

# Antarctica Complete

Aboard *Sylvia Earle* | 21 December 2025 – 11 January 2026

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## Antarctica Complete

21 December 2025 – 11 January 2026

# Ushuaia

DAY 1 | Sunday 21 December 2025

**Latitude:**

54°48.8' S

**Longitude:**

68°15.8' W

**Course:**

286

**Speed:**

Alongside

**Wind Speed:**

11 knots SW

**Barometer:**

984 hPa

**Air Temp:**

8°C

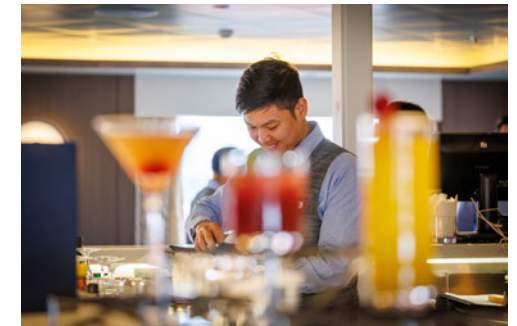
Here we are in the picturesque town of Ushuaia, 'the end of the world'. Our day began with breakfast at the hotel, overlooking the Beagle Channel and the pier where the beautiful *Sylvia Earle* was already alongside, preparing to welcome us aboard.

Early in the morning we crossed the southernmost foothills of the Andes toward Lake Escondido, surrounded by forests and dramatic mountain views. After enjoying the scenery, we continued to a local ranch where we savoured a traditional Fuegian lamb BBQ lunch. Warm hospitality and the wild beauty of Tierra del Fuego made for a perfect start to our adventure.

Later, we headed to the pier and finally stood before the *Sylvia Earle*. Members of the Expedition Team, including our Expedition Leader Rune, Assistant Expedition Leader Piotr, Photographer Grant and Onboard Expedition Manager Anne, greeted us warmly before we made our way up the gangway and into Reception for check-in. An embarkation buffet awaited

us in the Tektite Bar, and the Hotel Team guided us to our cabins. After Jacket Exchange and the mandatory safety drill, Expedition Leader Rune welcomed everyone in the lecture theatre, sharing a short video featuring Sylvia Earle herself. He spoke about the innovative X-Bow design and Aurora's spirit of adventure before introducing our multi-skilled Expedition Team. Anne and Hotel Director Alex explained life on board, and Medic Jac gave a briefing on staying healthy during the voyage. Finally, we gathered in the dining room for a buffet dinner, with Grant and his assistant Katia taking our portraits for the photo board on the way in.

Last, the Activity Teams held their meet and greet around the ship. Altogether, we are 99 Expeditioners, joined by 86 crew members and 23 Expedition Team members ready to share their knowledge. After many hours of travel, it is time to relax, breathe in the sea air and look forward to the adventures ahead.









# At Sea

DAY 2 | Monday 22 December 2025

**Latitude:**  
57°12.1' S

**Longitude:**  
66°41.8' W

**Course:**  
188

**Speed:**  
13.4 knots

**Wind Speed:**  
23 knots W

**Barometer:**  
969 hPa

**Air Temp:**  
7°C

The beginning of our journey into the dreaded Drake Passage began in earnest just after midnight as we sailed out of the lee of the Wollaston Islands. The ship began to roll as the seas picked up and the wind howled in the rigging.

The morning found us in three to four metre swells with occasional rollers topping five metres. The skies were blue with brilliant whitecaps stretching to the horizon. The wind and waves made for excellent birdwatching and by mid-morning many species were spotted, including grey-headed and wandering albatrosses as well as smaller petrels and prions.

Our historian, Liz, presented her first talk on the heroic age of exploration in Antarctica, covering the first overwinterings, Amundsen's triumph at the pole and Scott's tragedy. The weather continued to build over lunch with winds reaching fifty knots, force ten on the Beaufort scale, a true gale.

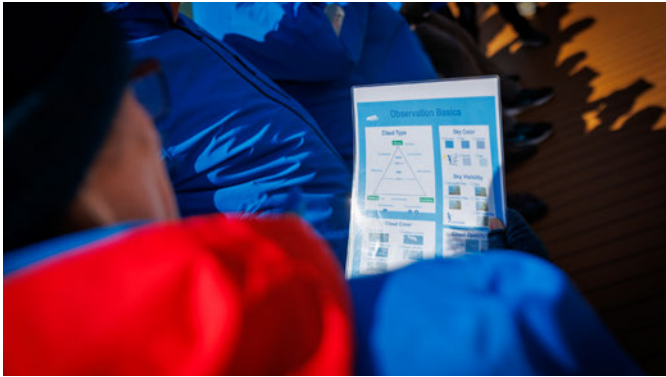
In the afternoon we enjoyed a talk on seabirds by our ornithologist, John, followed by a cloud survey and bird survey on the aft deck. We held on tight to the rails as the ship pitched in the heavy seas. By teatime, the wind began to ease.

At 1830 we gathered in the lounge for our first recap and briefing. The Captain introduced his officers before raising his glass in a toast to the success of our expedition. Our geologist and musician, Kevin, played a song about the albatross, after which we headed to dinner.

After dessert, many of us met on deck 8 where we pored over nautical charts of the Southern Ocean, noting our predictions for the first iceberg sighting. As the light faded, the seas began to calm and we retired to our cabins for a night of gentler movement in the Drake Passage.









# At Sea towards Antarctica

DAY 3 | Tuesday 23 December 2025

**Latitude:**

62°28.0' S

**Longitude:**

67°51.7' W

**Course:**

186

**Speed:**

14.1 knots

**Wind Speed:**

6 knots S

**Barometer:**

974 hPa

**Air Temp:**

3°C

What a difference a day and a few degrees of latitude make. Yesterday's '6' (some might say '11') on the Drake Vitamix-er had dropped to a gentle '2'. We had crossed one of the most powerful bodies of water on Earth. The Antarctic Circumpolar Current spans 8° of latitude, carrying around 134 Sv, with flow through the Drake Passage reaching 173.3 Sv, roughly 135 times the transport of all the world's rivers combined. Driven by strong westerlies and uninterrupted by land, it remains the engine of the Southern Ocean.

We crossed an important biological boundary known as the Antarctic Convergence or Polar Front, where cold, dense surface waters sink beneath warmer subantarctic waters. Mixing and upwelling create a zone very high in marine productivity, especially for Antarctic krill. Chloe's excellent

recap explained how these 'ocean engineers' attract marine mammals and birds to the seasonal bounty.

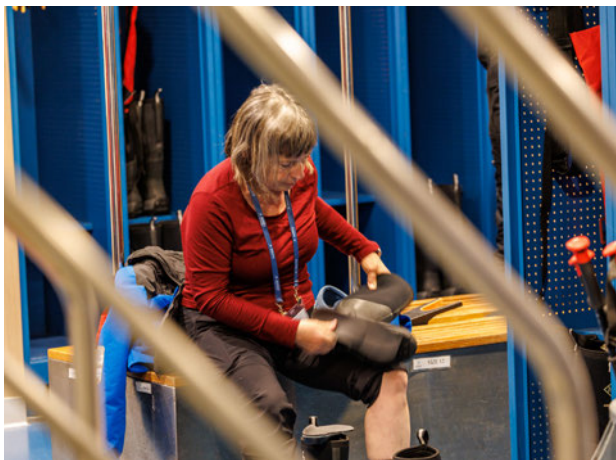
Smiles returned in the restaurant. A smattering of seabirds, including black-browed, grey-headed and one curious light-mantled albatross, soared gracefully, while the Wilson's storm petrel looked effortless on the wing.

Mandatory IAATO biosecurity and Zodiac briefings followed, along with activity briefings. Ornithologist John completed two eBird Citizen Science surveys and Grant led a smartphone photography workshop.

A diverse recap covered krill biology, snowshoeing and the Question Box. A hardy group stayed on deck for the Antarctic Circle crossing, but that will wait for tomorrow's post.









# At Sea | Red Rock Ridge

DAY 4 | Wednesday 24 December 2025

## Latitude:

67°40.6' S

## Longitude:

68°18.6' W

## Course:

161

## Speed:

12.9 knots

## Wind Speed:

10 knots E

## Barometer:

976 hPa

## Air Temp:

3°C

Our Christmas Eve celebrations started early as an enthusiastic group of Expeditioners marked the crossing of the Antarctic Circle under the midnight sun. The time was 0041 and the latitude 66°33'55' South. The distant mountains of Marguerite Bay promised adventure.

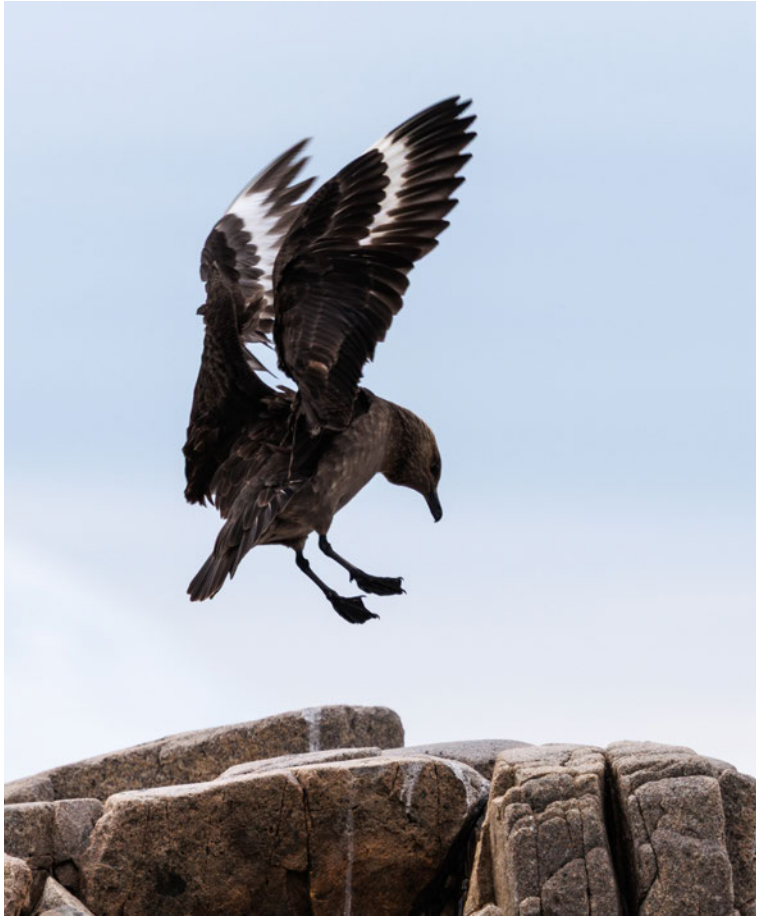
We were joined after breakfast by King Neptune, who boarded the *Sylvia Earle* to grant our ship access to the waters beyond the Antarctic Circle and to welcome all aboard to his icy realm. Jac anointed us each with an Antarctic name, prompting many 'who or what is that' conversations. Liz read an oath marking James Cook's Antarctic Circle crossing nearly 252 years ago. Cook saw the region as a land 'doomed by Nature', but today's Expeditioners feel otherwise. Jenny, now 'Biscoe', found it spectacular, and Mae Chu, now 'Skua', thought it was

simply fun. Life aboard the *Sylvia Earle* could not be more different from that of Cook's crews on the *Resolution* and the *Adventure*.

Our afternoon landing was indeed adventurous as the Expedition Team searched for a safe site at Red Rock Ridge. Soon enough, we were all away to set foot upon the frozen continent for the first time, to paddle kayaks amongst rocky reefs and ice, or to snorkel in phytoplankton-rich waters.

The Adélie penguins entertained us with their antics, their newly hatched chicks gazing out at a new world, while a few lounging Weddell seals raised their heads to inspect us before returning to sleep. Santa Claus joined us before dinner, after which we celebrated Christmas Eve with carols.







# Bongrain Point | Horseshoe Island

DAY 5 | Thursday 25 December 2025

**Latitude:**  
67°45.8' S

**Longitude:**  
67°42.5' W

**Course:**  
4

**Speed:**  
0.5 knots

**Wind Speed:**  
10 knots ESE

**Barometer:**  
976 hPa

**Air Temp:**  
4°C

Christmas morning greeted us with blue skies and excitement for our first full day of operations in Antarctica. Our first stop was Bongrain Point on the west coast of Pourquoi Pas Island. Still south of the Antarctic Circle at 67°43' S, 67°44' W, we had a short Zodiac transfer from ship to shore with a bit of wind, though nothing to stop us.

We are still exploring territory first mapped by Jean Baptiste Charcot's second French Antarctic Expedition from 1908–10 on his famous ship Pourquoi Pas. You hear us mention that name often; since childhood Charcot's motto had been 'pourquoi pas', or 'why not'. It summed up his character, full of doubt and determination. Robert Falcon Scott nicknamed him the 'gentleman explorer', and he was not wrong if the champagne, wicker garden furniture and abundance of panama hats on his packing list were anything to go by.

