



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

North Spitsbergen Polar Bear Special

15 - 22 June 2017
on board

M.V. Plancius



MV *Plancius* was named after the Dutch astronomer, cartographer, geologist and vicar Petrus Plancius (1552-1622). *Plancius* was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was named *Hr. Ms. Tydeman*. The ship sailed for the Royal Dutch Navy until June 2004 when she was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions and completely refit in 2007, being converted into a 114-passenger expedition vessel. *Plancius* is 89 m (267 feet) long, 14.5 m (43 feet) wide and has a maximum draft of 5 m, with an Ice Strength rating of 1D, top speed of 12+ knots and three diesel engines generating 1230 hp each.



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Captain Alexey Nazarov

and his international crew of 46

including:

Hotel Manager:	Sebastian Duma	[Romania]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Sava Savov	[Bulgaria]
Head Chef:	Gabor Kiss	[Hungary]
Sous Chef:	Ivan Yuriychuk	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	Lauke Bisschops	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Michael Ginzburg	[Germany/Russia]
Asst Expedition Leader:	Katja Riedel	[New Zealand/Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Lynn Woodworth	[Canada/Australia]
Expedition Guide:	Aleksandr Romanovski	[Russia/Svalbard]
Expedition Guide:	Sebastian Arrebola	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Frigga Kruse	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Karen Mulders	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Wilson Cheung	[Germany/Hong Kong]
Expedition Guide:	Sara Jenner	[UK]

Welcome you on board!

Day 1 – Thursday 15 June 2017

Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen

GPS Position 08:00: 78°14.2' N / 015°35.6' E

Wind: SE - 1 Sea state: - Weather: drizzle Temperature: 6°C

We gathered from all points on the globe on an overcast, misty and occasionally drizzly summer day in Longyearbyen, capital (and only real population centre) of Svalbard. The rugged hills around were striped with snow, but the day was not too cold. Once off our flights, we were dropped in town where we explored the small settlement, had a coffee or went bird watching. From four o'clock, we began boarding the ship, which was our first



adventure - we were transferred to the *Plancius* using the black rubber Zodiac boats that would become so familiar. Once on board, we settled in to our cabins, and later found our way to the Observation Lounge. Once we had all gathered, Chief Officer Janus presented the mandatory safety briefing to show us how to use the big orange lifejackets and how to muster in case of emergency. The briefing was immediately followed by a safety drill, to ensure we knew how to muster in the lounge and proceed to the lifeboats if ordered to by the Captain.

After we returned our lifejackets to our cabins, we were again invited to the Lounge. Captain Alexey spoke a few words of welcome and proposed a toast to our voyage. Our Hotel Manager Sebastian helped us settle in with more information about how the ship works, and Michael, our Expedition Leader, introduced the Expedition Team, and after a few helpful hints from our ship Doctor, we went to our first dinner on board. There, we sat at tables of six and more, making new friends and wondering what would come in the days ahead.

We lifted the anchor and sailed from Longyearbyen, through Isfjord and towards open water along the West coast of Spitsbergen just before seven in the evening. As we were reaching the Western end of the fjord and finishing dinner, Michael cleared the dining room by announcing "Blue whale!" We all rushed back to our cabins for coats and cameras, then found our way outside. The whale's blow was visible from a distance, huge and bushy, with a little bit of a 'V' visible. The whale surfaced about four times, then went down for six or seven minutes, and re-surfaced much closer to the ship. Long, mottled grey and very impressive, the whale 'fluked' (showed us his or her tail) before diving, causing quite a few



enthusiastic outbursts from people on deck. We left the whale in peace and continued our way out of Isfjord, to turn South towards Hornsund, the area we intend to visit tomorrow. At last, tired from our travels, we retired to our cabins to rest and get ready for the first full day of our adventure.

Day 2 - Friday 16 June 2017

Hornsund - Burgerbukta

GPS Position 08:00: 78°59.0' N / 016°15.5' E

Wind: N - 2 Sea state: smooth Weather: shower Temperature: 2°C

After our eventful first evening on board, we deserved and enjoyed a very calm night. Not a wave to be seen on the water; our initial fears of seasickness were as of yet unfounded. Upon hearing Michael's wake-up call, we nonetheless left our warm, cosy beds gladly: what would our second day have in store for us?



Over night, the *Plancius* had taken a Southerly course down the ice-free west coast of Svalbard, and after breakfast, we found

ourselves in the 25-km long Hornsund. The weather was surprising to many of us as we cruised the large Brepollen (= glacier bay). Snow in June! Unfortunately, that meant that we did not see the magnificent glacier fronts in this area at their very best, but we certainly got an Arctic feeling. Just how the crew managed to spot our first Polar bear – practically white on white – remained a puzzle to many of us. The bear was barely visible behind a lump of snow very near the shore. Too bad the water here was so shallow, that the ship could not really get closer. Since the animal was seemingly sleeping and did very little to hold our attention, we left him in peace, hoping for a more photogenic one soon.



After a buffet lunch, we got ready for a Zodiac cruise in Burgerbukta. Most of us had probably never worn so many layers before, but they were certainly worth having while sitting still in the small rubber boats for about two hours. What the animals lacked in species (we only spotted Brunnich's guillemot, Black guillemot, Little auks, Kittiwakes, and Fulmars), they certainly made up in numbers and quirky poses. And soon the icebergs

and glacier front of Paierlbreen (in the western arm of the bay) and Mühlbacherbreen (in the eastern arm) captured and held our attention. The hues of blue, of grey and sometimes brown. The crackling as the old ice released air trapped for many thousands of years. When our drivers turned off their engines from time to time, we sat motionless and marvelled at the stillness that was only broken by the calls of seabirds.

Just when we thought we had had a packed day, a great whale was sighted in front of the ship just after dinner. This, too, was a Blue whale. Wonderful! – considering there are supposedly only 9000 of these animals left in the world. When the Arctic gives you so many new and exciting impressions, it is difficult to tear yourself away and go to bed. Perhaps the low cloud cover all day was a good thing. How would we have managed if the midlight sun had also lit up the sky?!



Day 3 – Saturday 17 June 2017

Ingeborgfjellet & Bamsebu

GPS Position 08:00: 77°44.0' N / 014°23.7' E

Wind: W - 3 Sea state: slight Weather: overcast Temperature: 3°C



The day promised to be very busy and to bring us many unforgettable moments of the Arctic experience. Everybody was quite optimistic and excited despite the 9 knot wind, blowing from the Northwest. Two landings! Two different spots on the coastline of Bellsund!

The waters of Bellsund near Ingeborgfjellet – our first landing spot – keep many surprises, such as shallows and stones, so *Plancius* could not approach too close to shore and dropped anchor in a distance of almost two nautical miles from it. This distance we covered on

Zodiacs. It was a long ride, as the drivers had to be very careful and instead of driving directly to the landing spot make zig-zags because of underwater stones.

On land we were offered three options – a medium walk, a short walk and a slope climbing in order to watch the bird colony. Some of us preferred to take a walk in the tundra, watching Reindeer, Barnacle geese and also visiting the Camp Millar hut, that used to belong to the Northern Exploration Company. A century ago this



company was investigating this area in search of a gold vein, but found nothing. Another group preferred a short and slow walk closer to the landing spot – it is always a pleasure to step on the soft carpet of mosses of the tundra and enjoy watching wildlife without being in a hurry. The third group had to storm the steep and slippery slope of the mountain in order to get closer to a colony of Little auks – small black and white funny birds. It was hard and sometimes even dangerous, but those who chose this adrenaline-raising adventure trip

were rewarded with a scenic view, opening from above, and a chance to take plenty of good pictures of Little auks. These people were not the only living beings who were aiming at the bird colony. The competition to them were two Arctic foxes! Of course, the foxes were not interested either in a scenic view or in taking pictures. Eggs – these are what attracts them! It's the end of June and that means that it is time for the Little auks to lay eggs and start waiting for the chicks to come out. Arctic foxes are also looking forward to this time, because eggs are their favorite dish. It's cruel, of course, but such is life.



