different structures (Prémanon Polar World Space, for various distributors of outdoor activities, the tourist office of St Claude, and some gites

of step and refuge in the Jura). I also have my own clients for whom I organize Treks in the Jura, the Alps but also in Morocco!

I discovered the polar environment and the naturalist-guide activity on the cruise ships-expedition 4 years ago (Greenland, Nunavut, Alaska, Northwest Passage, Siberia). I also discovered the Nordic regions on individual expeditions: -traverse of Sarek national park in Swedish Lapland in autonomy in 2016 - shipping in sea kayak in Greenland in 2017.

Zet Freiburghaus - Kayak Guide



Zet is a former successful member of the Swedish national kayak team who after his active career has travelled around the world.

Just last year he hiked and rode a horse in the Tien Shen mountains of Kyrgyzstan and explored big parts of Ethiopia, where he saw the Ethiopian wolf and were standing on the rim on an active volcano.

His sharp eyes and great experience in nature implies he rarely misses an animal.

Zet has a Master of Science in Biology from

Lund University.

Today he works as a guide with the whole world as his office. Zet is new to the Oceanwide crew and very excited to share his enthusiasm and energy on board our vessels this season.

Pippa Low - Expedition Guide



Pippa has worked as a marine guide and skipper for 7 years, primarily in Scotland, Australia and New Zealand. A marine scientist specialising in marine mammal research and conservation, she splits her time between the hemispheres, and loves showing the public the marine world and all it has to offer.

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

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

Upon completion of her degree, Pippa worked in Australia on marine science research projects as a marine mammal observer, scientific diver and research assistant. After returning to Scotland, Pippa set up a wildlife tour boat company in her hometown of Findhorn and has spent the past 6 years working summer in Scotland, showcasing the wonders of the Moray coastline and wildlife to adventurers on board, and then spending the winter in southern hemisphere working on marine research projects; including photo ID, migration, distribution and behavioural studies on a range of marine mammals. She has developed a keen interest in marine mammal conservation through outreach and research. Most recently, Pippa worked in the Ross Sea on a New Zealand Ecosystem voyage, realising a life dream to work in Antarctica. On this voyage she assisted in the collection of baseline data on the World's largest Marine Protected Area; primarily on the distribution of cetaceans in this region.

Ian Peck - Expedition Guide



Hello everyone! My name is Ian Peck and I hail from Cape Breton Island Nova Scotia, Canada.

I have been travelling down to Antarctica and North to the Arctic for the past 7 years. With over a 1000 days on the frozen continent I am extremely excited to start a new chapter with Oceanwide Expeditions. With a Biology degree and a passion for wildlife I am looking forward with great enthusiasm for getting back down south and driving zodiacs and lecturing on the most incredible wildlife I believe exists, baleen whales and Antarctic seals.

I can't wait to get out there and see everything this amazing place has to offer.

Eduardo Rubio Herrera - Expedition Guide



Eduardo describes himself as an astronomer by profession with a passion for nature, particularly for the sea, mountains, sunrises and sunsets.

Trained as an astronomer, he got a PhD in Astronomy from the University of Amsterdam in 2010. After a postdoctoral position, in 2013 he decided to split his time between lecture halls and ships. Hence you could find him part of the year lecturing physics and astronomy and the other part giving lectures and guiding in ships to Antarctica and in the South Atlantic Ocean.

Eduardo's interests vary from history of exploration to the intricacies of astronomy. During the trips he has undertaken, he has given lectures about polar explorers, the science carried out in Antarctica (astronomy in particular), our Universe, famous battles at sea and optical phenomena, to mention some. At sea, besides being an engaged guide and lecturer, he loves to show constellations to people, pointing out their names and their lore.

Eduardo always aims to raise the enthusiasm of guests towards science, and their awareness towards the unique and fragile planet where we live.