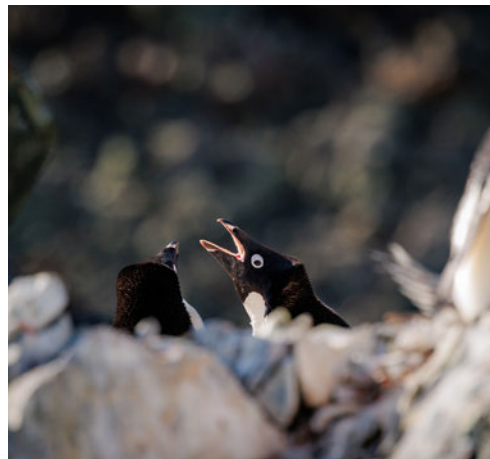
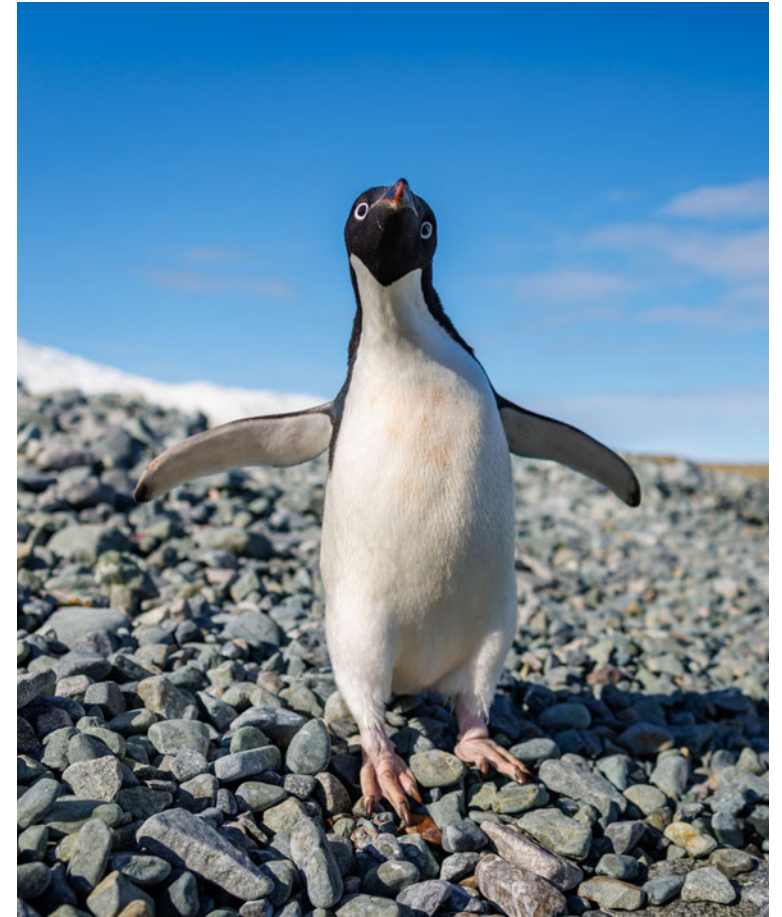
Bongrain Point was named after Maurice Bongrain, chief officer on Pourquoi Pas. Here we watched Adélie penguins waddle between sea and shore, unfazed by our presence, with fluffy grey chicks poking their beaks out for a feed. Snow petrels circled the tall cliffs and some of us enjoyed views from a scramble up by the glacier.

In the afternoon we visited Horseshoe Island and Base Y, a British hut built in 1955 at 67°48' S, 67°18' W. Fast ice and fat seals in the bay meant landing beside the hut, followed by a scramble up malachite-green streaked rocks that looked vaguely like Antarctic kryptonite.

An icy wind sent us darting into the dark historic base, one of the few where many supplies remain, giving a glimpse into 1950s Antarctica: biscuits, custard, Marmite and more.









# The Gullet | Hanusse Bay | Crystal Sound

DAY 6 | Friday 26 December 2025

Latitude:  
67°18.9' S

Longitude:  
67°51.0' W

Course:  
7

Speed:  
8.1 knots

Wind Speed:  
3 knots ENE

Barometer:  
973 hPa

Air Temp:  
3°C

Our adventure began at 0600 as we sailed through the Gullet, a breathtakingly narrow passage framed by towering peaks and walls of ice. At its tightest point we slipped past an enormous iceberg so close it felt almost within reach, every ripple and shade of blue on full display. It was a thrilling moment, just tense enough to quicken the pulse, and our Captain guided us through with exceptional skill.

After breakfast and much-needed coffee, we headed out for a Zodiac cruise. The ocean was scattered with flat sea ice and icebergs glowing in shades of white and blue. Snow petrels wheeled overhead, joined by skuas and Antarctic terns. Crabeater seals lounged on the ice, basking in the sunshine. Some lucky Zodiacs even encountered a humpback whale. One surfaced right in front of ours, blowing loudly as the wind carried its warm, krilly breath across the water.

A radio call then announced a surprise ice landing. Thanks to our Expedition Team in dry suits who tested the ice for safety, we stepped onto real floating sea ice in the Southern Ocean. Curious Adélie penguins popped out of the water to inspect us.

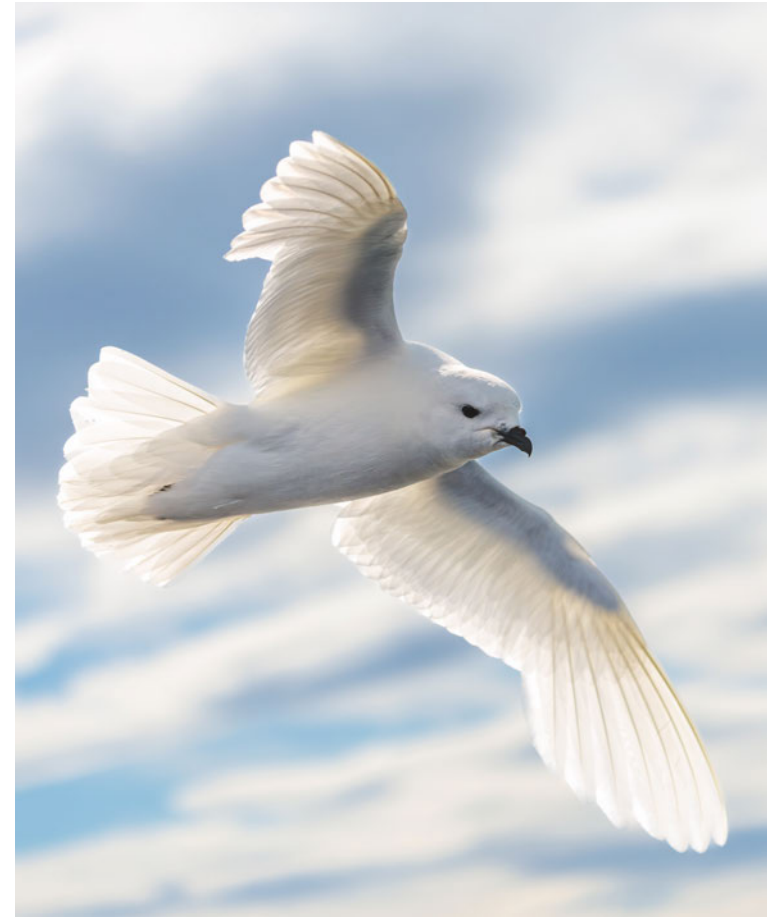
Back on board, we warmed up with lunch. At the Citizen Science centre we used microscopes to reveal the hidden world of phytoplankton, from diatoms to dinoflagellates. Then came the polar plunge. With music, dancing and cheers, 37 brave Expeditioners jumped into icy waters with icebergs as a backdrop, cold, wild and exhilarating.

The evening wrapped up with a lively recap full of fun facts, including the revelation that penguins really do have knees. After dinner, Daisy shared her journey of falling in love with the polar regions, accompanied by a stunning collection of photographs she has captured here.









# Rabot Island | Prospect Point

DAY 7 | Saturday 27 December 2025

**Latitude:**

66°54.4' S

**Longitude:**

66°05.2' W

**Course:**

65

**Speed:**

4.9 knots

**Wind Speed:**

10 knots S

**Barometer:**

974 hPa

**Air Temp:**

5°C

We began the day aboard our Aurora Expeditions vessel, surrounded by still water and drifting ice. Conditions were perfect for a Zodiac cruise around Rabot Island, where we were almost immediately treated to humpback whales bubble net feeding. From the Zodiac we watched them erupt in powerful lunges, water streaming from their baleen plates. Moments like this are rare, and witnessing it in Antarctica felt especially privileged.

Between whale encounters we cruised quietly along the icy coastline. Chinstrap penguins gathered on rocky outcrops and zipped past our Zodiacs, while blue-eyed shags perched above us and skimmed low across the water. The surrounding ice was just as captivating, sculpted into dramatic arches and spires shaped by wind, sea and time.

After warming up on board, we later went ashore at Prospect Point, stepping onto the Antarctic continent. Standing among towering glaciers and sheer ice cliffs, listening to deep cracks and thunderous calving, was humbling, a reminder of our smallness in this vast frozen world. Wildlife moved around us, seemingly unfazed by our presence.

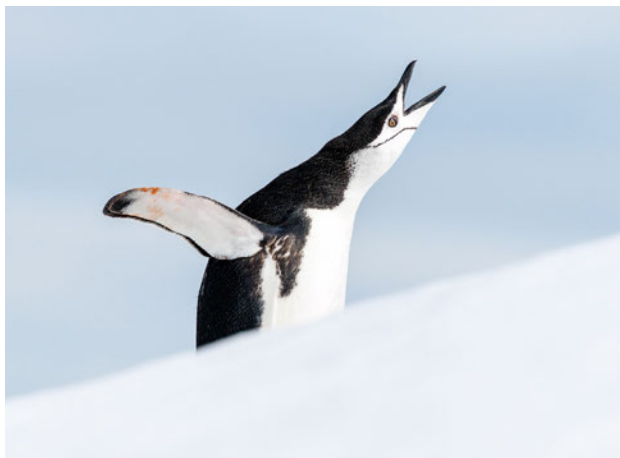
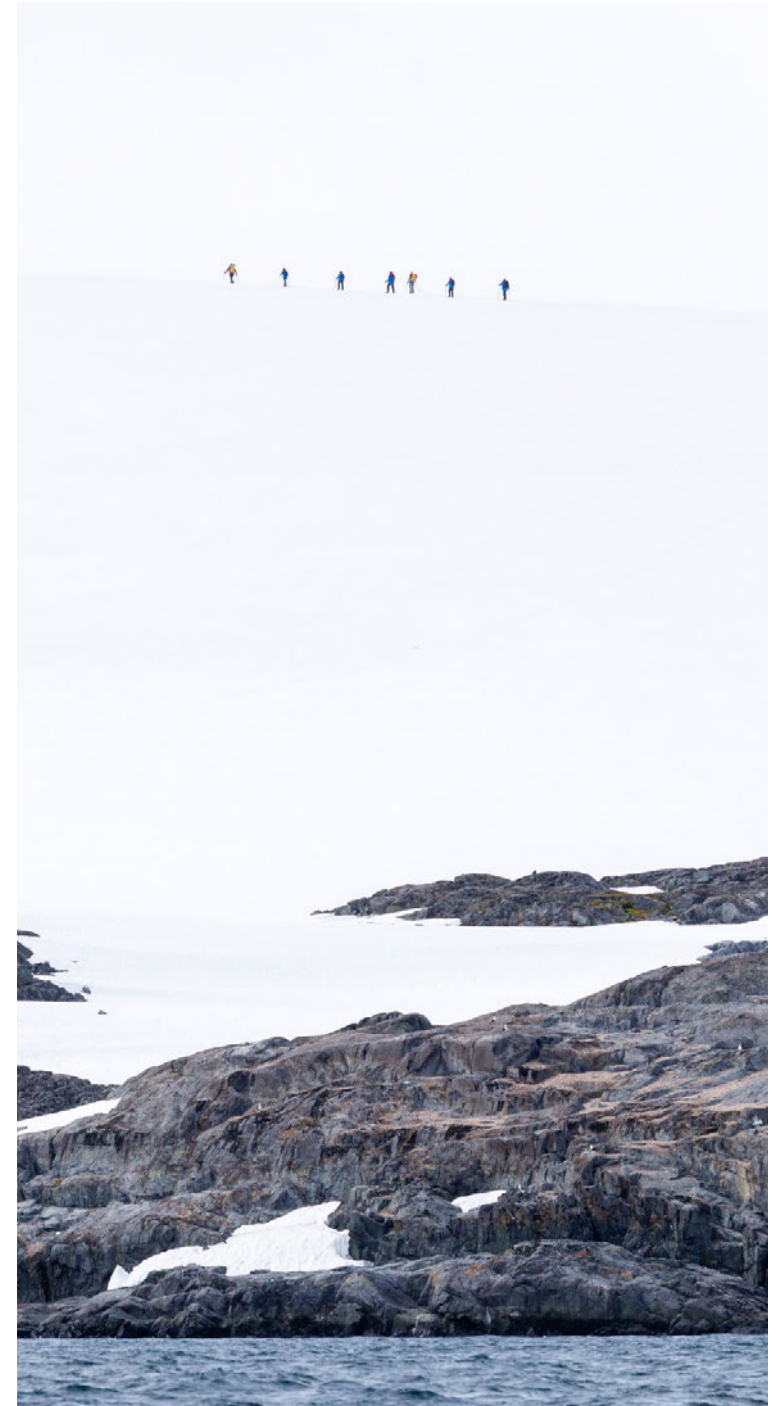
By the time we returned to the ship we were buzzing from the day's encounters. After a relaxed recap and an insightful humpback whale presentation from Katia, we gathered for dinner to share stories and highlights. Later, we returned to the deck as the sun dipped low, cruising silently between drifting ice, pastel skies reflecting off sculpted bergs around us.