Two and a half hours on land gave us all a unique opportunity to get in touch with Arctic wildlife, see Reindeer, geese, foxes, and Little auks, as well as the vegetation (mosses, lichens and small Arctic flowers). When it was time to go back to the ship, we gathered together at the landing spot and started being driven back by Zodiac. The way back was even more difficult than the way there, because the wind increased and there was even more swell, and the tide reached its lowest level,

which also increased the chance to meet some underwater stones.

Our lunch turned out to be just a break between landings. While we were taking a breath and enjoying our meals, the captain was heading *Plancius* towards Bamsebu. The distance was very short, so very soon the anchor was dropped.



The first thing we saw at Bamsebu was pretty terrifying: thousands and thousands of beluga whale bones. Long ago people were hunting these white marine mammals here and boiling their blubber. Fortunately it didn't last long. Anyway, the bones are still here and now they are protected and preserved probably as a reminder for future generations never to try to repeat this experience.



Again we divided into several groups: medium walkers, leisure walkers and very leisure walkers. The last (but not the least) ones were offered a walk along the coastline around the landing spot, the second ones were guided a short loop to the hut and around it and the medium walkers set off to make a

bigger loop along the coastline and tundra. The tundra walk turned out to be an adventure and a challenge. The end of June is snow melting time, so the ground is full of water and very difficult to walk upon. On one of the legs close to the end of the route some of us started to get stuck in the mud. Seems like the tundra got angry with being disturbed, and was trying to have it's revenge on us by holding our boots and not letting us go for a while. Anyway it all ended up well and no people got hurt. The guides were very helpful and were doing their best to help us to get out of the mud trap.



By dinner time we came back on board. *Plancius* lifted anchor and headed north. Late in the evening, when we were sailing pretty far from the coast, another big surprise was revealed to us. We spotted a whale! Blue whale! The biggest animal living on our planet! The whale was very friendly and gifted us with a chance to watch him swimming, rolling and diving very close to the ship. AECO

rules do not let us stay with a whale for longer than 30 minutes, so when the time was up we had to leave this wonderful animal. Nevertheless, soon another couple of blue whales was spotted. Most likely it was a mother with a calf. It was already after midnight when we, tired but happy, went to rest in our cabins. Unforgettable day!!!



Day 4 – Sunday 18 June 2017

Sea Ice Edge

GPS Position 08:00: 79°35.8' N / 010°34.5' E

Wind: variable Sea state: calm Weather: overcast Temperature: 4°C



This morning we arrived at the Northwestern side of Spitsbergen and the lookout for bears started right after breakfast. We checked the shore lines while sailing the narrow channels of Smeerenburgfjorden. At 09:30, Katja gave us an interesting lecture about Polar bears, their natural history, their love lives, and the threats that they are facing nowadays.

Later on we entered Raudfjorden on Northwest Spitsbergen. It is a fjord about 20 kilometres long and 5 kilometres wide with a number side bays with calving glaciers. About half of the fjord was still covered with fast ice (the sea ice that is still attached to land), and there we saw them! Polar bears! There were two fairly visible and there were two more far in the distance.

The Captain managed to bring the ship among the sea ice and get closer to one of the bears; it was in a hunting mood, concentrated in what was under the ice, waiting for a seal to pop up. After a while it moved towards a piece of ice and lay down, it was time for its morning nap. Once the bear decided to count sheep, it was our time to move on and head North toward the sea ice edge. The sun had come up and the light was astonishing.



photo: Steve Bird



After lunch the search continued, most of us were on deck enjoying the pleasant weather, we saw seals on the ice and a couple of Minke whales. In the early afternoon, Gina from Sunrise Birding kindly opened up her presentation about the sea birds of Svalbard to everyone, and we all enjoyed learning about the different types of birds that we can encounter throughout our trip. The ice was very dense but the *Plancius* squeezed and passed through the open channels in between

thanks to the skilled navigation of our Captain Alexey. Later on we had another surprise when Michael announced a Walrus on the ice. *Plancius* approached slowly through the ice and we had the chance to have closer view of the small tusks and take a lot of pictures.

After dinner we came out on deck one more time and the search continued. On the horizon we could see fog approaching and we all hoped it would go away, as we had another exciting day in the ice ahead of us.



Day 5 – Monday 19 June 2017

Sea Ice Edge

GPS Position 08:00: 79°49.1' N / 012°03.1' E

Wind: calm Sea state: calm Weather: cloudy Temperature: 5°C

A glistening ice scape met the drowsy eyes of the early risers this morning. At 05:00 the sun was shining and the scenery surrounding the ship was nothing short of incredible. About 07:15, Sebastian brought the good news that he had found a Polar bear in front of Raudfjorden. This bear was a bit thin and far from the open water. We couldn't get closer, so we left the bear alone to keep wandering on the sea ice.

While enjoying the unique view unfolding before us many of us took to the decks with our cameras and binoculars, scanning every which way in the hope of finding the elusive Polar

bear. Although the bears were proving hard to find, there was an abundance of seals hauled out on the ice. Every direction we looked there were large Bearded seals, and the sea birds were a continuous and lively around the ship. Kittiwakes, Little auks and guillemots both flew around the ship and bobbed on the surface of the sea below us.



Of course, being in the pack ice didn't mean that we could rest, and after lunch the expedition team offered a Zodiac cruise along the pack ice edge. While sailing, we took the opportunity to photograph the Kittiwakes and Glaucous gulls as they dove into the water to pick out the Arctic cod that were exposed as *Plancius* ploughed through the ice. Several Pomerine skuas were also shadowing the feeding birds, eager to harass the successful ones and claim a meal of their own.



After everyone was back aboard and the Zodiacs had all been lifted back onto the ship, the day also gave us a chance to catch up on some knowledge. We have already seen a lot of ice on this trip and this afternoon was a chance to hear more from our expert guides about what we'd seen. Lynn introduced us to the different types of ice in the world, and especially sea ice.

At 19:30 we were invited down to the aft deck for our special Arctic BBQ, where staff had prepared a real feast of meats and salads and with complimentary drinks the party soon got underway and dancing continued late into the evening. A great end to a great day. Throughout the evening we sailed further south to our destination for tomorrow, keeping an eye out for any whale blows from the lounge before retiring to our cabins for the night. Many people stayed up well into the night to enjoy the endless sunshine on this glistening sea scape. It had been a truly wonderful day.



Day 6 – Tuesday 20 June 2017

Magdalenefjord & Smeerenburg

GPS Position 08:00: 79°43.5' N / 011°01.7' E

Wind: N - 3 Sea state: slight Weather: overcast Temperature: 4°C

After yet another nice breakfast, we were all invited to come ashore on Amsterdamøya, to visit the remains of the 17th century Dutch whaling station Smeerenburg (“Blubbertown”). The house remains were still covered in meltwater, but the foundations of the blubber ovens were easy to see from a safe distance. We split up into three groups: a leisurely group that had a field lecture on the archaeology of the town, a photography/birders group and a group that chose to stretch their legs a little on a medium hike. The snow and meltwater prevented the last to go around the little lagoon, but returning along the same beach was not a bad thing, since it enabled us to use our hands to pick up some of the plastic garbage that had been washed ashore. We were keenly watched by a Harbour seal in the water, who was probably wondering what on earth we were doing.



On the other side of our landing beach all three groups in turn were led to the small Walrus haulout. The males were very relaxed and did not mind us coming in up to 30 m, enabling marvelous pictures of these magnificent animals.



A little after twelve, everybody was back on the ship (all tags were green again) and a tasty lunch buffet was prepared for us. During lunch the Captain set off to Magdalenefjord where we left the ship once again to go on a Zodiac cruise. On our way to the glacier we saw some Common eiders and King eiders as well as a few Harbour seals (which is not a very common sight in

this part of the world). The glacier itself has a really nice ice front with a lot of cracks as it is sliding down the mountain, but it was also quite clear that it is melting: there were very few bits breaking off of the front and the bay was nearly clear of mini-iceberg (“berg bits”). We could clearly see how far the glacier once reached thanks to the still visible moraines that were once in the middle of the glacier, where various glacial tongues met to form a bigger glacier to fill the fjord. On one of these moraines we spotted an Arctic fox. On our way back



toward the ship, we decided to cruise along the shore of Gravesneset where many early whalers and sailors have found their last resting places in the 17th-19th centuries. Near the burial sites we met again some Walrus, this time two of them were swimming in the water: coming up snorting from apparently quite a deep dive to the fjord-bottom and diving down again with a friendly (we hope) tailwave.