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

Embarkation

Thursday 14th November 2019

Welcome on board! Your luggage will have been delivered to your cabin. After we are all onboard, please check and notify Reception if you are missing anything or have luggage that does not belong to you. While we are embarking please feel free to explore the ship. The Lounge/Bar is located on Deck 6.

~15h00 **Mandatory Safety Briefing in the Lecture Room (Deck 3).**
ALL PASSENGERS are **required** to attend this important safety briefing. A roll call will be conducted.
We will conduct the mandatory Lifeboat Drill right afterwards.
Please listen for the Alarm.

~15h30 We will be moving into Ushuaia Bay to receive the helicopters. As we leave Ushuaia, we recommend that you enjoy the views from the top outside decks.
Please Note: The Bridge will be closed for departure while we navigate the Beagle Channel.

~16h30 The helicopters will be landing on the heli deck. All the back decks will be closed during this time. If you wish to watch the helicopters landing you may go onto the outside decks on the side of the ship on deck 6 or deck 7.

18h30 We would like to invite you to the **Bar** on Deck 6 for an **Introduction to the Ship** by Hotel Manager Sigi, this will be followed by a welcome cocktail, hosted by the Master of the vessel, Captain Yury Marin. Expedition Leader, Claudia Holgate, will finish off with a **welcome briefing** and introduction to the Expedition.

19h30 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room located on **Deck 4** behind **Reception**. Bon appétit!

*Tonight, we will enter the Southern Ocean
Please ensure your belongings are secure and will not roll, slide or fall
when the ship starts to move with the swell. Always keep one hand for
the ship and one for yourself and make sure you don't hold onto any
door frames.*



Friday 15th November 2019

The Drake Passage on route to Antarctica

0745 Wakeup call

08h00 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.

*We will be conducting the **mandatory IAATO and Zodiac safety briefing**, as well as biosecurity and boots and lifejacket hand out this morning.*

09h30 **Deck 3 and 5** guests, please join Clouds in the Bar for the **mandatory IAATO and Zodiac safety briefing**. Everybody who wants to go ashore in Antarctica will have to come to this briefing! Roll call will be taken. (**Lounge** deck 6)

09h30 **Deck 4** guests, you will be called by room number go to the **lecture room** (Deck 3) for boot handout and biosecurity. **Vacuum Party!** When called please bring your used outer clothes and the bags that you will be taking ashore.

When both groups are finished, we will swap around. Deck 3 and 5 will go to biosecurity and deck 4 will go to briefings. Please listen for announcements.

12h30 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

14h30 Join **Lucas** for a lecture on "**An introduction to Antarctica**" (**Lounge** deck 6)

16h30 Join **Pippa** for a lecture on **whales** (**Lounge** deck 6)

18h30 **Recap and briefing** - Join Clouds and the Team in the Lounge.

19h00 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!



Saturday 16th November 2019

The Drake Passage on route to Antarctica

- 0745 Wakeup call
- 08h00 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room for one hour.
- 09h30 *We will be conducting the **Mandatory Helicopter operations briefing**. If you want to go out by helicopter, you need to be there. Roll call will be taken. Please consider anyone you would like to be in your helicopter group (4 or 5 people). These groups will be posted on the notice board at reception and outside the lounge before lunch.*
- 11h30 Join **Ian** for a lecture on **Seals of the Antarctic** (Lounge deck 6)
- 12h30 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 14h30 We will be calling guests in their helicopter groups (Lounge deck 6) for a familiarisation of the helicopter operations and a dry run to get used to the process of boarding the helicopters. **Please listen to announcements, as we will be calling you one group at a time.**
- 18h30 **Recap and briefing** - Join Clouds and the Team in the Lounge for a briefing on the next day's activities and a recap on what we have seen.
- 19h00 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!
- After dinner, our resident Astronomer, Eduardo, will host an "Ask an Astronomer Anything (Or almost anything)".