# Petermann Island | Port Charcot | Lemaire Channel

DAY 8 | Sunday 28 December 2025

<b>Latitude:</b> 65°16.7' S	<b>Wind Speed:</b> Calm	Waking up this morning, we did not think we could match yesterday's weather, but Mother Nature turned it on and we did. After a satisfying buffet breakfast, the Expeditioners were off to their first landing of the day at Petermann Island. We were surrounded by crystal-clear waters, icebergs and crisp white glaciers; it was the perfect place to explore.	lunch before heading back out in the Zodiacs for an afternoon landing at Port Charcot. We were in search of chinstrap penguins, which had been difficult to find. Not only did we locate a small group of five amongst the nesting gentoos, but we also discovered a gentoo, an Adélie and a chinstrap perched together on a jagged rock, the perfect trifecta.
<b>Longitude:</b> 64°16.3' W	<b>Barometer:</b> 985 hPa	Once a prominent Adélie penguin colony, Petermann Island is now home to around 3500 nesting gentoo penguins and only 750 nesting Adélies. The Expeditioners were energised to see so many gentoo chicks, mostly between one and three weeks old, still downy and adorable. We delighted in watching the penguins and observing their behaviours, all agreeing they are far more graceful in the water than on land.	From the shore we observed rafts of penguins trailing a feeding humpback whale, making the most of the krill it stirred up. Looking out over calm waters, colossal icebergs and glacial ice felt surreal, Antarctica revealing its raw, untamed beauty.
<b>Course:</b> Variable	<b>Air Temp:</b> 5°C	After a magical morning we re-embarked the <i>Sylvia Earle</i> for	Our Hotel team provided an excellent outdoor barbecue feast, with everyone donning a silly hat and enjoying upbeat music. To cap it all off, we sailed through the famous Lemaire Channel in perfect conditions, a fitting end to a fabulous day.
<b>Speed:</b> 5 knots			









# Hydrurga Rocks | Spert Island

DAY 9 | Monday 29 December 2025

**Latitude:**

64°21.3' S

**Longitude:**

61°51.7' W

**Course:**

43

**Speed:**

8.2 knots

**Wind Speed:**

Calm

**Barometer:**

994 hPa

**Air Temp:**

4°C

Waking up this morning, we were greeted by a haze of fog. Visibility was so poor that we felt unsure what the day might hold. After a delicious buffet breakfast, the Expeditioners were off to their first landing at Hydrurga Rocks. The fog had already begun to lift and we were surrounded by crystal-clear waters, icebergs and crisp white glaciers, the perfect place to explore.

We were privileged to walk near resting Weddell seals and a large colony of chinstrap penguins. These cheeky little penguins are such characters, continually approaching us and displaying their curious nature. Although the penguins were adorable, nothing compared to the sound of the Weddell seals singing. We spent time standing in silence, listening in wonder to their haunting and beautiful calls.

After a magical morning at Hydrurga Rocks, we re-embarked the *Sylvia Earle* for lunch before heading back out for an

afternoon Zodiac cruise to Spert Island. This place was named after Sir Thomas Spert, Controller of the King's Ships during the time of Henry VIII.

The enormity of the rock formations and sculpted icebergs was mesmerising, with arches, cliff faces, caves and tunnels. Some Expeditioners witnessed ice calving, which generated a thunderous sound like crashing glass mixed with a mortar-like explosion. These formations are the result of molten magma forced up from the Earth's crust, cooling slowly and forming strong structures later shaped by relentless Antarctic weather.

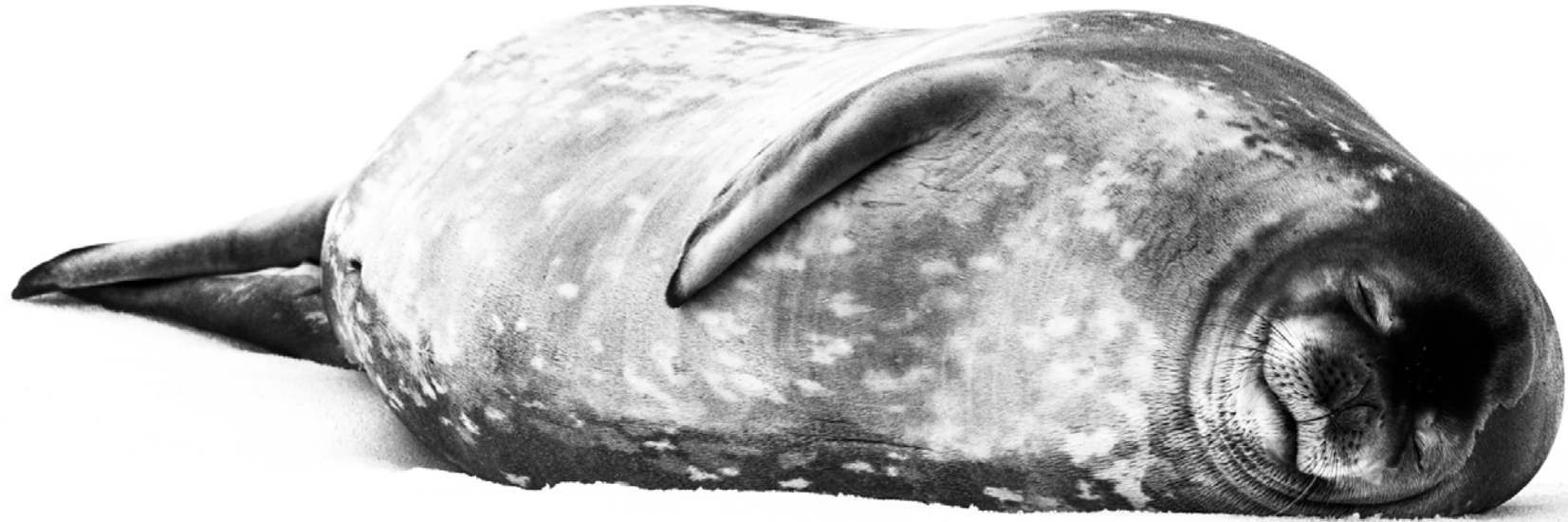
During our recap, many Wonder Box questions submitted by Expeditioners were answered by the Expedition Team, and we were treated to a fantastic history lesson about Charcot delivered by Liz.















# At Sea

DAY 10 | Tuesday 30 December 2025

**Latitude:**

62°32.3' S

**Longitude:**

62°13.0' W

**Course:**

46

**Speed:**

13.2 knots

**Wind Speed:**

40 knots NE

**Barometer:**

993 hPa

**Air Temp:**

2°C

Today aboard *Sylvia Earle* was a true sea day, a chance to slow the pace, reflect on the days behind us and turn our focus toward the next chapter of the expedition, South Georgia.

Our time on the Antarctic Peninsula delivered a string of exceptional days. Calm weather far south of the Antarctic Circle allowed for landings and time on the water among icebergs and sea ice. Penguins going about their routines, seals resting on the shore and whales surfacing nearby soon became familiar sights. These quiet, close and unforced encounters are what make Antarctica such a powerful place to experience.

Conditions improved as the day went on and we eased back into life at sea. Our onward route required flexibility. Overnight it became clear that the Bransfield Strait was blocked by dense pack ice drifting from the Weddell Sea, so the Captain made the prudent decision to divert west of the South Shetland

Islands before turning northeast toward South Georgia. Although this means a later arrival, it ensures steady progress and safe passage, a reminder that polar travel is shaped by ice, weather and sound judgement. It also feels fitting as we broadly follow Shackleton's route.

The day on board was filled with learning and shared experiences. In the morning, John presented a lecture on Southern Ocean oceanography. In the afternoon, a small group joined John and members of the Expedition Team on deck for a seabird survey, recording an impressive variety of species, including the rare blue petrel.

Later, David McEown shared Watercolour Explorations from Antarctica to the North Pole. The day concluded with our recap and briefing, followed by Daisy Gilardini's photography lecture after dinner.









# At Sea

DAY 11 | Wednesday 31 December 2025

Latitude:

59°39.3' S

Longitude:

51°50.0' W

Course:

61

Speed:

14 knots

Wind Speed:

12 knots NE

Barometer:

996 hPa

Air Temp:

3°C

The bar was alive with various flavours of chaos, a swirl of dancing, drinks and singing as the evening unfolded. 'How big is it' echoed through the lecture theatre, though it was unclear whether anyone was genuinely trying to measure anything or whether the question had simply transformed into 'how low can you go'. Big Mike reported that the game had become an annoyance, as all anyone wanted to do was dance.

Glitter appeared in staggering quantities, seemingly materialising from nowhere, giving the impression that the ship had turned into a floating disco ball. Someone ordered a 'dead beluga' shot, prompting many to wonder what on Earth was happening on this ship.

Before the festivities took over, the day had been surprisingly civilised. Morning biosecurity reminded everyone of the forgotten tissues collected over the past week. Liz then shared the

hair-raising tales of Shackleton and the Endurance party, a fitting story as the ship followed in the wake of that legendary journey.

Reports circulated of Rune crowd-surfing through the lecture theatre, though opinions varied on whether this was fact or champagne-fuelled fiction. Rune's height was estimated at anywhere between 190 and 300 centimetres, with no consensus reached.

Steve and Melissa shared insights into the brush-tailed penguins of Antarctica, while the snowshoers and paddlers held their wrap-up parties.

Later, Kevin and Chris serenaded guests in the bar as the ship bobbed like a small cork in the Southern Ocean, immersed in love, life and lunacy.

10... 9... 8... 7... 6... 5... 4... 3... 2... 1...













# At Sea towards South Georgia

DAY 12 | Thursday 1 January 2026

Latitude: 57°05.0' S	Wind Speed: 26 knots SE	<p>The morning started slowly after a lively New Year's celebration, and the brunch-style meal was warmly welcomed, with plenty of fruit enjoyed as resolutions held firm for a day. Midday brought the privilege of an escorted visit to the bridge. With hushed tones we entered the hallowed deck 7 bridge. Explanations from the ship's officer on steerage and communication systems fell on deaf ears once we learned that an earlier group had been allowed to sit in the Captain's chair.</p> <p>The calmer sea state allowed for another bird survey in the Southern Ocean, adding to the data collected.</p> <p>Pre-dinner briefing time arrived with the knowledge that a new morning would bring a new location, new penguins and a new time zone. One hour less sleep was met with mixed enthusiasm. With Plan A outlined, Cooper Bay in the morning</p>	<p>and St Andrews in the afternoon, we also learned we were entering greater concentrations of seabirds and would run the ship under a dark-ship protocol during the evenings.</p> <p>The revelation that a whale somewhere in the ocean carries the name 'Striking Viking' peeled back another layer of mystery surrounding our Expedition Leader Rune.</p> <p>After dinner, an auction of goods ranging from original paintings to a hand-crocheted woollen krill and Oceanites caps drew lively bidding. The big-ticket item, a hand-painted ship's chart, had the crowd hooting and shouting. Over \$4000 was raised for The Polar Collective and Crew Welfare.</p> <p>Finally, Mo won the raffle for the opportunity to name Grant's whale in the Happywhale catalogue.</p>
Longitude: 44°52.1' W	Barometer: 989 hPa		
Course: 64	Air Temp: 3°C		
Speed: 14.5 knots			

# Coopers Bay | St Andrews Bay

DAY 13 | Friday 2 January 2026

**Latitude:**  
57°57.9' S

**Longitude:**  
36°02.5' W

**Course:**  
53

**Speed:**  
10 knots

**Wind Speed:**  
26 knots SW

**Barometer:**  
983 hPa

**Air Temp:**  
3°C

What a way to start the new year. Our first day in South Georgia had Cooper Bay and St Andrews Bay on the programme. We began on Plan A, which quickly became Plan B when we could not land at Cooper Bay. But we headed out in the Zodiacs and saw four penguin species, macaroni, gentoo, chinstrap and king penguins, along with beautiful rock formations and high sea stacks.

Back on board we enjoyed a lovely lunch as always. Soon we heard Rune on the bing-bong: whales at one o'clock from the ship. All of us stormed out on deck and holy moly, I have no words. Some people were in tears. Amazing.

At 1400 all guests were invited to the Lecture Theatre for the daily recap and briefings, where Rune outlined tomorrow's plans for Grytviken. Kevin enlightened us about South Georgia's geology, and John spoke about penguins in general.

Who would have known that the king penguin is one of the least faithful to its mate. The recap ended with answers to a few Wonder Box questions.

The afternoon outing was at St Andrews Bay, home to one of the largest king penguin colonies on the planet. The climb to the high viewpoint came with challenges, including two stream crossings, but nothing stopped us.

To stand before 200,000 pairs of king penguins is to witness a scale words rarely capture. Adults glided past with calm authority while fluffy brown chicks huddled together like a patchwork carpet.