The evening was complemented with a good meal in the restaurant and some after-dinner-whales on our way down from the outer Northwest corner of Spitsbergen southwards.



Day 7 –Wednesday 21 June 2017

St Jonsfjord & Alkhornet

GPS position 08.00 am: 78°31.5'N 012°29.4'E

wind: WNW- 3 Seastate: slight Weather: Partially cloudy Temperature: 5°C

As was becoming typical of this trip, Michael woke us with the good news that the weather was again very pleasant and would allow for another fantastic expedition day. As we enjoyed our morning coffee in the lounge the sun beat through the windows, encouraging many to venture out on deck and savour the warm Arctic air and stunning



scenery. After a hearty breakfast it was time for Michael to outline the plan for this morning, which was to be a landing at Gjertsenodden in St Jonsfjord.

We landed on a flat sandy beach, where vast tracts of moraine left behind by a retreating glacier have formed a rolling and hilly terrain behind. Due to the wonderful light conditions these snow topped mountains were displaying a true mosaic of colours which highlighted the faults and folds of the landscape. Katja and Frigga set off with the long walkers, aiming for a distant ridge, then the medium group set off and lastly the keen photographers and slow walkers ambled off to do their thing. There were a few reindeer on the slopes including a young calf and one of the groups even managed to get a glimpse at an Arctic fox before it darted up the hillside. For the birders amongst us there was great excitement at



spotting the Svalbard rock ptarmigan and the sounds of the many Snow buntings singing all around were enjoyed by people on all three walks. Most of us had a look at the very small trapper's hut which was just set back from the shoreline, looking out over the fjord, but one thing was for sure we all took time to stop and enjoy the fabulous views and wonderful Arctic weather we were being blessed with!

All safely back on board we enjoyed our last lunch on the *Plancius*; meanwhile the ship made her way south to Alkhornet which was to be our afternoon landing site.

Alkhornet is situated at the entrance of Trygghamna fjord and the name refers to the shape of the mountain, which is thought to resemble a horn. Trygghamna has been described as 'Spitsbergen in a nutshell' because the area has most of the features that attract visitors to the Arctic: beautiful mountains, glacier scenery, rich tundra, reindeer, a bird cliff and historical relics from different periods and this is exactly what we were greeted with. This perfect Arctic picture was only enhanced by glorious sunshine and blue skies. The serenity of the scene before us was only briefly disturbed when an Arctic skua decided to launch a viscous attack on a passing reindeer that it considered a possible threat to the nest it was guarding. This truly was the perfect site to end our trip with as it seem to encapsulate the 'best of the Arctic'.

As soon as everybody was back on the ship, it was sadly time for the *Plancius* to lift anchor and head towards Longyearbyen.

No sooner had we got a hot drink to warm ourselves was it time to head back up into the lounge for our final recap and briefing. After a toast from the Captain, there were thanks to all of the people who made the trip so enjoyable, and all the information we need for our disembarkation. Our last dinner was full of talk and laughter and we moved from the dining room to the lounge, enjoying our last night on board, but still remembering to pack our bags for their early departure from the ship

Day 8 – Thursday 22 June 2017

Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen

GPS Position 0800: 78°14.2' N / 015°35.6' E

We woke far too early, at anchor in Longyearbyen, sad to know we will be leaving the ship. Our last breakfast seemed too early in the morning, but was very much appreciated, as we don't know where our next meals will be coming from!! We were back at the port of Bykoya in Longyearbyen, and it was time to leave the ship for the last time. On the dock,

we found our luggage and sorted ourselves into the busses. We farewelled our new friends and set off on our travels and flights home, sad to be leaving, but also looking forward to our next adventures.



Total distance travelled:

900.0 nautical miles

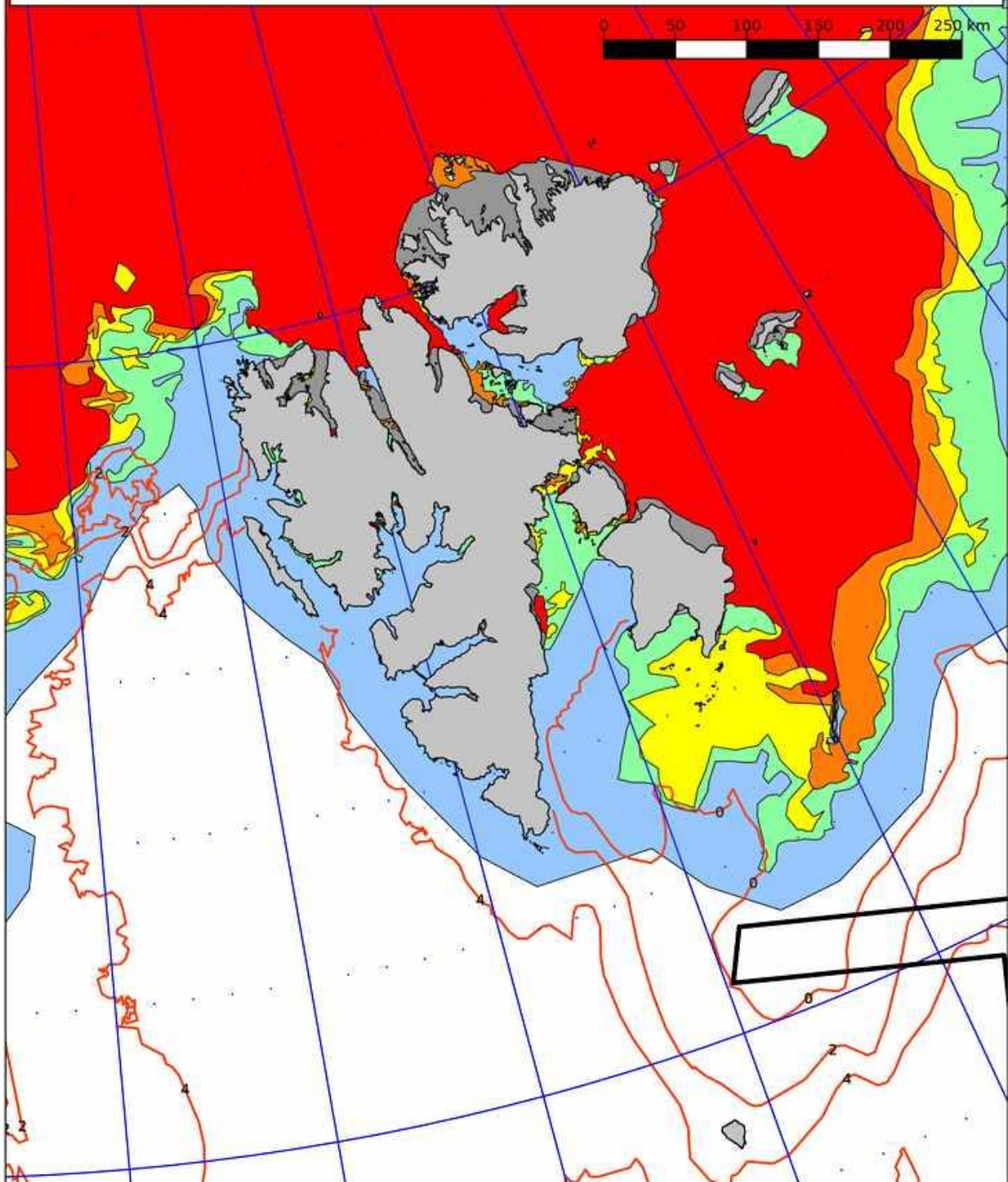
1,666.8 kilometres

Furthest North 80°08.18'N/011°23.43E



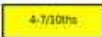
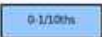
***On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions,
the Captain, Crew and Staff
on board MV Plancius:***

