

Spirit of Antarctica

Aboard *MV Sylvia Earle* | 10 - 20 December 2022





Ushuaia

DAY 1 | Saturday 10 December 2022

Position at 2100 on Dec 10

Latitude: 55°00'S

Longitude: 66°47'W

Course: 126°

Speed: 13 knots

Wind Speed: 15 knots SE

Barometer: 1000

Air Temp: 10°

Explore. Dream. Discover.

—Mark Twain

After months of planning, weeks of anticipation and long-haul flights from around the globe, we finally arrived at Ushuaia, known locally as el fin del mundo (the end of the world), raring to begin our Antarctica adventure.

At 4pm, we clambered up the gangway where the Aurora team and onboard hotel staff showed us to our staterooms. Then it was time to be the very first passengers to explore our new home-away-from-home, the *Sylvia Earle*.

Onboard we total 115 adventurers with nationalities representing Australia (15), Canada (9), Czech Republic (1), Denmark (1), France (2), Hungary (1), India (3), Japan (1), New Zealand (1), UK (11), USA (69) along with 21 Expedition Team and 88 Ship's crew from all over the world.

We had time to unpack, settle into staterooms and enjoy a lovely afternoon tea before Expedition Leader Howard called us together to welcome us onto the maiden voyage aboard the *Sylvia Earle*. Afterwards we received our lifeboat and safety briefing and readied ourselves for the abandon ship drill.

The sound of seven-short-one-long rings from the ship's signal system was our cue to don warm clothes, orange lifejackets and gather at the muster stations to sample our safety gear. Our safety officers and crew guided us to the back deck where we learned the essential, but hopefully never used, operations on board.

We were called to the dining rooms where a delicious meal was served complete with a delectable dessert. During our meal, we cast off our lines and steamed east along the beautiful Beagle Channel. The bustling town of Ushuaia gradually receded as we made our way past slopes forecasted with beech and snowy slopes brilliant in the steely light. To our portside the snow-capped peaks of Argentina, Chile to our starboard. We saw a veritable spate of birds as we sailed closer to the Drake passage.

While some enjoyed a nightcap at Tektite bar, most of us made our way to staterooms for a much-needed sleep.



Drake Passage

DAY 2 | Sunday 11 December 2022

Position at noon on Dec 11

Latitude: 56°55.8'S

Longitude: 064°53.2'W

Course: 155°

Speed: 12.3 knots

Wind Speed: Force 3

Barometer: 1001

Air Temp: 8°C

Thus they had just crept over the line separating the 'Raving Fifties' from the 'Screaming Sixties', so called because of the weather that prevails there. This then, was the Drake Passage, the most dreaded bit of ocean on the globe – and rightly so

—Sir Ernest Shackleton

It's official, the *Sylvia Earle* is on her maiden voyage sailing towards Antarctica! Today was our first day fully spent at sea. We entered the fabled Drake Passage the previous night, many of us wondering about the conditions it would present us with, but the Drake was merciful and most of us had a good night's sleep, as the ship rolled gently as we made our way across the Southern Ocean.

After breakfast, we made our way to the beautifully fitted Lecture Theatre to hear our Expedition Leader, Howard run through the mandatory IAATO briefing. We learnt about the rules and regulations to obey when in Antarctica and appreciated the sensitive nature of the polar environments and the wildlife we will be interacting with. The IAATO briefing was followed by the important biosecurity information, and then our Expedition Team helped us to vacuum our clothes and gear to make sure we don't introduce any foreign organic materials to Antarctica.

At 12pm, our fantastic Naturalist, Ian McCarthy, delivered a personal talk, "Ocean Wanderers", during which he told us about time spent with some of the biggest birds in the world: wandering albatross, black-browed albatross, grey-headed albatross, and their place in the Southern Ocean, which is their home. Ian also talked about gentoo penguins on Cuverville Island, which we plan to visit in a few days. At the time, Ian was filming a documentary piece, called "Life in the Freezer", for the BBC natural history unit. He told us a story of having his tent invaded by penguins, and how they made the tent and his sleeping bag smell like a fish processing plant for the rest of the expedition.

Those of us who signed up for snorkelling or kayaking programs were busy in the mudroom, where the activity guides fitted their dry suits and distributed the equipment to be ready for our first outing.

In the afternoon Ian went up to the Observation Deck to do the sea bird survey for the Citizen Science program, and later in the evening, our special guest, Lisa Blair delivered a fascinating talk about her first solo sailing expedition around Antarctica on her 'Climate Action NOW' sailboat. Lisa told us about the preparations that took her almost four years before setting off and shared some very emotional memories about the most challenging moments of this expedition. It was a raw, inspiring story of personal strength, will power and survival.