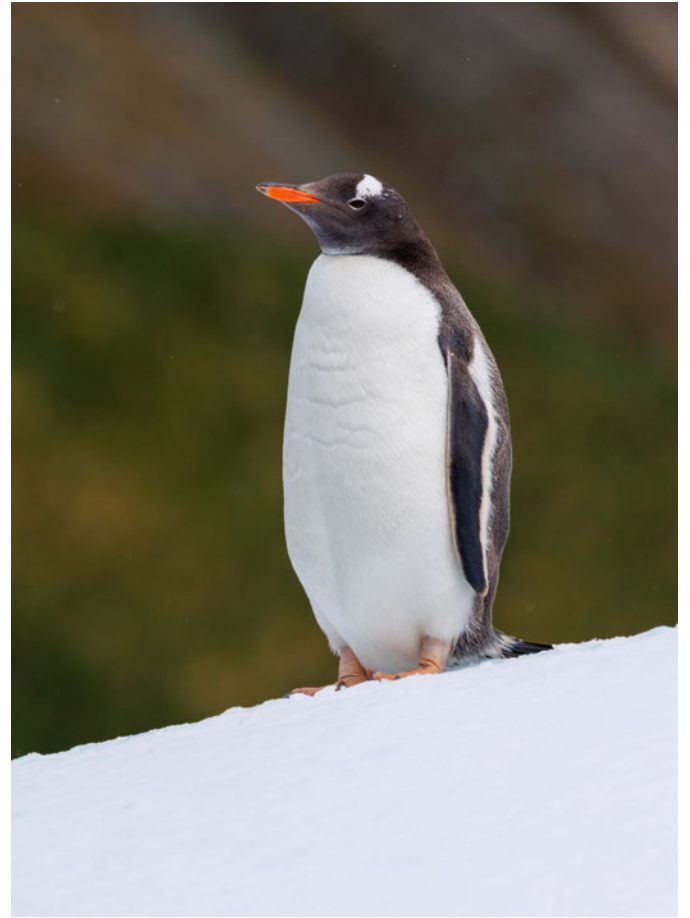
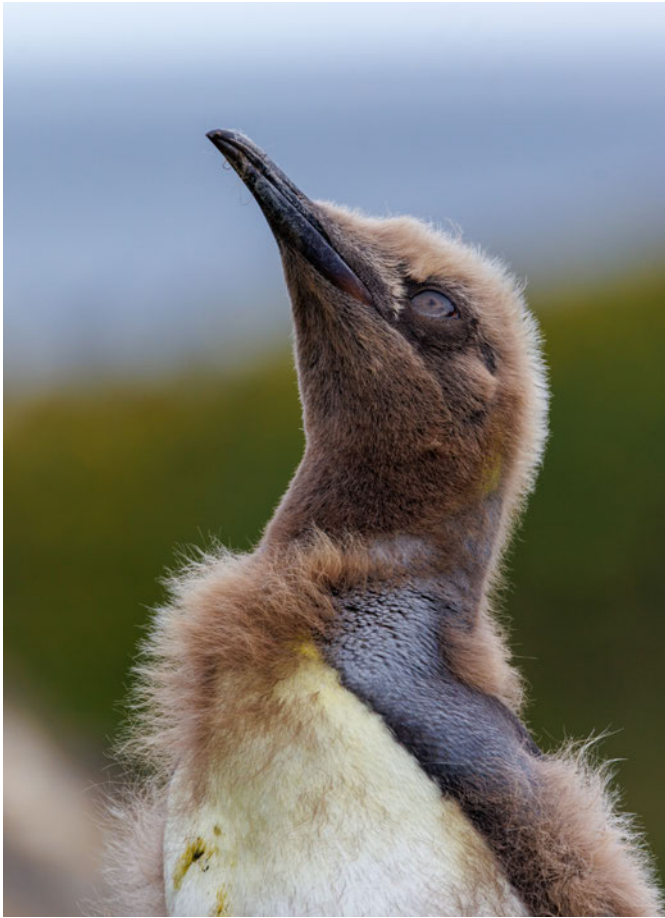
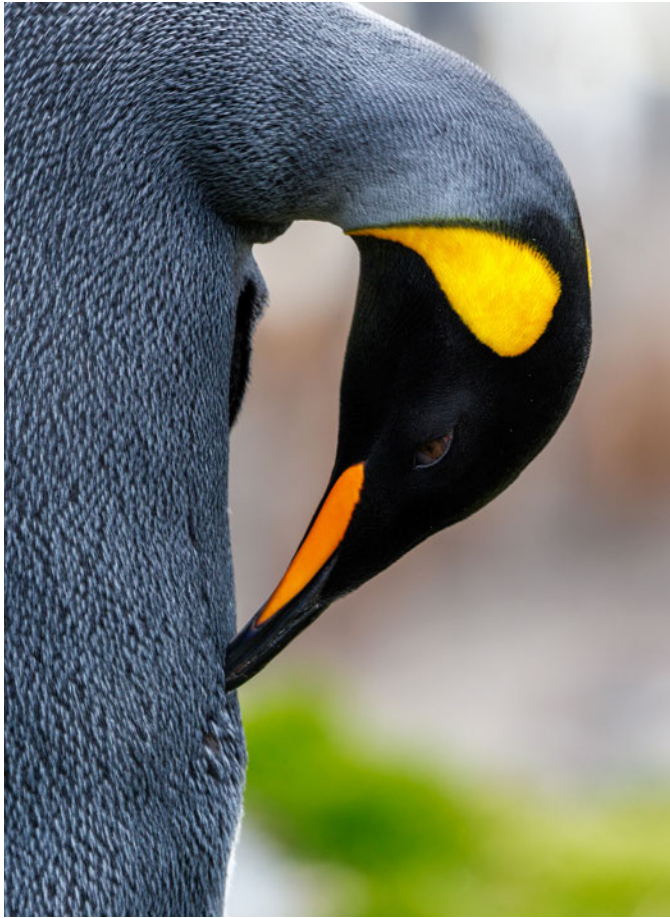
Back on board, dinner was served by our excellent Hotel Department. The day ended with some of us admiring a beautiful orange moon.

















# Grytviken | Godthul

DAY 14 | Saturday 3 January 2026

**Latitude:**  
54°19.9' S

**Longitude:**  
36°26.9' W

**Course:**  
180

**Speed:**  
2.5 knots

**Wind Speed:**  
3 knots S

**Barometer:**  
988 hPa

**Air Temp:**  
5°C

Anticipation built as we awaited the South Georgia inspector to assess our biosecurity. After days of picking, scrubbing and vacuuming every stray speck, we passed with flying colours, earning 100% success.

We boarded our Zodiacs and sped toward Grytviken, the former whaling station and resting place of Ernest Shackleton. The rusted tanks, vessels and machinery gave way to abundant wildlife. The skeletons of Grytviken's past were being reclaimed by their rightful settlers, the penguins and seals.

Some of us headed straight to the cemetery to raise a toast to the Boss and his right-hand man, Frank Wild. Others explored the once-busy whaling station, joining the guided tour, visiting the museum and sending postcards from the post office.

The afternoon brought us to Godthul, a beautiful cove where South Georgia once again proved that seasons are not bound to a month but to an hour of the day. With the weather changing dramatically, we moved to Plan C, Zodiac exploration for most, with snorkellers experiencing the 'seal soup' up close and kayakers enjoying the surface perspective of playful wildlife in a sporty sea state.

Back on the ship we gathered for recap to hear about Grytviken's history, its hidden heroes and heroines, and the remarkable diving abilities of elephant seals that made our snorkel team blush. The evening ended with a moving performance from Kevin and Flor, leaving us wondering how many hidden talents a single Expedition Team can hold.













# Fortuna Bay | Stromness | Salisbury Plain

DAY 15 | Sunday 4 January 2026

**Latitude:**

54°03.6' S

**Longitude:**

36°47.4' W

**Course:**

182

**Speed:**

5.2 knots

**Wind Speed:**

10 knots E

**Barometer:**

993 hPa

**Air Temp:**

6°C

Calm skies greeted us at Fortuna Bay. After an early breakfast and a short Zodiac ride, we set off on the Shackleton Walk, tracing the final leg of Shackleton, Worsley and Crean's route to Stromness. Whilst some of us hiked, the ship picked up anchor to reposition to Stromness, delivering fantastic views along the way. For the hikers, fog threatened but never arrived, providing clear views and stunning vistas of the rugged coastline and foreboding interior of South Georgia. The kayakers attempted the same route as the ship, but conditions were not in their favour. At Stromness, those who had stayed on the ship came ashore for a brisk walk to the waterfall Shackleton's team descended a century ago. Fur seals patrolled the beach but kindly cleared a path for us.

After lunch, we enjoyed a recap in the lecture theatre. Rune outlined the plan for departing South Georgia, Hans shared his love for tussock grass and the wildlife that make use of it, and

John finished with a fascinating talk about copepods.

By 1600 we reached Salisbury Plain, where beaches teemed with wildlife, a little too much as it turned out, preventing us from landing. Instead, we cruised in the Zodiacs along the beach to watch thousands of king penguins living in relative harmony with fur and elephant seals.

The snorkellers found a sheltered cove at Tern Island for a final dip, greeted by curious fur seals darting close around them. Great petrels bobbed nearby on the surface. The kayakers cruised along the beaches and around Tern Island, enjoying the kelp beds and the bustle of life on shore.

Dinner offered final views of Salisbury Plain as the ship turned toward the Falkland Islands. South Georgia's raw energy will stay with us, dramatic landscapes, abundant life and, thankfully this time, forgiving weather. An unforgettable place.

















# At Sea

DAY 16 | Monday 5 January 2026

**Latitude:**  
53°15.1' S

**Longitude:**  
39°58.9' W

**Course:**  
297

**Speed:**  
9.5 knots

**Wind Speed:**  
33 knots NW

**Barometer:**  
987 hPa

**Air Temp:**  
6°C

## As told by an albatross.

I caught the draft of the *Sylvia Earle* in the early hours of the morning. As I glided past, I took note of the red-headed, blue, penguin-like creatures as they marvelled at the largest block of ice I had ever passed, A23A.

It was not the first time I had navigated these waters, nor will it be the last. But today, in my pursuit of food and wind, I decided to accompany the vessel. I dodged the blows of whales surfacing below, while broken bergy bits and shattered ice became entertaining platforms for penguins and fur seals.

Never will I fail to be in awe of the distances those little fellas swim. I wonder if they ever appreciate the ability to fly, or if they watch me glide and reflect on the reverse.

I suspected the ship was bound for the rise of rock that juts some seventy metres out of the sea. I have heard it called Shag Rocks, and how lovely it would be to shake wings with long-lost

wanderers. Perhaps curiosity would keep me company long enough to meet a few feathered friends along the way.

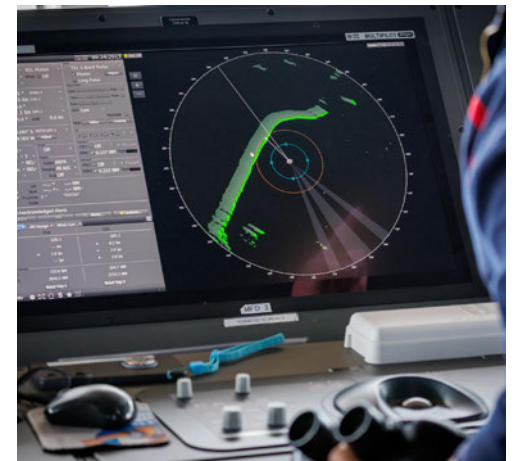
As the day unfolded, I became acquainted with prions, grey-headed and black-browed cousins who joined me in the sky, while fin whales and humpbacks broke the surface. Peering through the ship's windows, I observed the creatures inside drawing familiar penguins, led by one named David.

As the rocks drew closer, the number of shags increased. We gliders were eased by the exhausting wingbeats of the water birds striving to keep pace. The red-headed blue penguins burst from the sea again, chirping with delight as Shag Rocks glowed in teasing sun and wild seas.

Passing the windows once more, I noticed two creatures deep in discussion about the history of whaling. And when I finally chose to glide elsewhere, I was serenaded by the songs of one known as Kevin.