***It has been a pleasure travelling with you, and we hope
to see you again!***

www.oceanwide-expeditions.com






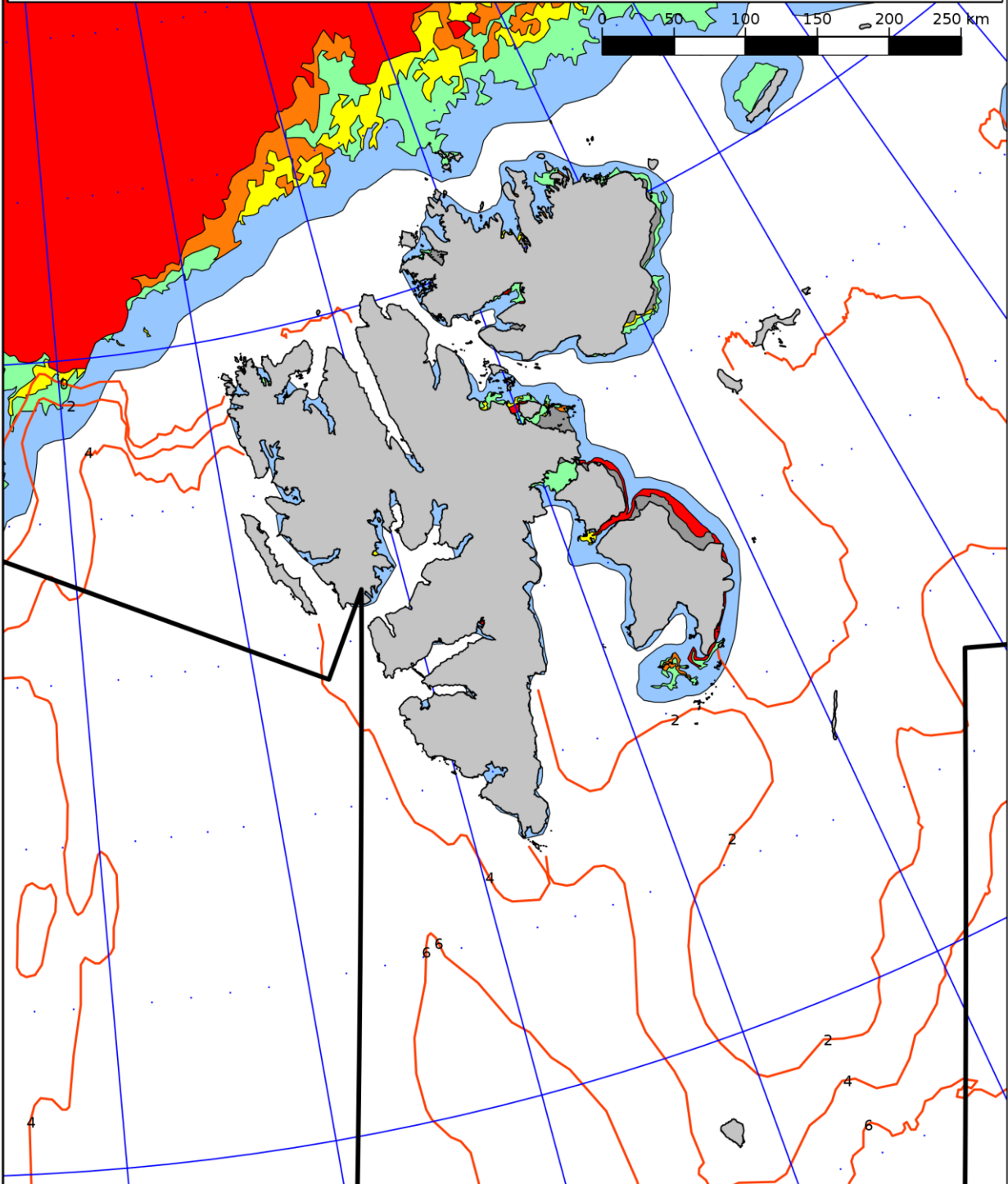
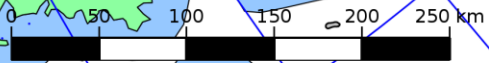
Ice Categories

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 9-10/10ths	Very Close Drift Ice	 4-7/10ths	Open Drift Ice	 0-1/10ths	Open Water







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 UL = 82°59'26.367"N, 4°23'24.258"E UR = 80°15'44.998"N, 44°11'58.041"E
 LR = 72°32'49.391"N, 22°45'57.155"E LL = 73°52'48.561"N, 1°53'51.202"E
 Coastline Data: GSCHS version 2.2.0 (<http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/wessiel/gchsv/>)



 Sentinel-1
 Radarsat-2
 Sea Surface Temperature



Ice Categories

 10/10ths	Fast Ice	 7-9/10ths	Close Drift Ice	 1-4/10ths	Very Open Drift Ice
 9-10/10ths	Very Close Drift Ice	 4-7/10ths	Open Drift Ice	 0-1/10ths	Open Water

Projection: Polar Stereographic, True Scale at 90°N, WGS84 Scale: 3,792,530
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 Coastline Data: GSHHS version 2.2.0 (<http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/wessel/gshhs/>)



 Sentinel-1
 Radarsat-2  Sea Surface Temperature



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Kayaking the Waters of Antarctica The weather changes so dramatically down here that you simply cannot say, "this looks like a great day" if it is one – rather you must live in the moment and perhaps a more appropriate phrase might be, "this looks like a great moment"! After enduring Force 8 winds on the Beaufort Wind Scale the Ortelius (our home during this Antarctica cruise) pulled into calm waters at Georges Point affording us our first close look at the breathtaking scenery (icebergs, glaciers and mountainous

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After all, how your expedition made you feel is what you're going to carry with you for the rest of your life. If you share your experience you just might win yourself a € 1000 gift voucher for your next polar adventure.

Here's what you need to do:

1. Write a post (600 – 1200 words) in Dutch, English, or German about what excited you the most on your Oceanwide Expeditions cruise. The topic is entirely up to you.
2. Make sure you add tiles and subtitles to the story.
3. Create a hyperlink or two inside of your post that links back to the particular trip you took as found on our website. The link could connect to the ship's page, the trip itinerary, the particular destination's page, or perhaps a page related to one of the activities you enjoyed.
4. Add 3 to 5 pictures (they should be 2 MB minimum in size, in landscape format and attached separately when you decide to send your entry to us).
5. Post it online and send us the URL where your story is published. **OR** send your post to us at marketing@oceanwide-expeditions.com. Either way, make sure you include your full name and e-mail address.
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€ 500 gift voucher
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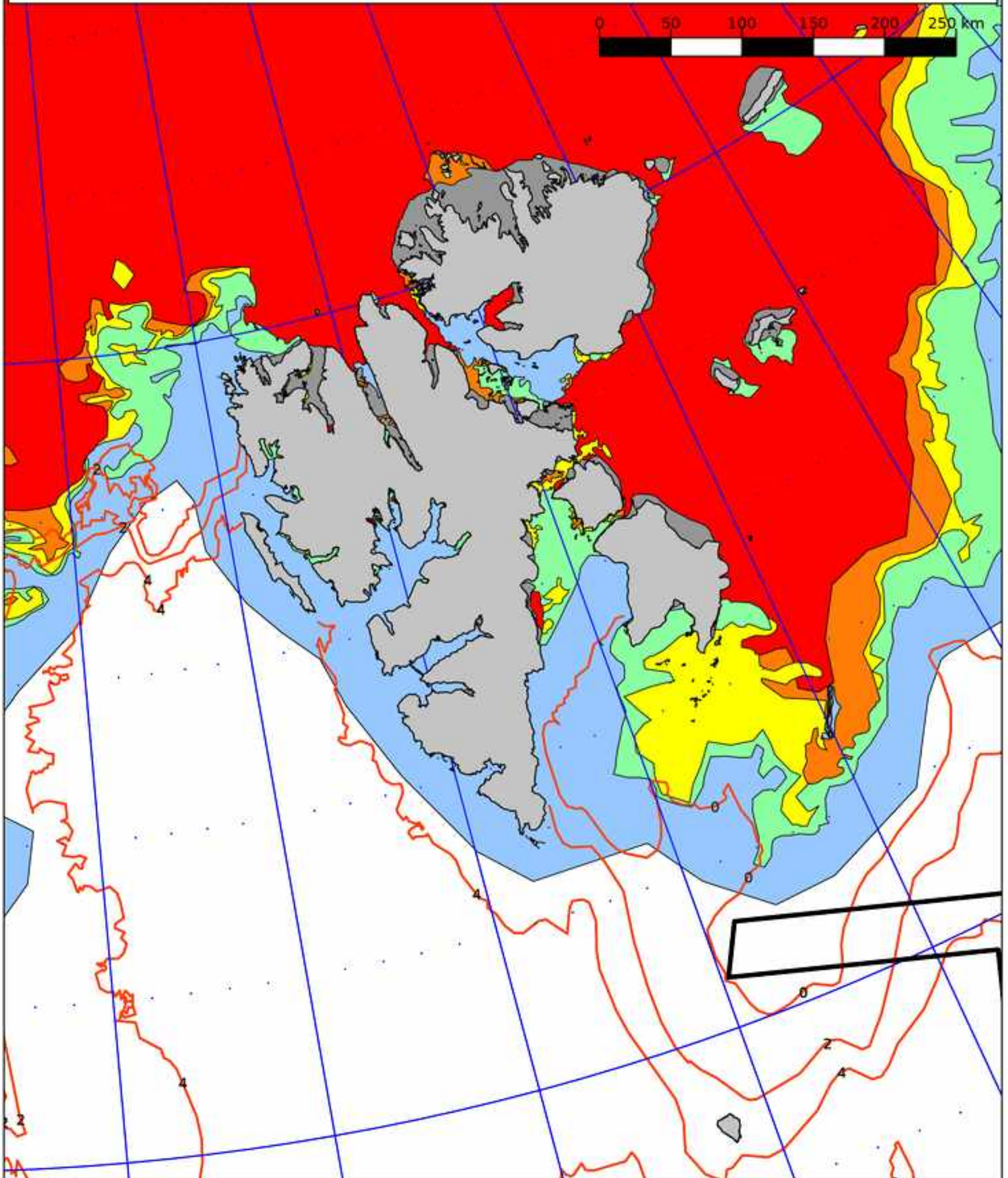
€ 250 gift voucher
for Oceanwide Expeditions



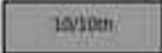





**ENTRIES CLOSE
DECEMBER 31**

Our lucky winners will be contacted by e-mail and Facebook by January 15, 2018





Read the full terms and conditions on oceanwide-expeditions.com/page/contest-terms



Ice Categories

 10/10th	Fast Ice	 7-9/10th	Close Drift Ice	 1-4/10th	Very Open Drift Ice
 0-10/10th	Very Close Drift Ice	 4-7/10th	Open Drift Ice	 0-1/10th	Open Water

Projection: Polar Stereographic, True Scale at 90°N, WGS84 Scale: 3.792.530
 Map Corners:
 UL = 82°59'26.367"N, 4°23'24.258"E UR = 80°15'44.998"N, 44°11'58.041"E
 LR = 72°32'49.391"N, 22°45'57.155"E LL = 73°52'48.561"N, 1°53'51.282"E
 Coastline Data: GSHHS version 2.2.0 (<http://www.soest.hawaii.edu/wessel/gshhs/>)


 Sentinel-1
 Radarsat-2  Sea Surface Temperature



- 1- Polar Bear
- 2- Burgerbukta
- 3- Ingeborgfjellet
- 4- Bamsebu
- 5- Blue Whales
- 6- Raudfjord/Polar Bears
- 7- Sea Ice
- 8- Smeerenburg
- 9- Magdalenefjord
- 10- Gjertsenodden
- 11- Alkhornet
- 12- Longyearbyen

BIRDS OF SVALBARD

à

English Name	German	French
Great Northern Diver	Eistaucher	Plongeon Imbrin
White billed driver	Gravia Adamii	
Red-throated diver	Sterntaucher	Plongeon catmarin
Northern Fulmar	Eissturmvogel	Petrel fulmar
Leach's Storm Petrel	Wellenläufer	Océanite culblanc
Northern Gannet	Basstöpel	Fou de Bassan
Whopper Swan	Singschwan	Cygne chanteur
Bean Goose	Saatgans	Oie des moissons
Pink-footed Goose	Kurzschnabelgans	Oie à bec court
Barnacle Goose	Weisswangengans	Bernache nonnette
White-fronted Goose	Blässgans	Oie Rieuse
Greylag Goose	Graugans	Oie cendrée
Pale-bellied Brent Goose	Hellbäuchige Ringelgans	Bernache à ventre pâle
Brent Goose	Ringelgans	Bernache cravant
Snow Goose	Schneegans	L'Oie des neiges
Eurasian Wigeon	Pfeifente	Canard siffleur
Eurasian Teal	Krickente	Sarcelle d'hiver
Mallard	Stockente	Canard colvert
Northern Pintail	Spießente	Canard pilet
Tufted Duck	Reiherente	Fuligule morillon
Common Eider	Eiderente	Eider commun
King Eider	Prachteiderente	Eider à tête grise
Steller's Eider	Scheckente	Eider de Steller
Long-tailed Duck	Eisente	Harelde boréal
Black Scooter	Trauerente	Macreuse noire
Common Goldeneye	Schellente	Garrot à oeil d'or
Rock Ptarmigan	Alpenschneehuhn	Lagopède des Alpes
Eurasian Oystercatcher	Austernfischer	Huïtrier Pie
Ringed Plover	Sandregenpfeifer	Grand Gravelot
European Golden Plover	Goldregenpfeifer	Pluvier doré
Sanderling	Sanderling	Bécasseau sanderling
Pectoral Sandpiper	Graubruststrandläufer	Bécasseau tacheté
Purple Sandpiper	Meerstrandläufer	Bécasseau violet
Red Knot	Knutt	Bécasseau maubèche
Dunlin	Alpenstrandläufer	Bécasseau variable
Whimbrel	Regenbrachvogel	Courlis corlieu
Common Redshank	Rotschenkel	Chevalier gambette
Ruddy Turnstone	Steinwälzer	Tournepierre à collier
Grey Phalarope	Thorshühnchen	Phalarope à bec large
Red-necked Phalarope	Odinshühnchen	Phalarope à Bec mince
Pomarine Skua	Spatelraubmöwe	Labbe pomarin

Arctic Skua	Schmarotzerraub-möwe	Labbe parasite
Long-tailed Skua	Falkenraubmöwe	Labbe à longue queue
Great Skua	Skua	Grande Labbe
Sabine's Gull	Schwalbenmöwe	Mouette de Sabine
Black-headed Gull	Lachmöwe	Mouette rieuse
Common/Mew Gull	Sturmmöwe	Goéland cendré
Glaucous Gull	Eismöwe	Goéland bourgmestre
Iceland gull	Polarmöwe	Goéland arctique
Herring Gull	Silbermöwe	Goéland argenté
Lesser black-backed Gull	Heringsmöwe	Goéland brun
Great black-backed Gull	Mantelmöwe	Goéland marin
Kittiwake	Dreizehenmöwe	Mouette tridactyle
Ross' Gull	Rosenmöwe	Mouette de Ross
Ivory Gull	Elfenbeinmöwe	Mouette ivoire
Arctic Tern	Küstenseeschwalbe	Sterne arctique
Common Guillemot	Trottellumme	Guillemot de Treol
Brunnich's Guillemot	Dickschnabellumme	Guillemot de Brunnich
Black Guillemot ssp mandtii	Gryllteiste	Guillemot à miroir blanc
Little Auk	Krabbentaucher	Mergule nain
Puffin	Papageitaucher	Macareux moine
Barn Swallow	Rauchschwalbe	Hirondelle rustique
White Wagtail	Bachstelze	Bergeronnette grise
Meadow Pipit	Wiesenpieper	Pipit farlouse
Wheatear	Steinschmätzer	Traquet
Blackbird	Amsel	Merle noir
Snow Bunting	Schneeammer	Bruant des neiges
Redpoll	Birkenzeisig	Sizerin flammé
Lapland longspur	Spornammer	Plectrophane lapon
Fieldfare	Wacholderdrossel	Grive litorne
Redwing	Rotdrossel	Grive mauvis
Brambling	Bergfink	Pinson du Nord
Gyrfalcon	Gerfalke	Faucon Gerfaut