Sunday 17th November 2019

Expedition Day

07h15 Wakeup call

07h30-09h00 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

Ship exploration through the ice looking for Penguins and seals, and enjoying the ice

12h00-13h00 Buffet **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

13h30 Zodiac cruise around the ice

- We will disembark in the following order:
- Groups 334-449 will go first (Approx 10 min to disembark)
- Groups 450-529 will follow on as soon as the first group has completed disembarkation

18h30 Join Clouds and the team for Recap and Briefing

19h00 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

Heli		leave	Return
A		Staff	Empty
B		Kit	Empty
A	Group	1	Empty
B	Group	2	Empty
A	Group	3	Empty
B	Group	4	1
A	Group	5	2
B	Group	6	3
A	Group	7	4
B	Group	8	5
A	Group	9	6
B	Group	10	7
A	Group	11	8
B	Group	12	9
A	Group	13	10
B	Group	14	11
A	Group	15	12
B	Group	16	13
A	Group	17	14
B	Group	18	15
A	Group	19	16
B	Group	20	17
A	Group	21	18
B	Group	empty	19
A	Group	empty	20
B	Group	empty	21
A	Group	empty	Staff/Kit
B	Group	empty	Staff/Kit



Sunday 17th November 2019

Expedition Day

07h15 Wakeup call

07h30-09h00 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

Today we are hoping to have an excursion to Snow Hill Island Emperor Penguin colony. If the ice, and weather conditions are suitable, we will continue with excursions as planned.

The groups will be as below:

12h30-13h30 Buffet **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room. This will be continued until all guests have returned for lunch.

19h00 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

During the day we will have documentaries showing in Lecture room. We will announce these before showing them.

Things to remember:

- Come to the bar when your group is called and sit to the left of the door.
- Bring your **lifejacket** and warm clothes
- If you need to carry equipment please put it in a **bag** that can go into the hold
- Don't wear anything that can fly away, such as caps
- Collect **Ear defenders** at the muster station and remember to drop them off when you get back to the ship
- Always stay where you are visible to the pilot and never go close to the rear of the helicopter.
- Remember to be back on time.

Heli		leave	Return
A		Staff	Empty
B		Kit	Empty
A	Group	1	Empty
B	Group	2	Empty
A	Group	3	Empty
B	Group	4	1
A	Group	5	2
B	Group	6	3
A	Group	7	4
B	Group	8	5
A	Group	9	6
B	Group	10	7
A	Group	11	8
B	Group	12	9
A	Group	13	10
B	Group	14	11
A	Group	15	12
B	Group	16	13
A	Group	17	14
B	Group	18	15
A	Group	19	16
B	Group	20	17
A	Group	21	18
B	Group	empty	19
A	Group	empty	20
B	Group	empty	21
A	Group	empty	Staff/Kit
B	Group	empty	Staff/Kit



Monday 18th November 2019

Hope Bay and Brown Bluff

07h15 Wake up call

07h30-08h30 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

Hope Bay

We hope to offer a split station visit to Esperanza Station and zodiac cruise in the morning at Hope Bay. We are waiting for the station commander to reply, so we do not know what is possible yet.

09h00 Zodiac cruise - All out at the same time
OR

09h00 Landing all at the same time
OR

09h00 Landing group cabins 334-449
09h15 Zodiac group cabins 450-529

10h15 Swap onshore

12h30-13h30 Buffet **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

Brown Bluff

14h00 Landing at **Brown Bluff**

18h30 Join Clouds and the team for **Recap and Briefing**

19h00 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!



Tuesday 19th November 2019

Expedition Day

07h15 Wakeup call

07h30-09h00 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

Today we are hoping to have an excursion to Snow Hill Island Emperor Penguin colony. If the ice, and weather conditions are suitable, we will continue with excursions as planned.

The groups will be as below:

12h30-13h30 Buffet **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room. This will be continued until all guests have returned for lunch.