# At Sea

DAY 17 | Tuesday 6 January 2026

<b>Latitude:</b> 53°09.4' S	<b>Wind Speed:</b> 26 knots SW	<p>We woke to albatrosses gliding under layered grey clouds, light rain briefly catching the sun and shimmering across the sea. As the clouds lifted, the morning brightened and we rode the rolling waves toward the Falkland Islands. After a delicious breakfast, we gathered in the lecture theatre for Rune's introduction to the Falkland Islands. This was followed by a biosecurity check, ensuring we arrive as respectful visitors, leaving nothing behind but footprints.</p> <p>Katia and Hans guided us through uploading our whale-ID photographs to Happywhale, transforming fleeting encounters into valuable data within a global research framework.</p> <p>As we savoured our lunch buffet, the ocean settled and the sky softened into a gentle tapestry of greys. Next up was Liz, sharing the eventful history of the Falkland Islands, stories of resilience, conflict and connection shaped by this remote</p>	<p>corner of the South Atlantic. Daisy then treated us to more of her stunning photography, sharing technical recommendations and the stories behind her images, followed by a slideshow from her previous journeys to the Falklands.</p> <p>During recap, Rune outlined the plans ahead and we explored the islands' extraordinary wildlife and geology. Melissa introduced the penguins, expanding on the charismatic southern rockhopper and Magellanic penguins, while Kevin unpacked the islands' geological story. Anula and Erin brought our remarkable time in South Georgia to a close.</p> <p>The day concluded with Lydia, who shared her awe-inspiring climbing adventures, including summiting Mount Everest multiple times, leaving us humbled and inspired.</p> <p>A day at sea wrapped in beauty and wonder, with stories that linger long after the sun slips below the horizon.</p>
<b>Longitude:</b> 46°20.3' W	<b>Barometer:</b> 985 hPa		
<b>Course:</b> 273	<b>Air Temp:</b> 6°C		
<b>Speed:</b> 8.7 knots			



# At Sea towards Falkland Islands

DAY 18 | Wednesday 7 January 2026

Latitude: 52°20.6' S	Wind Speed: 28 knots SSE	We awoke to squalls causing rolling and pitching seas up to 3.5 metres and occasionally higher. A good morning to sleep in, even more so because our clocks shifted back one hour to UTC-3, effectively a 25-hour day, always welcome.	Hans's lecture on 'seal-iness' explored unusual seal behaviour, including mummified seals in the Antarctic Dry Valleys and how effective elephant seals are at mapping deep canyons.
Longitude: 52°52.8' W	Barometer: 997 hPa	John highlighted how overlooked Falkland Islands wildlife can be. The birdlife is remarkably rich, with more than 220 species and huge colonies of black browed albatrosses. We also learned about the striated caracara and the five penguin species we hope to see. True to form, John added quirky details, including a beachmaster with a harem of 160 females, and he shared excellent bird photos that demonstrated the rule of thirds.	Mike presented on the adventures of doing science in remote inland Antarctica, based on multiple seasons working with geologists, glaciologists and geophysicists. Topics included Thwaites Glacier, the West Antarctic Rift System, glossopteris fossils and a wild storm.
Course: 274	Air Temp: 3°C	Katia and Erin facilitated a discussion on how we can keep the magic of this voyage alive when we return home, ensuring Antarctica and South Georgia remain pristine wildernesses.	Congratulations to today's photo competition winners, whose wildlife images were truly outstanding.
Speed: 9 knots			After dinner, Katia hosted 'Humans of <i>Sylvia Earle</i> ', where several people shared personal stories of career, adventure and life.



# Gypsy Cove | Stanley

DAY 19 | Thursday 8 January 2026

**Latitude:**  
51°39.9' S

**Longitude:**  
57°41.7' W

**Course:**  
Variable  
**Speed:**  
7.4 knots

**Wind Speed:**  
41 knots SW

**Barometer:**  
1007 hPa

**Air Temp:**  
8°C

After three days on a dark sea dotted with albatross gliding their own invisible paths, we reached the Isla Malvinas, the Falklands. This morning the Captain moved the ship through the Narrows into Stanley Harbour, where he set us on anchor and DP while we visited Gypsy Cove and later explored the big smoke of Stanley.

We were eager to stretch our legs despite a gloomy forecast and a dour morning sky. It stayed dry and pleasantly warm. As we disembarked, we were reminded to take our Orca ID cards by the one person who had forgotten hers. It has to happen once.

Buses took most of us to Gypsy Cove to walk the trails around the rocky headland, the rocks like giant shards piercing the landscape. Some caught close sight of Magellanic penguins, others focused on the plants, many admiring the low bush with

red berries known as diddle-dee (*Empetrum rubrum*). Many of the plants were the same as in New Zealand.

Several guests and Expedition Team members went for runs, up to 18 kilometres, and others walked all the way back to the township. Our visit in Stanley could have been illustrated by fast-forwarded footage of blue and red AEX jackets criss-crossing the main street, looping side streets, visiting every wool shop in town. I believe 99% of us had fish and chips, and quite a few took some for the team at an extended session at Stanley Beerworks.

Lastly, Stanley residents showed remarkable hospitality. Three of us were given rides by locals and two had items bought for them when cash was required. A big hug to the residents of Stanley for their generosity to strangers.

● Position at 0600





# Saunders Island | West Point

DAY 20 | Friday 9 January 2026

**Latitude:**  
51°10.3' S

**Longitude:**  
60°06.8' W

**Course:**  
232

**Speed:**  
9.2 knots

**Wind Speed:**  
1 knot SW

**Barometer:**  
1007 hPa

**Air Temp:**  
8°C

Calm seas greeted us as we sailed around Elephant Point toward our morning destination on Saunders Island. The mist burned off over breakfast and by the time we headed out in the Zodiacs the seas were glassy and the skies clear.

Flightless steamer ducks hurried aside as we landed on the sand and walked across the Neck. King and gentoo penguins mingled with grazing sheep, while skuas and striated caracaras searched for unattended chicks. Kayakers had perfect conditions and snorkellers stayed in for a record one and a half hours.

At 1215 we raised anchor and headed to West Point Island. The fog returned and our Zodiac drivers navigated by GPS to find the landing site. As we approached the farm the fog lifted to reveal rolling hills covered with gorse and even a few trees.

After a warm welcome from the caretakers, we crossed the hills to the black browed albatross colony. Strong winds sent hundreds of albatrosses into the air, and we pushed through tall tussock grass to reach the nests, where adults preened and tended their chicks. Rockhopper penguins called noisily nearby. After walking back to the farm, or catching a ride in our host's Land Rover, we were treated to a sumptuous tea with cakes and biscuits in a lovely garden setting.

After dinner we joined Florencia in the bar for lindy hop lessons, quickly mastering the 'quick-quick-slow-slow' pattern to the strains of Elvis and Bill Haley. The sun sank in a blaze of colour as we headed west, flocks of albatrosses following in our wake as whales joined us for the start of the last leg of our journey.













# At Sea towards Ushuaia

DAY 21 | Saturday 10 January 2026

<b>Latitude:</b> 53°01.4' S	<b>Wind Speed:</b> 5 knots NW	<p>We woke to soft skies and calm seas on our way from the Falkland Islands to Ushuaia. Our last day on board was a delightful mixture of workshops and packing, with many seabirds, whales and dolphins appearing from time to time. It is hard to believe these three weeks have passed so quickly; what an adventure we have had together. And finally, a calm crossing.</p> <p>Land came into sight in the afternoon, with Tierra del Fuego shimmering on the horizon. Anyone who stepped out on deck would have seen familiar faces, including petrels and albatrosses, along with whale and dolphin blows. Kevin taught us about the mystery of longitude and how to use a sextant before helping us practise our knot-tying skills; some of us were more naturally gifted than others. Kayakers and snorkellers said their final goodbyes, and some of us fine-tuned our artistic skills with David one last time.</p>	<p>The Captain's Farewell was filled with funny stories and memories of our journey south, from Rune's mastery of PowerPoint arrows to updates about the Captain's cat. The citizen science recap was inspiring, a reminder of how special it is to visit these wild places and contribute to research. Kevin's whale song recording transported us back to days surrounded by humpbacks, and many of us were tempted to drop some coin on naming one. Grant's slideshow carried us from the ice and snow of the Antarctic Peninsula to the crowded beaches of South Georgia, brimming with feisty fur seals and adorable penguins, including that unforgettable near-miss with an albatross.</p> <p>As we sign off, it is bittersweet to wrap up the adventure of a lifetime. Now is the time to reflect on all we witnessed together. See you again one day.</p>
<b>Longitude:</b> 63°00.5' W	<b>Barometer:</b> 1070 hPa		
<b>Course:</b> 214	<b>Air Temp:</b> 9°C		
<b>Speed:</b> 12.8 knots			



# Ushuaia

DAY 22 | Sunday 11 January 2026

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Latitude:

54°52.8' S

Longitude:

67°53.5' W

Course:

279

Speed:

12.7 knots

Wind Speed:

28 knots SW

Barometer:

997 hPa

Air Temp:

11°C

Aurora Expeditions send out a big thank you to you all for your great humour, infectious enthusiasm and smiling faces. It was a pleasure having you all on board and being able to share some of the pleasures that the icy south has to offer. May your memories live long and bright.

We have travelled 3982 nautical miles together



# BBQ

















# Polar Plunge





















# Citizen Science











# Kayaking Log

Guides: Tim Vanhoutteghem, Anula Jochym, Vanja Davidsen, Reg Grundy, Erin Scott

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## 24 December, PM: Red Rock Ridge – 1.8 km

The day had finally arrived. Safety briefings and test fitting drysuits done, it was time to go kayaking. Our guides for the day were Vanja, Anula and Reg, and the weather offered twenty to twenty five knot winds. Anula and Reg departed in the safety Zodiac to scout a kayaking zone while Vanja talked us through one last capsizing briefing. They returned with a Good To Go call.

Kayaks were dispatched from the kayak garage for collection later. Dressed in our layers, drysuit and life jacket, we headed through the side gate and onto the Zodiac for the first time. With the kayak secured to the rear, we took off in the shelter of a low lying island.

Mounting our kayak direct from the Zodiac, we held position in the wind until the group was settled, then turned and headed downwind. A couple of Weddell seals were on route to the Adélie penguin colony.

Drifting, paddling and looking, we were captivated by the hundreds of penguins shuffling with rocks in their beaks as they made their nests.

Support Zodiac called, loaded us in for return to the vessel and a quick change into shore visit gear.

## 25 December, AM: Bongrain Point – 5.2 km

Initially the conditions looked a little touch and go, but as we headed out from Bongrain Point, the weather improved and the sun shone brightly on us. We had our first experience of paddling around truly big ice, and we weaved amongst enormous icebergs, marvelling at their sculptural forms and glistening surfaces. There was even a razor thin arch that seemingly defied gravity. We made good distance and enjoyed following the majestic glacier face along the length of our time on the water.





Number of Kayakers: 10  
Total Paddle Outings: 16  
Total Distance Paddled: 68.3 km

Kayakers:  
Tammay Nguyen  
Richard Price  
Steven Barnes  
Andrew Durran  
Julie-Anne Lacko  
Wayne Armour

Kathryn Armour  
Laura Boenish  
Jasmin Franceschini  
Daniel Kilian

### 25 December, PM: Horseshoe Island – 2.3 km

Fresh conditions with eighteen knots of wind and gusts set the tone for a classic downwinder at Horseshoe Island, south of the Antarctic Circle. We launched into the breeze and let it carry us past the ship and a line of sculpted icebergs, timing runs between gusts and swell. The coast funnelled us neatly into a sheltered bay at the landing site, where the water calmed and the mood shifted. Kayaks were landed onto the rocks, followed by time ashore stretching legs, exploring the landing area and taking in the stark Antarctic landscape.

### 26 December, AM: The Gullet – 5.6 km

We kicked this day off with a spectacular morning cruise through the Gullet, replete with enormous icebergs and whales. Once we arrived on the north side of this passage, we launched Zodiacs and towed the kayaks through sea ice, our first glimpse of this amazing

phenomenon. We towed upwind to allow for a cruisy downwind paddle, dodging ice all along the way. We encountered a few crabeater seals sunning themselves on the ice, as well as some Adélie penguins. Then we landed on an ice floe. We paddled our kayaks at top speed onto the ice and enjoyed a private little ice landing all to ourselves. It was a magical morning in the sun.

### 27 December, AM: Rabot Island – 5.5 km

With the idea of a ship reposition and a downwind paddle along the island's coastline, we hastily took off from *Sylvia Earle* with kayaks in tow. Wait, what, whales. And whales they did. After a quick committee meeting with the other kayakers, whale watching took over from kayaking. Watching them feed repeatedly did not get old. We suspect a juvenile breaking away from the group to check us out more closely gave us quite a show, and some even a bit of a fright next to the Zodiac.

All good things come to an end, and with the decision to go kayaking agreed, over to the island we went. Loading in behind the shelter of a small islet, our downwind journey started. With the end of the island coming into sight, we could not help but poke our nose around just to see what was there. Beautiful rock skerries and crystal clear waters. A very fulfilling morning.

### 27 December, PM: Fish Islands – 4.1 km

We had unbelievable weather for this magical paddle amongst the Fish Islands and around Prospect Point. The sun shone and a bluebird sky stretched overhead, while the ice sparkled around us in the water. We started our outing by paddling through brash ice, listening to the loud cracks and pops it made around us. Tim took our picture in front of a tremendous blue iceberg, and then our groups split up to go exploring. We navigated through an iceberg graveyard and investigated

the little islets that constitute the Fish Islands, admiring Adélies with their chicks and shags carrying seaweed in their beaks. We saw a number of large rolling icebergs and ended up staying out for the most part to make the most of this spectacular afternoon.

### 28 December, AM: Petermann Island – 8.2 km

Beautiful, beautiful sunny day, flat calm glassy water. We started kayaking at the ship and headed north. Our plan was to check out the other landing site on the northeast side of the island, and perhaps the west side of the island. We were in penguin heaven, they were everywhere. Amazing to see them playing around our boats and jumping in and out of the water. When we had our fill of penguins, we went exploring. There was a bit of swell on the west side, nothing we could not handle. We saw all three brushtail penguins. When we reached the southern part of the island, it turned out to be blocked by





a wall of huge icebergs. We tried our luck in between the next two islands, same deal. Third time the same thing, all blocked by ice. The fourth time we finally managed to find an opening. We ended up circumnavigating Petermann Island and all the smaller islands to the southwest. Back in penguin heaven and glassy calm water, we headed for the landing site in search of the PPs before we headed back to the ship.