MAMMALS OF SVALBARD

English	German	French
Walrus	Walross	Morse
Bearded seal	Bartrobbe	Phoque barbu
Ringed seal	Ringelrobbe	Phoque marbré
Harp seal	Sattelrobbe	Phoque du Groenland
Hooded seal	Klappmütze	Phoque à capuchon
Common /Harbour seal	Seehund	Phoque commun
Minke Whale	Zwergwal	Petit rorqual
Sei Whale	Seiwal	Rorqual boréal

Blue Whale	Blauwal	Baleine bleue
Fin Whale	Finnwal	Rorqual commun
Humpback Whale	Buckelwal	Baleine á bosse
Bowhead whale	Grönlandwal	Baleine du Groenland
Sperm Whale	Pottwal	Cachelot
Narwhal	Narwal	Narval
Northern Bottlenose Whale	Entenwal (Dögling)	Hyperoden arctique
Orca (Killer Whale)	Schwertwal (Orca)	Orque
White-beaked Dolphin	Weisschnauzendelphin	Lagenorhynque
Beluga	Weisswal	Marsouin ou Dauphin blanc
Polar Bear	Eisbär	Ours blanc
Arctic Fox	Polarfuchs	Renard arctique
Spitsbergen Reindeer	Svalbard Renntier	Renne du Spitzberg
Sibling vole	Südfeldmaus	Campagnol des champs
Short tailed Vole	Erdmaus	Campagnol agreste

Day

Dutch	Latin	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Ijsduiker	<i>Gavia immer</i>							
					x		x	
Roodkeelduiker	<i>Gavia stellata</i>						x	
Noordse stormvogel	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Vaal Stormvogeltje	<i>Oceanodroma leucorhoa</i>							
Jan-van-gent	<i>Morus bassanus</i>							
Wilde zwaan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>							
Taigarietgans	<i>Anser fabalis</i>							
Kleine rietgans	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>		x	x	x			
Brandgans	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>		x	x			x	x
Kolgans	<i>Anser albifrons</i>							
Grauwe gans	<i>Anser anser</i>							
Witbuikrotgans	<i>Branta hrota</i>							
Rotgans	<i>Branta bernicla</i>			x				
Sneeuwvangans	<i>Chen caerulescens</i>							
Smient	<i>Anas penelope</i>							
Wintertaling	<i>Anas crecca</i>							
Wilde eend	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>							
Pijlstaart	<i>Anas acuta</i>							
Kuifeend	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>							
Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	x	x	x	x		x	x
Konings eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>						x	
Stellers eider	<i>Polysticta stelleri</i>							
Ijseend	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>							
Zwarte zee-eend	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>							
Brilduiker	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>							
Spitsbergen Sneeuwwhoen	<i>Lagopus mutus hyperboreus</i>							
Scholekster	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>							
Bontbekplevier	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>							
Goudplevier	<i>Pluvialis apricaria</i>							
Drieteenstrandloper	<i>Calidris alba</i>						x	
Gestreepte strandloper	<i>Calidris melanotos</i>							
Paarse strandloper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>			x			x	
Kanoet	<i>Calidris canutus</i>							
Bonte strandloper	<i>Calidris alpina</i>							
Regenwulp	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>							
Tureluur	<i>Tringa totanus</i>							
Steenloper	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>							
Rosse franjepoot	<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>			x				
Grauwe franjepoot	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>							
Middelste jager	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>							

Kleine jager	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Kleinste jager	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>		x	x				
Grote jager	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>		x		x	x	x	
Vorkstaartmeeuw	<i>Xema sabini</i>							
Kokmeeuw	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>							
Stormmeeuw	<i>Larus canus</i>							
Grote Burgemeester	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Kleine Burgemeester	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>							
Zilvermeeuw	<i>Larus argentatus</i>							
Kleine mantelmeeuw	<i>Larus fuscus</i>							
Grote mantelmeeuw	<i>Larus marinus</i>							
Drieteenmeeuw	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Rossmeeuw	<i>Rhodostethia rosea</i>							
Ivoormeeuw	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>		x	x				
Noordse stern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	x	x		x	x	x	
Zeekoet	<i>Uria aalge</i>							
Dikbekzeekoet	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Zwarte zeekoet ssp mandtii	<i>Cephus grylle mandtii</i>	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Kleine alk	<i>Alle alle</i>	x	x	x	x		x	x
Papegaaiduiker	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	x	x	x	x		x	
Boerenzwaluw	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>							
Witte Kwikstaart	<i>Motacilla alba</i>							
Graspieper	<i>Anthus pratensis</i>							
Tapuit	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>							
Merel	<i>Turdus merula</i>							
Sneeuwgorz	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>			x			x	x
Barmsijs	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>							
Ijsgors	<i>Calcarius lapponicus</i>							
Kramsvogel	<i>Turdus pilaris</i>							
Koperwiek	<i>Turdus iliacus</i>							
Keep	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>							
Giervalk	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>							



Dutch	Latin	Day						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Walrus	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>			x	x		x	
Baardrob	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>				x	x		
Ringelrob	<i>Phoca hispida</i>							
Zadelrob	<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>	x			x			
Klapmuts	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>			x				
Gewone zeehond	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>				x		x	
Dwergvinvis	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>			x	x	x		
Noordse vinvis	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>							

Blauwe vinvis	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	x	x	x			x	x
Gewone vinvis	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>		x	x				
Bultrug	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>							
Groenlandse walvis	<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>							
Potvis	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>							
Narwal	<i>Monodon monoceros</i>							
Butskop	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>							
Zwaardwalvis (Orka)	<i>Orcinus orca</i>							
Witsnuitdolfijn	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>							
Beloega	<i>Dephinapterus leucas</i>							
Ijsbeer	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>		x	x	x	x	x	
Poolvos	<i>Alopex lagopus</i>			x			x	
Spitsbergen Rendier	<i>Rangifer tarandus platyrhynchus</i>			x				x
Oostelijke veldmuis	<i>Microtus rossiaemeridionalis</i>							
Aardmuis	<i>Microtus agrestis</i>							

Michael Ginzburg – Expedition Leader



Since his first scientific project at the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (Germany) at age 17, Michael focused his work on polar algae and sea ice. Field work became his passion and even turned into an addiction when he stepped on Svalbard aged 20. Michael instantly fell in love with sea ice, and ever since, he has worked on the evolution and ecology of diatoms of the Arctic and Antarctic. Michael has studied both marine and polar biology as well as participated in over a dozen scientific expeditions with durations of up to four months.

Having travelled all seven continents, it was only a matter of time before Michael began sharing his passion for nature in photography and publications. Today, Michael is leading expeditions and working as a photojournalist throughout the world. In 2016, Michael accepted a teaching position for photojournalism as well as the position of the editor in chief for The Explorer's Magazine.

Dr. Katja Riedel – Assistant Expedition Leader



Katja grew up in Germany, where she studied and completed a PhD in atmospheric chemistry.

For her research, she overwintered at the German Antarctic Neumayer Station in 1997, where she was responsible for the Atmospheric Observatory.

Since then, she has been on several scientific expeditions to Antarctica, measuring ozone at Scott Base and drilling ice cores at Law Dome. In Svalbard, she participated in a 220-km skiing expedition in the Northwest of the island of Spitsbergen. In Greenland, she worked as a volunteer in the vicinity of Kangerlussuaq, where she helped to quantify carbon dioxide emissions from plants and soils.

In 2001, the great outdoors drew her to New Zealand, which she now calls home. Here, she has worked as a scientist for the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research in Wellington. Her main research interests were greenhouse gases in the atmosphere and in ice cores. In 2013, she quit her science job to work as freelance guide, science journalist, and photographer. She has worked as a guide and lecturer on passenger ships in both the Arctic and Antarctic since 2011.