19h00 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

During the day we will have documentaries showing in Lecture room. We will announce these before showing them.

Things to remember:

- Come to the bar when your group is called and sit to the left of the door.
- Bring your **lifejacket** and warm clothes
- If you need to carry equipment please put it in a **bag** that can go into the hold
- Don't wear anything that can fly away, such as caps
- Collect **Ear defenders** at the muster station and remember to drop them off when you get back to the ship
- Always stay where you are visible to the pilot and never go close to the rear of the helicopter.
- Remember to be back on time.

Heli		leave	Return
A		Staff	Empty
B		Kit	Empty
A	Group	1	Empty
B	Group	2	Empty
A	Group	3	Empty
B	Group	4	1
A	Group	5	2
B	Group	6	3
A	Group	7	4
B	Group	8	5
A	Group	9	6
B	Group	10	7
A	Group	11	8
B	Group	12	9
A	Group	13	10
B	Group	14	11
A	Group	15	12
B	Group	16	13
A	Group	17	14
B	Group	18	15
A	Group	19	16
B	Group	20	17
A	Group	21	18
B	Group	empty	19
A	Group	empty	20
B	Group	empty	21
A	Group	empty	Staff/Kit
B	Group	empty	Staff/Kit



Wednesday 20th November 2019

Expedition Day/Scenic Flights

Today we are hoping to have scenic helicopter flights

12h-13h **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

from 14h **Scenic flights** commence - groups in reverse order (starting 21) *please listen for announcements*

18h30 Join Clouds & the Team for daily re-cap & briefing

19h00 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

Heli		leave	Return
A		Staff	Empty
B		Kit	Empty
A	Group	1	Empty
B	Group	2	Empty
A	Group	3	Empty
B	Group	4	1
A	Group	5	2
B	Group	6	3
A	Group	7	4
B	Group	8	5
A	Group	9	6
B	Group	10	7
A	Group	11	8
B	Group	12	9
A	Group	13	10
B	Group	14	11
A	Group	15	12
B	Group	16	13
A	Group	17	14
B	Group	18	15
A	Group	19	16
B	Group	20	17
A	Group	21	18
B	Group	empty	19
A	Group	empty	20
B	Group	empty	21
A	Group	empty	Staff/Kit
B	Group	empty	Staff/Kit



Wednesday 20th November 2019

Expedition Day

15h - 15h30 Linda, the Doctor will be in the Bar/Lounge to dispense seasickness medication - we have rough conditions in the Bransfield this evening so take your medication, wear your patch in good time!

15h30 join Catherine in the Bar/Lounge for a lecture: "What Lies Beneath"

18h00 Join Clouds & the Team for daily re-cap & briefing

18h30 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

Heli		leave	Return
A		Staff	Empty
B		Kit	Empty
A	Group	1	Empty
B	Group	2	Empty
A	Group	3	Empty
B	Group	4	1
A	Group	5	2
B	Group	6	3
A	Group	7	4
B	Group	8	5
A	Group	9	6
B	Group	10	7
A	Group	11	8
B	Group	12	9
A	Group	13	10
B	Group	14	11
A	Group	15	12
B	Group	16	13
A	Group	17	14
B	Group	18	15
A	Group	19	16
B	Group	20	17
A	Group	21	18
B	Group	empty	19
A	Group	empty	20
B	Group	empty	21
A	Group	empty	Staff/Kit
B	Group	empty	Staff/Kit



Thursday 21th November 2019

Deception Island and Half Moon Island

This morning, we plan to enter **Deception Island** in the South Shetland Islands. The island is a shield volcano, where the side has been eroded, flooding the caldera allowing ships to sail through the gap, called Neptune's Bellows. The volcano last erupted between 1967 and 1970, and is still volcanically active. Inside, the waters are geo-thermally heated, and there are the remains of the Hektor Whaling Station which was operational between 1906 and 1931, and a British Antarctic Survey Base, Base B, which opened in 1944 and closed in 1969, after the buildings were destroyed by a lahar (mud slide).