### 28 December, PM: Port Charcot – 3.5 km

We got into our kayaks in the only reasonable place, an opening among the impressive grounded icebergs of one of the most famous ice graveyards, Port Charcot. The clearing gave us enough space to get our bearings, the chain of islands barely visible among the stranded ice. As the ship was no longer visible from our perspective, we could truly feel it was just us in this surreal landscape. We weaved our way through to the

next island in hopes of finding an opening through the channel to the other side. To no surprise, the low tide and the bergy bits were blocking the way. As we continued on, some of us shared the same fate as the ice, getting the kayaks stuck on the shallows. Thanks to a bit of technical manoeuvring, no one became a permanent feature of this incredible place. The biggest highlight of the outing was no doubt the presence of two humpback whales, a mother and a calf that circled around us for a good chunk of time, leaving us speechless. We finished in the narrow channels, finding our way through the rocky outcrops, surrounded by Antarctic terns flying low above our heads. Another great day in Antarctica.

### 29 December, AM: Hydrurga Rocks – 3.9 km

The morning started with a thick fog bank that obscured our location, but right as we got onto the water the



fog lifted and visibility improved. We launched our kayaks next to a small channel, which we started off exploring, being regaled by the squawks of chinstrap penguins and looking at fluffy black shag chicks. We took lots of pictures as we meandered around the rocky outcroppings of this island group, enjoying watching Weddell seals, all sorts of penguins, a juvenile elephant seal and a humpback whale who nearly bowled us over. We got to enjoy the eye level scenery of these bustling rocks before heading to the landing site to see it from a different perspective.

### 2 January, AM: Cooper Bay – 3.8 km

Our first outing in South Georgia. We piled into our Zodiac, and on the drive to our launch spot alone, we experienced a full spectrum of weather, sun, then snow, then sun again. We embarked our kayaks to the sound of screaming fur seals in

the tussocked hills behind us, an oddly haunting and amusing sound all at once. There was a tremendous amount of biodiversity on our paddle today. We saw four penguin species (and our first macaronis), giant petrels, shags, snowy sheathbills, South Georgia pipits and pintails, Antarctic terns, fur seals (including one blonde leucistic seal) and elephant seals. The cacophony of wildlife overwhelmed our senses, and we floated along the shoreline in various coves, taking in the action on land and in the sea. As we reached the northern point of our paddle, we snuck through a narrow channel and went to visit the macaroni colony. An incredible first outing in a wild new place.

### 2 January, PM: St Andrew's Bay – 3.0 km

A lively paddle in St Andrew's Bay with fourteen knots of wind on the beam. We tracked southeast to





northwest, hugging the shoreline and staying just outside the surf zone, letting the swell roll beneath us. Landing was not an option, the beach was utterly taken over. King penguins by the thousands, fur seals and their pups scattered everywhere, and massive elephant seals hauled out in dense clusters. Eyes everywhere, sounds nonstop, movement in every direction. We remained afloat, weaving through the spectacle from the water, absorbing a full sensory overload of South Georgia at its wildest.

### 3 January, PM: Godthul – 4.5 km

A sporty paddle was what we were hoping for, and the scouting reports from the Expedition Team confirmed exciting, choppy conditions. We started slow in the protection of the bay, warming up with technical strokes and a quick refresher on sea kayak rescue. Momentum built as we continued along the coast. Some stayed clear of the

rocks, but we opted to get closer, the swell lifting us up and down the cliffs with pure joy and excitement.

Eager for more, we paddled into the more exposed section of the bay, where extra wind and wave action brought bigger smiles and the occasional white knuckles effect. We rounded the headland, negotiating distances between each other, the icebergs and the now stormy coastline. Safe zones gave us a chance to pause and talk about the movement of the water. Rebound wave and clapotis were no longer mysterious terms, as we were sitting right in the middle of it.

On the other side, we glided with the following wave into a pocket of peace. The glassy water moved with energy through the kelp forests, and so did we. The cherry on top was a visit to a cave filled with otherworldly sounds, followed by a short rock hopping session before we jumped back on the Zodiac.



### 4 January, AM: Fortuna Bay – Stromness – 6.8 km

With a briefing framed that this would be an adventure. The unexpected. The not sure. The plan to make our way from Fortuna Bay to Stromness. Our ship, the *Sylvia Earle*, would be repositioning, so reaching Stromness was a high priority. A short Zodiac shuttle took us up the rocky beach at the bay entrance for fantastic viewing of king penguins, fur seals and elephant seal weaners. Another shuttle over the mouth of the bay put us back on the water behind a big grounded iceberg for protection from the choppy waves. Around the bay and over to a little cave with macaroni penguins. It was time to turn our kayaks and head to the outside coast. The wind and waves increased with more exposure as we battled the non forecast headwind. Into another bay for a huge macaroni colony before time got the better of us and we needed to Zodiac the final kilometres to the ship. Cold set in, towed kayaks overturned. Waves bounced and jostled us.

### 4 January, PM: Salisbury Plain – 4.8 km

This paddle began as a small group planning to go before landing, but the beach was too packed with wildlife, so at the last minute Tim and Erin gathered the remaining paddlers for separate adventures. Each group started by going around an island and heading for the beach. There were some waves at first, but we tucked into the kelp beds where the water was glassy calm. We passed towering cliffs of tussac grass, home to gulls and fur seals calling out as we paddled by. A gentle swell made the kelp slither around the rocks. We crossed to the Salisbury Plain beachfront, replete with penguins, seals and seabirds. The wind died down perfectly, and we floated with the current, marvelling at the wildlife and their loud dramas. We met a bit of surf, and one of us took a spicy ride with panache. Giant petrels and fur seals mobbed us in the water, curious about our kayaks and approaching boldly.





### 9 January, AM: Saunders Island – 2.2 km

With an amazing, diverse landing planned this morning with wildlife galore, a shorter, easier kayak was planned for this morning. A gentle float along the cliff line, downwind if any. Amongst the giant kelp. Dodging the shag nests above as they did their best with guano bombs.

A brief kayak school convened for a brush up on draw strokes and edging of the kayak, which would prove useful for the afternoon's excursion. Just as we were wrapping up and one last shag bomb was avoided, a casual humpback whale cruised past, bringing closure to a very enjoyable, relaxed feel kayak session. Now onto the wildlife bonanza landing.

### 9 January, PM: West Point – 3.1 km

With another split kayak option of landing or kayaking, much was promised by our guides. Whispers about caves to kayak into spread

through the group. Extra time had been bargained for from our Expedition Leader, Rune, to fit in the kayaking and the landing. A brief Zodiac shuttle in the opposite direction from the main group heading to shore led us to a coastline dotted with caves, seals, nesting albatross, Commerson's dolphins and our new friends the shags. The stories of caves to kayak into did not disappoint. With enough room to fit all of us kayakers ten times over, the scale was immense. Four caves held such wonder, size, atmosphere and acoustics that it was hard to leave, but Tim had told us about a huge pod of dolphins just out of reach of our kayaks. Into our trusty Zodiac for one last kayak shuttle, and the huge pod of Commerson's dolphins held up their side of the promise, bow riding and playing around our boat. Over to the landing site for albatross, cake and a different perspective of our last day in the Falkland Islands.















# Paddling Log

Guides: Tim Vanhoutteghem, Anula Jochym, Vanja Davidsen, Reg Grundy, Erin Scott

## 25 December, AM: Bongrain Point – 4.0 km

Our first paddle. What a pleasure to finally shift from the ship to our much smaller crafts. We hopped into our kayaks, reviewed paddle strokes, made ourselves comfortable and set off to explore what Bongrain Point had to offer. The sunshine was very welcoming and we progressed through and between numerous icebergs that stretched as far as the horizon. Tucked into a corner of a small cove there it was, our private Adélie colony with little chicks popping their heads from underneath their parents' thick feathers. Just across from the small rookery we spotted one of the many flattened icebergs, this one though had a few locals quite obviously taking a nap, four Weddell seals soon to be joined by a fifth, bringing only temporary disruption to the peaceful rest. We continued to paddle, admiring the otherworldly icy shapes and forms for as long as time allowed us. What a great first outing.

## 26 December, AM: The Gullet – 1.3 km

We had a bit of wind coming from the northwest. Not much, just enough to want to avoid paddling against it. So we towed our boats upwind and paddled back towards the ship. It was a short paddle for only thirty minutes, cruising in between the beautiful ice. We were in for a surprise, because Tim in our safety boat was searching for a suitable sea ice floe for us to land on. And sure enough he found one. Reg and Tim were ready on the ice to greet us and help us out of our boats. Incredibly special morning. When the time came to go back to the ship, Rune announced that they needed a few guides in drysuits on another bigger ice floe for the rest of our passengers. We distributed our paddlers into Zodiacs with the normal people, and they were so lucky to have their second ice landing this morning.





Number of Paddlers: 8  
Total Paddle Outings: 7  
Total Distance Paddled: 25.2 km

Paddlers:  
Sandra Nicholson  
Colin Reid  
Rosemary Carawan  
Mark Carawan  
Carole Pinhey  
Adam Pinhey

Lisa Gihring  
Rebecca Mason

### 27 December, AM: Rabot Island – 4.8 km

We started our paddle off by towing towards Rabot Island. There was a bit of wind and sea state to contend with, but the conditions progressively improved. It was not very long after we launched that a humpback whale approached us, passing reasonably close by. We then noticed the kayak group on the other side of the channel with some other whales, and went to investigate. Sure enough, around five or six whales were feeding and being very acrobatic with their flukes. They approached us very closely and we had to make a raft to ensure we stayed out of their way. After an amazing encounter, we carried on and ran into, of course, more whales. What a surreal morning with these majestic creatures.

### 27 December, PM: Fish Islands – 3.0 km

It became very apparent that the further we went, the icebergs were becoming bigger and bigger. Fish Islands delivered

an incredible iceberg graveyard, a labyrinth of incredible shapes and sizes. The abundance of wildlife did not disappoint, countless rafts of penguins constantly porpoising around us; every second bergy bit with at least one Adélie claiming it as its own. Every time we paddled by one we were carefully inspected by the white ringed eye. As we carefully weaved between the frozen giants, we finally managed to find a way to break through the ever moving wall of glacial ice. The crystal clear water in the shallows around the islands allowed us to witness the beauty of these birds, some on shore posted on their nests, others flying through the water right beneath us.

### 28 December, AM: Petermann Island – 3.7 km

A calm, sunny morning at Petermann Island with glassy water and soft light. We paddled around the landing site before heading south along the coastline, weaving through grounded icebergs.

Wildlife encounters came easily, Weddell and crabeater seals resting on ice, and a leopard seal hauled out, watching over the scene. We returned to the ship in complete calm, a quiet, zen paddle, stopping for photos of the ship's bow before disembarking via the marina.

### 28 December, PM: Port Charcot – 3.2 km

The sun shone brightly and the seas were calm. Once we found a suitable place to start, and we reviewed some ice safety measures together, we hit the water and began a beautiful, serene paddle. Sure enough though, almost immediately after starting paddling, we encountered some whales. First, we saw an elusive minke whale, which surfaced just once before disappearing. But shortly thereafter, a mother and calf humpback surfaced, fluking together and feeding, incredible. We watched them for a long time and meandered along the rocks, admiring ice and being serenaded by the breath of whales all along the way, prior to heading to the landing site to see the penguins.

### 29 December, AM: Hydrurga Rocks – 5.2 km

Our very last paddle. Of course everyone participated. The option was to start paddling and land after an hour or so. We had so much fun that we all chose to skip the landing and stay on the water as long as we were allowed to. We started in a small bay and enjoyed the blue eyed shag colony there. It was funny to see them swallow a whole head whilst feeding the chicks. A seal came to say hi in the bay. We saw all three brushtail penguin species (a lot of chinstrap penguins, two or three gentoo and five Adélie). A few humpback whales were feeding on the west side of the island, one of them came pretty close to us. Approaching the end of our paddle, we decided to circumnavigate the whole island and paddle back to the ship. A little challenging for some, but we all made it safely back to the ship with big smiles and red cheeks.













# Snorkelling Log

Guides: Richard Devanney, Birgitta Mueck, Katia Benini

## 27 December 2025, AM: Rabot Island

Gathering many layers underneath our drysuits, we anticipated a chilly morning of exploration. This was a location new to the whole Expedition Team. We were ecstatic to see clarity beneath the Zodiacs. As there was no landing, we cruised around the coast towards the northwest of Rabot Island, spotting our very first chinstrap penguins and what seemed like a distant flicker of a humpback whale tail. We entered a windless, glassy channel and were surrounded by bubble netting humpbacks. Their astonishing size and amplified breaths gave us goosebumps as they swam directly towards our small boats, cruising underneath us in their pursuit of krill.

The visibility and conditions were far too perfect to miss an opportunity to get in the water, so we donned our hoods, gloves and masks and ventured into some brash ice. A gentle swell imitated

the ocean breathing, and we could hear cracks and pops of the shards and chunks of crystallised water. Our last moments snorkelling involved our floating home, *Sylvia Earle*, cruising into the channel next to where we were snorkelling, welcoming us into the warmth after a phenomenal morning.

## 27 December 2025, PM: Prospect Point

The sun smiled at us as we headed out in the Zodiacs. There was no wind at all, and majestic icebergs were perfectly reflected in the glassy, calm water. After a brief landing at Prospect Point, we continued with a scenic Zodiac ride toward the Adélie penguin colony, where we also intended to snorkel. Eagerly, we geared up and entered the clear water from the Zodiacs. With a little patience, Adélie penguins soon appeared, gliding past us underwater. Even a lone gentoo penguin made a surprise appearance. What an extraordinary afternoon.