Life is an adventure for Katja, and whenever she can, she travels, hikes, cycles, sea-kayaks, and skis to the remote and beautiful places on earth. She is also a keen photographer, juggler, and chef. She speaks German and English.

Dr. Lynn Woodworth – Guide and Lecturer



Lynn comes from the mountains and lakes of western Canada, where she found her love for wilderness and cold water. She started travelling at 17 and eventually settled in Australia, where she completed two biology degrees, including a PhD in Conservation Genetics, which examined minimum viable population size in wildlife.

Resuming travel after academia, she abandoned her motorcycle in Argentina to sail to the Antarctic Peninsula. Hooked! She has been working in the Polar Regions ever since. Up north, she has taken ships to arctic Canada, Iceland, Greenland, Svalbard, Russia, and the North Pole. Down south, she is well-familiar with the Falklands, South Georgia, and the Antarctic Peninsula but will swap for the remote Ross Sea any time.

Lynn stopped counting polar trips at somewhere over 135 voyages and 17 different vessels. She has held most ship-based roles including lecturer, guide, zodiac driver, Assistant Expedition Leader, and Expedition Leader, and she has also worked on shore as Operations Manager.

She has co-authored two books on Antarctica: "Antarctica The Complete Story", published on three continents, and "The Blue Continent" in 17 languages and counting. Lynn has recently moved to Tasmania, where she is as close to Antarctica as she can get and still be in Australia.

Alexander Romanovskiy – Guide and Lecturer



Alexander (Sascha) originates from Saint-Peters-burg, the northern capital of Russia. Born in 1981, he graduated from boarding school before entering Saint-Petersburg State University, where he studied physical and regional geography, ecology, and international tourism. His PhD research at Herzen State Pedagogical University focused on geoecology.

In 2011, Alexander decided to pause his scientific career and do something completely different. He homed in on tourism and kicked in the door to the world: as trekking guide in the Fann mountains (Tajikistan); as guesthouse staff at the Novolazarevskaya scientific station (Queen Maud Land, Antarctica). Since 2012, he lives for most of the year in Svalbard, guiding in the ghost town of Pyramiden. In 2016, Alexander turned over a yet another page in his colourful career, now as a naturalist guide on cruise ships around Svalbard and Antarctica.

Each year, Alexander dedicates three to four months to his main passion – globetrotting. No public transport, no hotels, only hitch-hiking and staying with locals or sleeping in a tent. This way, he has already set foot in almost all Soviet republics, the Middle East, Asia, and South America. Luckily, Earth is not flat, and there is no end! Our world is big, friendly, and certainly interesting to explore!

Sebastian Arrebola – Expedition Guide



Sebastian is from Buenos Aires, Argentina. He holds a tourism degree and has completed a one-year mountain guide training course, climbing in regions like Mendoza, Bariloche, and Tierra del Fuego. In 2000, he moved to Ushuaia and became a tour guide. From 2002, he lived in England for almost two years to follow various courses of the Royal Yachting Association.

Sebastian took his specialism in polar tourism and natural history on a first trip to Antarctica on board a 36-ft sail boat, where he developed ice-navigation skills and came to appreciate the polar environment. He has since led several expedition cruises down the very south. Since 2008, he also ventures north into the Canadian Arctic, through the Northwest Passage, and to Svalbard.

Sebastian has been an invited speaker on Antarctic topics at international meetings and public events. He has published in magazines like *The Great Southern Route*, *Superyacht Times*, and *Boat International* and co-authored “ANTARCTICA, DISCOVERING THE LAST CONTINENT”. He speaks Spanish and English.

Dr. Frigga Kruse – Guide and Lecturer



Frigga is a German archaeologist and geologist. When she traveled to the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula in 1999, there was nothing to suggest that the Polar Regions would become her place of work. In 2008, she first visited Svalbard to carry out archaeological fieldwork as part of her PhD research on the British mining history of the archipelago – she has since become a regular. Her current research focuses on 420 years of natural-resource exploitation (whaling, sealing, fur-hunting, and mining) in and around Svalbard and Jan Mayen and the lasting impact on Arctic marine and terrestrial ecosystems. Since 2015, she has been sharing her broad polar knowledge and a knack for story-telling as a guide and lecturer on Oceanwide’s expedition cruises. You can approach her in German, English, and Dutch, and she is also teaching herself Norwegian.

Karen Mulders – Guide and Lecturer



At home in the Netherlands, I switched from academia to an administrative job and substitute teaching in primary schools. This now allows me to fit in more travelling and guiding around the globe. Children and grown-ups alike are so eager to learn, especially if stories, pictures, and local know-how are involved. I love it!

I hold a Bachelor's degree in Pedagogy and Linguistics as well as a Master's degree in Slavistics, majoring in Russian and Ant/Arctic Studies. As a PhD student, I investigated the medieval and early modern settlement history of the Barents Sea coast, which nowadays is home to Saami, Nenets, Russians, and Norwegians.

I participated in a biohydrological expedition to the Pechora delta in 2001 and in one leg of the circumnavigation by the *SV Vagabond* in 2003. Since then, I zig-zagged between Russia, Mongolia, China, Peru, South Africa, Senegal, Iceland... eventually deciding to return to my first love: the Polar Regions. I have discovered Antarctica for myself and participated in the Dutch SEES expedition to Edgeøya (Svalbard) in 2015. In 2016, I finally jumped on board my first Oceanwide expedition cruise.

Sara Jenner – Guide and Lecturer



Sara was born in England and inherited a love for travel from her parents. She and her family split their time between the UK and the South of Spain. When she was 10, she traded in her favourite pink bicycle for money to start her travel fund. Every birthday and Christmas she added a little more, and at 18, she realised her dream of travelling around Australia. She learnt to scuba dive on the Great Barrier Reef – and that was it! Travel addiction confirmed!

Sara has traveled the globe in search of wild and remote places, and has spent many months volunteering on wildlife conservation projects in a bid to help some of our most iconic and endangered species.

As a keen photographer, she is never happier than when she is in the back of a safari jeep or bobbing along out at sea in search of wildlife. Sara's love of wildlife and the great outdoors has taken her to all seven continents and she has travelled extensively in the Polar Regions including the Antarctic Peninsula, Svalbard, Greenland, Iceland, Baffin Island, Alaska, and the Canadian High Arctic. Returning to the UK Sara used this knowledge to work in the travel industry as a polar specialist for several years but, of course the travel bug bit again and Sara now joins us on board in Spitsberbergen.

Lauke Bisschops MD – Ship's Physician



Hello, my name is Lauke Bisschops. I'm from the Netherlands, and I will be your doctor on this trip. I have a background in emergency medicine – I worked in the emergency department for six years – and now I am an elderly care physician in training. Besides that I also am part of an organisation called Outdoor Medicine, which organises courses for people who want to work as an expedition doc.

I took half a year off from my normal job to take part in a few expeditions as a doctor myself, and I just came back from such a placement in the Philippines. Hence the tan. I have been to many places, but it is my first time in the Arctic. So just like you, I am really looking forward to this trip to learn all about the High North!



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

Captain Alexey Nazarov

and his international crew

of 45

Including:

Hotel Manager:	Sebastian Duma	[Romania]
Assist. Hotel Manager:	Sava Savov	[Bulgaria]
Head Chef:	Gabor Kiss	[Hungary]
Sous Chef:	Ivan Yuriychuk	[Ukraine]
Ship's Physician:	Lauke Bisschops	[Netherlands]
Expedition Leader:	Michael Ginzburg	[Germany/Russia]
Asst Expedition Leader:	Katja Riedel	[Germany/New Zealand]
Expedition Guide:	Lynn Woodworth	[Canada/Australia]
Expedition Guide:	Aleksandr Romanovski	[Russia/Norway]
Expedition Guide:	Sebastian Arrebola	[Argentina]
Expedition Guide:	Frigga Kruse	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Karen Mulders	[Netherlands]
Expedition Guide:	Wilson Cheung	[Hong Kong]
Expedition Guide:	Sara Jenner	[United Kingdom]

Welcome you on board!