Listen for announcements as we enter Deception Island where, if conditions allow, we will have a landing in Whalers Bay.

- 05h15 Wake up call
- 05h30 Pastries in the bar
- 05h30 We plan to sail through **Neptune's Bellows**, into Deception Island. The best place to watch this spectacular navigation is out on the top or bow decks.
- 06h00 **Landing at Deception Island** -We will land on a broad gravel beach with walking opportunities ranging from a short, flat stroll around the historical remains (Please keep your distance!) and to a beach walk to the base of Neptune's window.
- 07h30 **Polar Plungers** come to the landing site. Wear your swim suit under your clothes. Towels will be provided. Plungers will be taken straight back to the ship.
- 08h30 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 10h00 Join **Clouds** for a lecture titled "**Too hot to handle; The global climate experiment**" in the lounge
- 11h45 **Lunch** will be served in the dining room
- 13h00 Disembark guests at **Half Moon Island** for a short walk up to a Chinstrap Penguin colony
- 18h30 **Recap and Briefing** - Join Clouds and the team for a recap of the day
- 19h00 **Dinner** is served in the dining room

Tonight, we will be in the Drake Passage. Please always hold on with at least one hand and put away any valuable items that may fall. Please do not wear flip-flops and keep your hands away from door frames



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

Drake Passage

Friday 22nd November 2019

- 07h45 **Wake-up** call
- 0800-0900 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 09h30 **Boot and zodiac life jacket collection** in the lecture room
Cabins 334-449 will be called first
Followed by cabins 450-529.
Please listen for announcements
- 11h30 **Lecture by Clouds** on *Seabirds of the Southern Ocean* to be held in
the bar deck 6
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1430 **Lecture by Pippa** on *Acoustics in the ocean* (Bar deck 6)
- 1600 **Antarctic quiz** - join the team to test your Antarctic knowledge
- 1830 **Recap:** Please join Clouds and the Expedition Team in the Bar for a
recap of our activities and plans for the next day.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

Today we are in the Drake Passage, please always hold on with at least one hand and be very careful in the stairwells. Please do not wear flip-flops and keep your hands away from door frames

Drake Passage on route to Ushuaia

Saturday 23rd November 2019

- 07h45 **Wake-up** call
- 0800-0900 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.
- 10h00 **Lecture** by Eduardo on the ***Anthropocene*** to be held in the bar deck 6
- 12h30 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 14h30 **Lecture** by Lucas on ***Ice and Glaciers*** (Bar deck 6)
- 16h30 Lecture by Tim on ***Living and Working in Antarctica*** (Bar deck 6)
- 18h15 Final **Recap, Captain's farewell cocktail and trip slide show** (Bar deck 6)
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Enjoy your meal!

Today we are in the Drake Passage, please always hold on with at least one hand and be very careful in the stairwells. Please do not wear flip-flops and keep your hands away from door frames



Disembarkation, Ushuaia

Thursday 24th November 2019

Please ensure your luggage is outside your cabin by the time Sigi invites you to breakfast at 07h30. We will move your main luggage to the pier, and after the busses have arrived we will call you to come down the gangway. You must ensure your own luggage is moved to either, the airport bus or the truck to the luggage storage place, if you wish to use either of these services.

07h30-08h30 **Breakfast** buffet will be served in the Dining Room.

08h30 We expect the busses to arrive and to begin **Disembarkation**. **Please listen and wait for announcements**, and it will be a great help to all the crew if you do not wait in the Lobby, which will be a very busy place. The Bar will offer good views of Ushuaia, and long-awaited cell/mobile phone coverage

The Captain, Crew, Staff and all of Oceanwide thank you for joining us on this incredible voyage, and wish you all the best in your travels.

We hope to see you again, North or South!

"Fair winds and following seas"