Number of Snorkellers: 12  
Total Snorkel Outings: 12

Snorkellers:  
Daisy Gilardini  
Lara Rocco-Panzera  
Sarah Satow  
Cristina Vilella Hernandez  
Qin Wan  
Vivian Chen

Beethi Sen  
Saibal Sen  
Anita Oberbauer  
Elizabeth Coad  
Miranda Anderson  
Alexander Barnes

### 28 December 2025, AM: Petermann Island

Sunny skies and no wind made for a very relaxing Zodiac ride to shore. After having a good look at the penguins on land, we climbed aboard the Zodiacs to take in the multiple congregations of penguins dotted along the coastline. After finding a spot where most of the penguins seemed to be getting into and out of the water, we received our briefing and started getting into our gear.

We did not need to swim much, just float whilst looking around us as the penguins darted in between us. Occasionally, they seemed to be everywhere, gliding gracefully in perfect synchronisation with each other.

Eventually, the cold got the better of our fingers and it was time to climb back into the Zodiacs. Some of us attempted to kick and beach ourselves onto the Zodiacs, with varying degrees of success. A short ride back to the ship meant we did not have to wait long to review the footage we took.

### 28 December 2025, PM: Port Charcot

The ship found anchorage shortly after lunch and perfect conditions awaited us, with calm water, bright skies and rafts of gentoo penguins drifting past, along with the occasional chinstrap, Adélie and passing humpbacks. Towering icebergs and the surrounding mountains made for a spectacular backdrop as we climbed into our drysuits, ready for the afternoon's snorkel.

We skipped the landing and moved through the ice sculptures toward the shallows of Pleneau Island. While scouting for a snorkel site, we passed snoozing crabeaters on ice floats, resting elephant seals and endless porpoising gentoos. At the most active highway of swimming penguins, we readied ourselves for the water as humpbacks cruised calmly by, teasing us with their proximity to the lagoon.

Once in, gentoos darted all around us, framed by the mountains and frozen sculptures. After an hour in the water, the chill finally crept into our fingers and toes and we navigated back through the blue and white labyrinth toward the ship. Another amazing day.

### 29 December 2025, AM: Hydrurga Rocks

Hydrurga Rocks are small, remote islets in the middle of nowhere, usually exposed to wind and swell. This fog laden morning, however, greeted us with a calm sea and a hushed world of silvery greys. After a lovely little landing, we set off on a short Zodiac cruise before preparing for our final snorkel in Antarctica. Chinstrap penguins watched us from the shoreline, while a few swam past close enough for some of us to see them beneath the surface. Krill were also seen, as well as a sea star, and long brown algae swaying slowly in time with the rhythm of the ocean.

### 2 January 2026, AM: Cooper Bay, South Georgia

After three days at sea, we were delighted to be back in the Zodiacs, welcomed by gently falling snow as we arrived in South Georgia. We headed out to explore the scenic coastline of Cooper Bay, where the dramatic landscape felt truly otherworldly. The abundance of wildlife was equally astonishing: fur seals, elephant seals and gentoo, chinstrap, macaroni and king penguins were just a few of the species that greeted us during our Zodiac cruise.

We soon found a sheltered corner for snorkelling and prepared to enter the water. Our presence immediately sparked the curiosity of several fur seals, which approached us for a closer look. It was a joy to watch these agile creatures weaving effortlessly through the kelp around us. What a fantastic first outing in South Georgia.





### 3 January 2026, PM: Godthul

There was a chill to the air as we boarded the Zodiac for the afternoon's adventures. A combination of rain and snow dusted us as the wind picked up, making us a little anxious about how cold we might get and whether jumping in the water would be enjoyable. Our journey in the Zodiacs began with playful fur seals and athletic gentoos resting on gigantic icebergs. As the hail increased, we also visited the waterfall, where a very handsome elephant seal dozed at the water's edge. Skirting the edges of kelp forests and the bull kelp tidal fringes, we found a wonderful lagoon filled with curious fur seal juveniles. They porpoised around the Zodiacs as we quickly squeezed into our hoods and gloves. A little reluctantly, due to the temperature in the air, we joined the soup of pinnipeds. It was fantastic, ten, twenty, maybe thirty seal pups manoeuvring effortlessly between us, sometimes sneaking up behind us and attempting

to nibble on our fins. Giant petrels with prehistoric looking eyes stared right in front of our masks. It was glorious and, despite the chill factor, we could not get ourselves out of the water. Another amazing day in South Georgia.

### 4 January 2026, PM: Salisbury Plain | Tern Island

Our final outing in South Georgia began with a Zodiac cruise along the beach at Salisbury Plain, where the sight of thousands of king penguins and numerous fur and elephant seals was truly impressive. The sheer concentration of wildlife made a landing unsuitable, so instead we continued cruising by Zodiac while scouting for a sheltered snorkelling spot. Grey skies and a brisk wind made the afternoon feel cold, but we soon found the perfect snorkelling site in a small cove at Tern Island.

After the briefing, we geared up and lowered ourselves into the water. Visibility was poor, but that did not

prevent us from observing the many fur seals onshore from water level. We were also able to inspect the bull kelp up close. Curious fur seals sneaked past us underwater, and soon giant petrels joined the scene, coming in close to inspect us and our camera lenses, providing great opportunities for some fun shots. A cold, wild and adventurous finale that perfectly captures the spirit of South Georgia.

### 5 January 2026, AM: Saunders Island

To say that we were lucky with the weather would be quite the understatement for Saunders Bay. We normally have a lot of ocean swell to deal with for the landing, but this morning's outing was very different. The sun was shining, the wind was calm and the sea was flat.

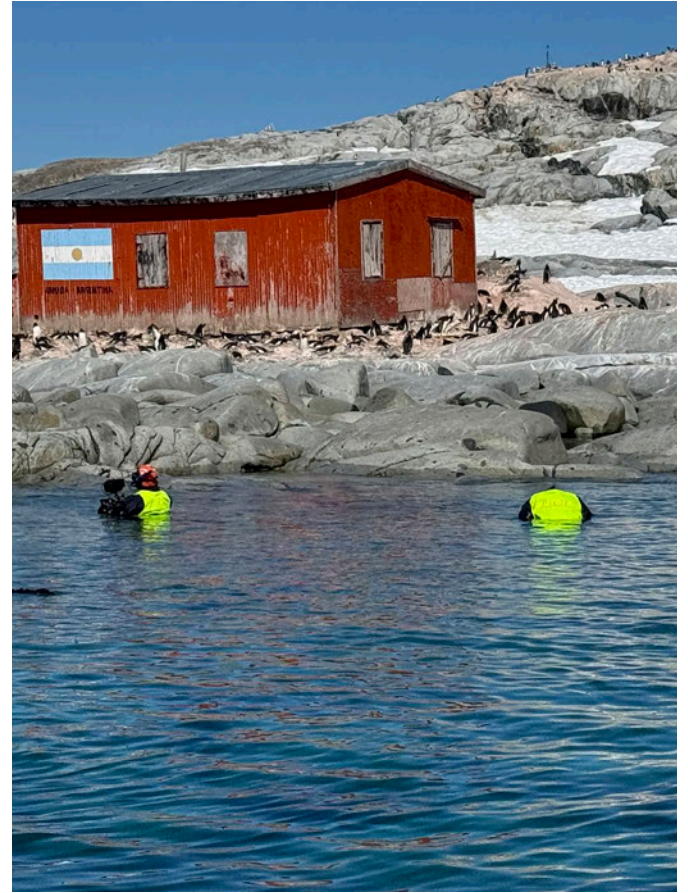
We ventured onto land for a forty minute walk to see the penguins before climbing aboard the Zodiacs for what we thought might be a longer Zodiac

ride to find a good snorkelling spot. However, the best spot was at the end of the beach, apparently unheard of according to the guides.

We were briefed about the snorkel and lowered into the water after the Zodiacs positioned themselves. We were a little spoilt for choice, the water was crystal clear, allowing us to see the sandy seabed. We could also explore some nearby kelp. But the highlight was gentoo penguins getting in and out of the water, followed by Magellanic penguins swimming around us. At one point we had two species of penguins in the water, and ducks with chicks on the surface.

The water felt so warm that the entire group stayed in for ninety minutes. It was the perfect day for the final snorkel of our voyage.









# Snowshoeing Log

Guides: Mike Roberts, Lydia Bradey

## 24 December, PM: Red Rock Ridge, Marguerite Bay

This was our first landing and we carried our snowshoes, poles and backpacks across granite rocks, then up a sloping rock ramp with a few tricky steps before reaching a stable snow patch to put on our snowshoes. The route gradually climbed a glaciated snow slope, bordered by a humpbacked rock rib on our climbers' right and a steep buttressed mountain to the left, leading to a col in the ridge where we could look down to another inlet on Red Rock Ridge. The snow continued through the col and we could have made a round trip, but the pick up and coastal finish would not have allowed access to the Adélie penguin rookery, so we retraced our steps back to shore. The red rocks were stunning and gave great grip under our muck boots. Although the weather was grey and cold on the hill, it warmed a little by the time we returned to the coast.

## 25 December, AM: Bongrain Point | Stratham Peak | Pourquoi Pas Island

There was little to offer snowshoers directly at Bongrain Point on Pourquoi Pas Island, the white ice of the glacier completely bare of snow. Most guests spent their time at the penguin rookeries. As an alternative, we scouted the point opposite the bay, which offered an excellent gravel beach landing only metres from the glacier. We jumped out on the steep gravel and carried everything up onto a flat tongue of snow. From there it felt as if we were covering new territory. Although people may have touched down at the rocky point, unless the route was used to climb Stratham Peak, it is quite possible no one had walked up this glacier. If so, we were possibly the first humans to do so, a thought that highlighted our remoteness and gave the team a shared sense of excitement, privilege and wonder.





Number of Snowshoers: 11  
Total Snowshoe Outings: 8

Snowshoers:  
Kay Ehrenberg  
Scott Herne  
Andrea Hofmeyer  
Stephen Dillon  
Lesley Dillon  
Teresa Barnes

Mary Coad  
Kathryn Pardon  
Evan Pardon  
Sa (Lisa) Li  
Chantelle Eliza Dsilva

We climbed a smooth, crisp surface until the terrain eased into a flatter angle where we stopped, took photos and turned around. We all had fifteen to twenty minutes at the Bongrain Point rookery watching penguins.

### 25 December, PM: Horseshoe Island

Our afternoon was one of cold winds and cloud. Horseshoe is a funny little island, looking more like a capital serif "I" than a horseshoe. Mike did a reconnaissance of the landing site in a separate gear Zodiac and, after some searching, found a place in the steep glacier headwall where we could climb onto the top of the snow slope. To reach it, he chopped four large bucket steps into the glacial snow ice with a shovel and fixed a hand line with knots to stop our gloved hands sliding. All the gear and tarpaulin were passed up the steps and laid out on a small snow ledge.

The key to Horseshoe was following lower angled snow slopes and leads

through the rocks, which worked well in the hard snow conditions. We were walking on firm snow, essentially using our snowshoes as crampons. Sometimes the crust broke underfoot, but mostly it was secure travel.

The afternoon cloud cover and wind whistling down the slope made the journey cold and grey. We pulled up our jackets, put on buffs and added layers. Stronger gusts occasionally blew the rope into a curve between us. The incredibly flat light made it almost impossible to see the surface we were walking on, not such an issue uphill but definitely adding to the downhill challenge.

The final difficulty came when the two guides, despite having recorded the route on their GPS, missed the correct descent to the equipment stash and beachfront twice. High winds, choppy seas and current made for a splashy return Zodiac trip. Quite the cold and alpine outing.

### 27 December, AM: Rabot Island, Montpelier Point

Montpelier Point is a southern point of Rabot Island that curves westward and creates a landing site sheltered from the south and southeast. Montpelier Point had the remnants of an old station or hut, a pile of boards on concrete foundations, although we do not know to whom this structure belonged. We landed near these, gained the snow almost immediately, and took a curving line up onto the crest of the island. The landing was very clean. The route lost most visuals of the Rodman Passage but gained us awesome vistas south and east.

The route was avalanche safe and gained height steadily. A total of 1.84km, with 118m altitude gained.

On the way back we cruised along the western edge of Rabot Island back to the ship and saw a lot of whales feeding in Rodman Passage.

### 27 December, PM: Flounder Island | Fish Islands | Prospect Point

The Fish Islands are a group of small islands off the west coast of Graham Land at the northern end of Holtedah Bay, near Prospect Point. When we arrived, the surrounding waters were extremely calm, filled with icebergs and bergy bits, and it was stunning. We looked for an island Mike had climbed previously, settling on Flounder Island as it was higher than the others and quite pretty. With so many icebergs and rocky shallows, it took some route finding to locate a suitable landing. We climbed up and along to a gentle summit, with whales on the south side of the islands and icebergs reflecting in the calm waters to the north.

The guests were dropped off at Prospect Point at the end of the day for twenty minutes.





### 28 December, AM: Petermann Island (North Side Return)

We landed at the north end of Petermann since the snow slope at the start of the east or southeast facing route was very steep and likely too firm to be suitable. The north end was very pretty. We wove our way up through snow patches and rocky ribs and knobs, with occasional short traverses across rock and mixed terrain. Brown skua were perched at various spots on the way up, but we passed far enough away not to disturb them. A short snowy slope led to the summit, which held rusty iron and wood relics from old survey marker structures. As usual, the views were amazing, they always are. Descent was via the same route.