OCEANWIDE

EXPEDITIONS

North Spitsbergen

Polar Bear Special

Embarkation in Longyearbyen

Thursday 15 June 2017

- 1600 **Welcome on board!** Your luggage will be delivered to your cabin as soon as possible. Check to make sure you are not missing anything. Feel free to explore around the ship.
- ~1700 **Mandatory Safety and Lifeboat Drill** in the Lounge (Deck 5). ALL PASSENGERS are required to attend this very important safety briefing.
- This will be followed by an **Introduction to the ship** by our Hotel Manager Sebastian Duma and Expedition Leader Michael Ginzburg in the Lounge (Deck 5).
- ~1800 **Plancius departs Longyearbyen.** The foredeck and aft deck are closed while the crew are handling the mooring lines.
- 1900 **Captain's Cocktails!** Captain Alexey Nazarov and Expedition Leader Michael Ginzburg invite you to join them for a **Welcome Drink** in the Lounge, where you will meet your Captain and the Expedition Team.
- 1930 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room located on Deck 3 behind reception. Bon appétit.

This afternoon we will sail into open waters and the ship may roll. Please ensure you secure all of your valuables (cameras, computers, etc.) in your cabin to prevent any accidents. Use the handrails when you move around the ship. Keep at least one hand free to hold on to the ship.



North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special

Hornsund: Burgerbukta

Friday 16 June 2017

Today we will be exploring Hornsund, Spitsbergen's most southerly and arguably one of the most beautiful fjords. The area is stunning – high mountain peaks, glaciers, and the potential for a great variety of wildlife. This morning we want to take a **scenic ship cruise through the Hornsund** in search of Arctic wildlife.

0730 Wake-up call.

0800 **Breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room

~0900 After breakfast we will call you by deck number to the boot room (Deck 3 front) to collect your rubber boots. It's a good idea to bring you thick socks with you when you try the boots.

~1015 Please join Michael in the Lounge for a **mandatory AECO, Polar Bear and Zodiac briefing**.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

TBA In the afternoon we intend to Zodiac cruise in beautiful **Burgerbukta**, a smaller side arm of Hornsund, with great glacial scenery. Please dress warmly (we will stay in the boats)!

1830 Come and join Michael and the Expedition team in the Lounge for a **Daily Recap** where we look back onto today and discuss our plans for tomorrow.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit.

TBA* = to be announced



North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special

Bellsund: Ingeborgfjellet Vårsolbukta & Bamsebu

Saturday 17 June 2017

- 0730 Wake-up call.
- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room
- 0900 Please come to the lounge for a pre-landing briefing for our landing at **Ingeborgfjellet and Camp Millar in Vårsolbukta**. This area has a spectacular Little auk colony. These birds nest among boulders in the cliffs, and a walk up-slope on rocky tundra is necessary to get closer to them. Should you rather stay on the flat parts, it still remains a unique experience to see these birds and hear their incredible laughing calls. Keep a lookout for reindeer and foxes. The Northern Exploration Company erected two huts in this area to exploit a suspected gold vein. These high hopes were soon crushed and today the huts, some mine carts and a small shaft is all that remains
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1400 Please come to the lounge for a pre-landing briefing for our afternoon activities at **Bamsebu**. Here we find a beach littered with hundreds of beluga whale bones, however, sometimes their living relatives swim along the shore! The tundra offers opportunities for hiking and observing bird life. We will offer three walking options: long, medium and short.
- 1830 Come and join Michael and the Expedition team in the Lounge for a **Daily Recap** and to discuss our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit!



North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special

Sea Ice Edge

Sunday 18 June 2017

- 0730 Wake-up call.
- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room
- 0930 Please come to the lounge where Katja will talk about **Polar bears**.
- 1100 Gina Nichol, from Sunrise Birding, kindly offered to open up her lecture on **Seabirds of Svalbard** to the public, so please come to the lounge if you want to know which birds we can see.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- This afternoon will cruise along the **sea-ice edge in the North of Svalbard** in search of Arctic wildlife. Enjoy the journey through the sea-ice, which is spectacular in itself, and help with the search for wildlife, there more eyes the better.
- 1830 Please come the Lounge for our **Daily Recap** and hear about our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 Your **Dinner** is served in the dining room. Enjoy!



North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special

Sea Ice Edge

Monday 19 June 2017

Today we will continue our cruise along the **sea-ice edge in the North of Svalbard**. Enjoy the journey through the ice and help us with the search for Arctic wildlife. Depending on conditions we might offer a lecture. Please listen for announcements.

0730 Wake-up call.

0800 **Breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room

1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.

1800 Please come the Lounge for our **Daily Recap** and our plans for tomorrow.

1830 A **Special Arctic Dinner** is served for you on the back deck behind the dining room. Please dress warmly, bring your dancing shoes and have fun!



North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special Expedition morning in Magdalenefjord & Smeerenburg

Tuesday 20 June 2017

- 0730 Wake-up call.
- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room
- 0900 Please come to the lounge for a pre-landing briefing. Afterwards we would like to take you ashore at **Smeerenburg**, a Dutch whaling settlement from the 17th century where we will be able to see the remains of old blubber ovens. Sometimes walrus are hauled out on the beach. Please remember to be quite when we approach the walrus.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- 1430 Please come to the lounge for a briefing about our planned activities in **Magdalenefjord**. This is a particularly scenic fjord with steep sided mountains which reach up to 900 metres on the northern side of the fjord. On the south side a number of glaciers can be seen flowing down from the high mountains to the sea.
- 1830 Please come to the Lounge for our **Daily Recap** and our plans for tomorrow.
- 1900 Your **Dinner** is served in the dining room. Bon appétit!



North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special

Gjertsenodden & Poolepynten

Wednesday 21 June 2017

- 0730 Wake-up call.
- 0800 **Breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room
- 0900 Please join Michael in the Lounge for a pre-landing briefing before we go ashore at **Gjertsenodden in the beautiful St. Jonsfjord**. Here we hope to offer an energetic hike to a viewpoint on top of a moraine overlooking the Gaffelbreen glacier, a medium walk and a leisurely stroll along the coastline and onto the tundra.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the Dining Room.
- ~1330 After lunch it is time for the **settlement of your shipboard accounts**: Sebastian and Sava will call you by deck number. This will take some time, so we ask you to please be patient.
- ~1530 This afternoon we plan to go ashore in **Poolepynten**. This location is a known haul-out site (resting ground) for **walrus** when they are not busy feeding at sea. We will split in 2 groups. One group will go to the walruses first while the other group goes for a walk, then we will swap. Please remember to be quite while with the walruses and listen to the instructions of the guides.
- 1830 **Captains Cocktails**. Please join Michael and the Expedition team in the Lounge as we toast a successful voyage with Captain Alexey. It is also an opportunity to celebrate the longest day – **Summer Solstice**.
- 1900 A **farewell dinner** will be served in the Dining Room. Bon appétit!



North Spitsbergen - Polar Bear Special Disembarkation in Longyearbyen Thursday 22 June 2017

Please place your **large check-in luggage outside your cabin before 0630**. Remember to keep your waterproofs handy! Please **return your keys to Reception** when you go to breakfast!

0630 Your **check-in luggage** has to be outside the cabin door

0700 **Wake up call.** The bridge will be closed this morning.

0730 The **breakfast** buffet is available for one hour in the dining room

~0815 We will start to shuttle you with the Zodiacs to the pier. This is a dry landing onto a jetty. **Please wear your waterproofs and your lifejacket!**

~0900

- Busses will be on the pier ready to ferry you to the center of town. **Please identify your luggage on the pier!** We can help you load it onto the luggage truck. (You will meet the luggage truck again at the airport where you can take your luggage from the truck to the check-in counter.)
- If you are staying in town overnight please take your luggage with you on the bus, **don't** put it on the truck!

1300 Busses will transport you from the town center to the Airport to meet your plane. They will pick you up from where you were dropped off.

On behalf of Captain Nazarov, his officers and crew, Michael and the Expedition team and Sebastian, Sava and the hotel department, we would like to thank you for travelling with us onboard Plancius and we wish you a pleasant and safe onward journey.