### 28 December, PM: Hovgaard Island (320m Ascent), near Port Charcot

Mt Hovgaard was our big climb and it was a stunning day for it. The ship moored close to Port Charcot and

our Zodiac approach passed some reasonably large icebergs. At the bottom of the route we carried our duffel bags and tarpaulin to a patch of dirty snow occupied by a relaxed Weddell seal, who showed only brief interest as long as we kept our voices low and movements steady.

Hovgaard climbed in three distinct hillocks, the second leading us along a broad ridge to the summit slopes. Aware of the time and keen to reach the top, Mike led his small team at a crisp pace up the final 100 metres of vertical gain, with Lydia's team following shortly behind. We all took photos of course. Hovgaard is surprisingly high, giving us direct views across to the rocky mainland peaks and the entrance to the Lemaire. We then zoomed down for a pick up, barely within and possibly just outside our cut off time. A broken snowshoe added to the challenge, and the descent through deep soft snow was led well by Steve.



Back on the ship we could see our tracks running all the way up the mountain, and we had time to relish the adventure while sitting in the sun eating BBQ before departure. The two outings and two climbs were capped beautifully by a journey into the Lemaire in lower light, with dramatic iceberg viewing.

### 29 December, Two Hummock Island | Hydrurga Rocks (East Side)

Today our journey started and finished in a gentle sea fog. Navigation to the drop off point was challenging, and we waypointed the landing before carrying our equipment up onto the snow and then up the initial steeper slope with our snowshoes in hand. Once we put them on, we roped up carefully with more space between each climber and knots in the rope to catch on a crevasse edge should anyone fall in.

At first we hoped to climb through the mist and poke our noses out above the clouds, but the fog only thickened and

lowered. With poor visibility, softening snow and an increasing number of crevasses running parallel to our tracks, we chose to turn around and descend.

Despite the shortened trip, it still felt adventurous. By this time our small group had developed real teamwork, becoming efficient at ferrying loads from the water's edge to the tarpaulin, setting up for each journey and later breaking down the landing site.

### 4 January 2026, South Georgia | Fortuna Bay to Stromness (Shackleton Walk)

Main walk from Fortuna to Stromness with more than forty passengers. Slightly challenging right at the start finding a way through the seals and wet ground amid tussocks. No significant snow, good to fair weather, no incidents, good timing and group management.















# Bird Sightings

Bird Species	December										January											
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Gentoo Penguin	●						●	●	●				●		●				●	●		
Adélie Penguin				●	●		●	●	●													
Chinstrap Penguin				●	●	●	●	●	●													
King Penguin													●	●	●	●			●	●		
Macaroni Penguin													●		●							
Rockhopper Penguin																				●		
Magellanic Penguin	●																		●	●		
Wandering (Snowy) Albatross		●										●	●		●	●	●	●			●	
Black-browed Albatross	●	●	●										●			●	●	●		●	●	●
Grey-headed Albatross		●	●													●						
Sooty Albatross			●										●									
Light-mantled Albatross		●	●																			
Southern Giant Petrel	●					●	●	●		●			●		●				●	●		
Northern Giant Petrel													●		●					●		
White-chinned Petrel			●							●	●	●				●	●	●			●	
Cape Petrel			●						●	●	●	●										
Blue Petrel		●								●												
Kerguelen Petrel												●										
Antarctic Prion		●	●								●	●				●						
Prion sp.			●							●	●					●						



# Bird Sightings

Bird Species	December										January											
	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Southern Fulmar			●	●					●	●												
Sooty Shearwater	●																				●	●
Wilson's Storm-petrel		●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●										
Black-bellied Storm-petrel										●		●										
South Georgia Diving Petrel												●			●							
Antarctic Petrel			●																			
Snow Petrel					●	●		●	●			●										
Imperial (= Antarctic) Cormorant	●						●	●	●				●	●	●	●			●	●		●
Rock Cormorant																			●	●		
Kelp Gull	●				●	●	●	●	●				●	●	●	●			●	●		●
Dolphin Gull	●																		●	●		●
South Polar Skua				●	●	●																
Brown Skua	●			●	●		●	●	●				●						●	●		●
Antrarctic Tern					●	●	●	●	●				●	●	●							
South American Tern	●												●	●					●	●		●
Snowy Sheathbill						●	●						●	●	●							
South Georgia Pintail													●	●	●							
South Georgia Pipit													●									
Falkland Steamer Duck																			●	●		



# Bird Sightings

[illegible]



# Mammal Sightings

[illegible]



# Map

## Antarctic Peninsula

1. Ushuaia
2. Red Rock Ridge
3. Bongrain Point
4. Horseshoe Island
5. Hanusse Bay
6. Rabot Island
7. Prospect Point
8. Petermann Island
9. Port Charcot
10. Hydrurga Rocks
11. Spert Island

## South Georgia

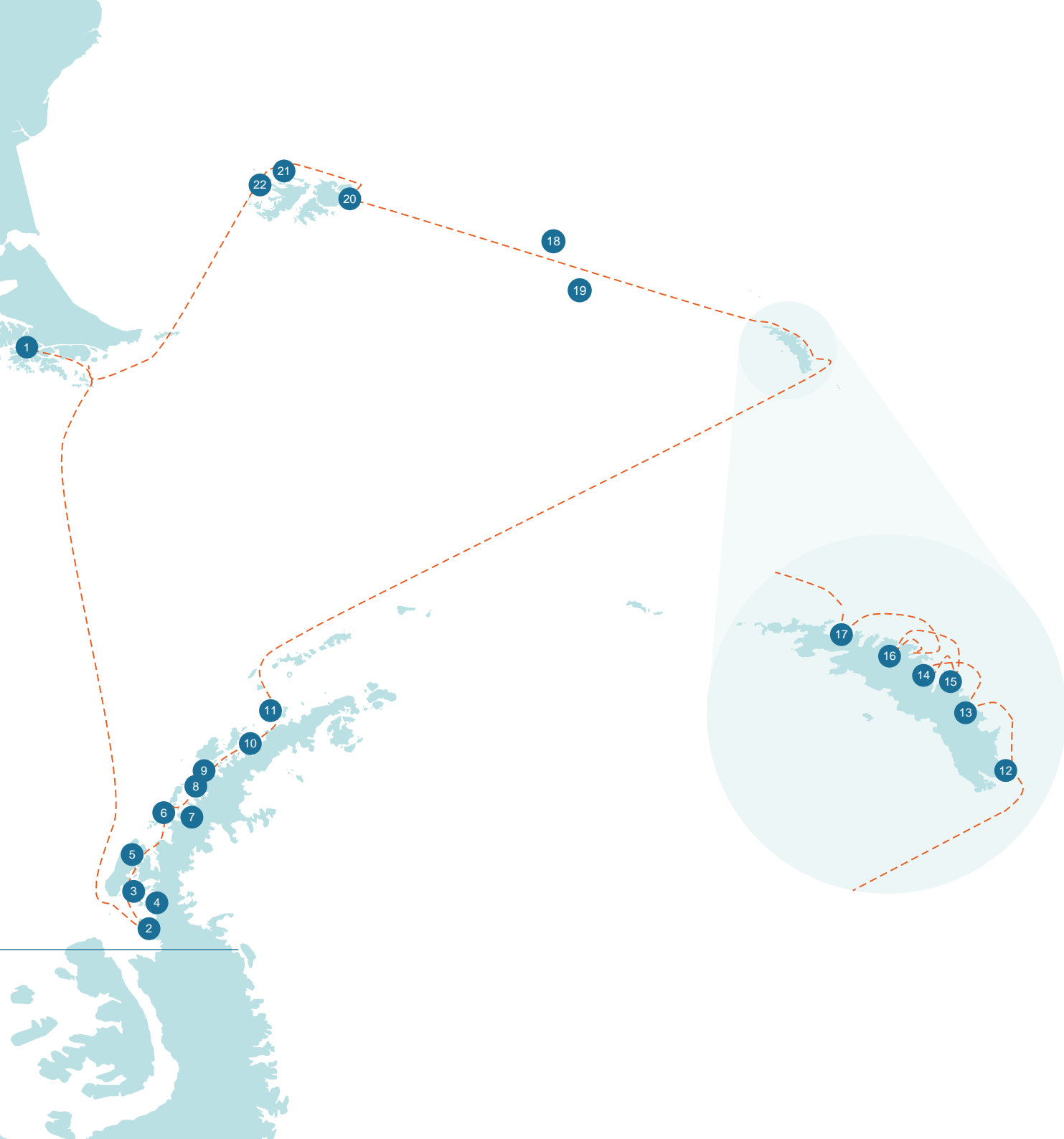
12. Cooper Bay
13. St. Andrews Bay
14. Grytviken
15. Godthul
16. Fortuna Bay / Stromness
17. Salisbury Plain
18. A23a
19. Shag Rocks

## Falkland Islands

20. Stanley
21. Saunders Island
22. West Point Island

## Antarctica Complete

21 December 2025 – 11 January 2026









# Our Expeditioners

Mara Alscher	Vernon Boenish	Jasmin Franceschini	Jennifer McCurry	William Perkins	Beethi Sen
Vesna Alscher	Mark Carawan	Lisa Gihring	David McEown	Lynne Perkins	Saibal Sen
Ben Alscher	Rosemary Carawan	Daisy Gilardini	Heather McIntyre	Carole Pinhey	Valerie Shipley
Ande Alscher	Vivian Chen	Paul Gruncell	William Mitchell	Adam Pinhey	Dianne Simister
Miranda Anderson	Mae Chu	Wendy Gruncell	Lou Mitchell	Lisa Powell	John Smedley
Kathryn Armour	Premilla Clark	Scott Herne	Thomas Mixter	Richard Price	Daniel Sved
Wayne Armour	Mary Coad	Loretta Hilder	Laurie Mixter	Colin Reid	Monica Sved
Margaret Avison	Elizabeth Coad	Andrea Hofmeyer	Trisha Muller	Michael Richter	Sameer Thakkar
Paula Barksdale	Paula Conroy	Jennifer Hogue	Eric Muller	Susan Richter	Ritika Thakkar
Steven Barnes	Michael Conroy	Jackie Hogue	Michaela Navon	Melissa Rider	Mary Vigilante
Teresa Barnes	Lesley Dillon	Rocky Horan	Tammay Nguyen	Lara Rocco-Panzera	Cristina Vilella Hernandez
Alexander Barnes	Stephen Dillon	Daniel Kilian	Sandra Nicholson	William Rohlf's Jr	Rebecca Walker
Kathleen Beckhardt	Maureen Donnelly	Lisa Kjellsson	Steven Oberbauer	Abraham Saade	Qin Wan
David Beckhardt	Chantelle Eliza Dsilva	Julie-Anne Lacko	Thomas Oberbauer	Sara Saade	Janette Whittome
Cynthia Black	Andrew Durran	Sa Li	Anita Oberbauer	Sarah Satow	
Laura Boenish	Kay Ehrenberg	Rebecca Mason	Kathryn Pardon	Barbara Schofield	
Penny Boenish	Steven Forrest	John Mather	Evan Pardon	Nigel Schofield	



## Expedition Team

Expedition Leader: Rune Kongsro

Assistant Expedition Leader: Piotr Damski

Onboard Expedition Manager: Anne Oeyasaeter

Shop Manager: Cecilia Mossi

Shop Manager in Training: Flor March

Marine Biologist EC: Hans Brunig

Geologist/Glaciologist: Kevin Cunningham Closs

Naturalist/Ornithologist CSC: John Kirkwood

Historian: Liz Carlson

Photography Guide: Grant Thomas

Expedition First Responder: Jack Emmaline

Expedition Guide: Chloe Wang

Lead Senior Kayak Guide: Tim Vanhoutteghem

Senior Kayak Guide: Erin Scott

Senior Kayak Guide: Vanja Davidsen

Senior Kayak Guide: Anula Jochym

Kayak Guide: Reg Grundy

Lead Snorkel Guide: Richard Devanney

Snorkel Guide: Birgitta Mueck

Snorkel Guide: Katia Benini

Lead Alpine Guide (Snowshoe): Mike Roberts

Senior Alpine Guide (Snowshoe): Lydia Bradey

Zodiac Manager: Chris O'Meara

## Senior Officers & Heads of Department

Master: Andrus Pruul

Chief Officer: Viktor Koshelets

Second Officer: Ludivico Fernandez

Safety Officer: Bryan Salem

Bosun: Leo Francis Marzan

Ship Doctor: Maria De los Angeles Zambrano  
Ruales

Chief Engineer: Enes Candic

First Engineer: Sergei Luba

IT Officer: Rene Reyes

Hotel Director: Alex Barkar

F&B Service Manager: Narendra Seeram

Head Bartender: Sheenie Landauz

Chief Purser: Pedro Camilo Jr Diaz

Executive Chef: Indra Wicaksono

Sous Chef: Priteviraj Dakona

Hotel Controller: Orlando Costa

Receptionist: Angela Manuel

Receptionist: Jaica Puyod

Head Stateroom Attendant: Florante Lusong

Deck Cadet: Constantin Turmacu

Able Seaman: Eduardo Aloyan

Able Seaman: John Sibug

Able Seaman: Prasad Pallikara Vilayan

Able Seaman: Anthony Brosas

Able Seaman: Dan Danico

## Photography thanks to:

Grant Thomas









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