The day wrapped up with the Captain's Welcome. It was a lively evening after we got to meet our skilled Captain Artem and his team. Howard introduced all Expedition Team on this *Sylvia Earle* maiden voyage, we have 20 Expedition Team members from all over the world, bringing an incredible wealth of knowledge with them.

In the evening, at 10.30pm, we crossed the Antarctic Convergence, where the cold waters of the Antarctic meet the warmer waters of the northern oceans. That officially marked the moment we entered Antarctica.



Drake Passage; Deception Island

DAY 3 | Monday 12 December 2022

Position at 1000 on Dec 12

Latitude: 64°08'S

Longitude: 061°37'W

Course: 197°

Speed: At anchor

Wind Speed: 3 knots N

Barometer: 990

Air Temp: 5°C

The first view of Antarctica is always an iceberg. It may be a monolith hovering on the horizon, a barely discernible spectre looming out of the mist, or perhaps a sun-spangled, dazzling icon marking the gateway to this new world. It will undoubtedly be icebergs that leave the most lasting impressions on the imagination of visitors.

—Mark Jones, *Wild Ice*

The Drake Passage is the right of passage for Antarctica explorers. Named after Sir Frances Drake, known for having some of the roughest seas in the world. Here many ships have fallen victim to the treacherous conditions such as 10 metre swells, blasting winds and icy waters.

This morning dawned a beautiful day. The Drake Passage looked like a Drake Lake as we are making our way down to the South Shetland Islands, which is usually the first land most people see, when visiting the continent. If only the Drake Passage was always this calm, such a beautiful and relaxing way, to wake up. Just the perfect day!

Last night attracted many to the Observation Lounge, where several of the Expedition Team established a 'first iceberg spotting' competition and helped expeditioners calculate locations and timings the first iceberg may be spotted. Locations had to be in by 10am today.

This morning, the early risers were lucky to see a pod of whales, swimming towards the ship.

During our delicious breakfast, we had a couple of penguins also swimming towards the ship, as if they were welcoming us to Antarctica.

We started our day with the Zodiac briefing and then moved onto the fabulous muck boot party, in the mudroom. Followed by the snowshoe briefing and the very exciting Antarctica camp briefing.

For many of us, this is our first time to Antarctica and we're all looking forward to what's ahead, as for some, it's a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Antarctica, known as the last frontier: is NOT famous for its cuisine. Antarctica is famous for its stories of heroic expeditions in which hunger was the one spice, everyone carried.

How fortunate are we onboard the *Sylvia Earle*, that we get spoiled by our Executive Chef Allan and his team

preparing a culinary feast for us, three times per day!

After lunch, Nina our Historian, presented a lecture "Discovery of Antarctica". We learned about the great early explorers coming to Antarctica, being the first to discover this amazing continent.

We past the South Shetland Islands, seeing many penguins and whales along the way. A sealer, merchant mariner by the name of William Smith is generally regarded to have discovered the islands in 1819.

Before dinner, we had a briefing by our Expedition Leader, Howard about the plans for tomorrow. After dinner, we passed Deception Island, sailing into the caldera, through the narrow gap in the island, known as Neptune's Bellows.

What an incredible introduction to Antarctica!



Hydrurga Rocks, Cierva Cove

DAY 4 | Tuesday 13 December 2022

Position at 1647 on Dec 13

Latitude: 64°53'11.0 S

Longitude: 062°52'14.5 W

Course: 163.1°

Speed: At anchor

Wind Speed: 3.7 knots

Barometer: 1000

Air Temp: 4°C

Believe me my young friend, there is nothing, absolutely nothing, half so much worth doing as simply messing about in boats... simply messing.

—Water Rat to Mole from *Wind in the Willows*

What a day. The first landing on the maiden voyage of the *Sylvia Earle* was this morning at Hydrurga Rocks. It could hardly have been more beautiful. The weather was fantastic, sunny, windless with a light cover of cloud. The rocky island was only tiny but was packed with a surprising number of species.

The chinstrap penguins had just begun their breeding season, most of them were incubating newly laid eggs. Some were dozing on the nest while others were busy bringing back small stones to reinforce and enlarge their nests. Chinstraps are beautiful little penguins but can be really feisty however this morning peace reigned in the colonies. There were plenty of snowy sheathbills on the island, and they were very animated, there was love in the air and many of them were courting. For such a plain and boring looking little bird, (like a small white chicken) the sheathbills hearts seem filled to bursting with passion. Everywhere we looked sheathbills were chasing each other or bobbing heads at each other with a look of love in their eyes. It won't be long before there will be several clutches of sheathbill eggs tucked away in hidden secret nooks amongst the rocks.

As we walked across the island, above us flew kelp gulls, giant petrels and blue-eyed shags which were carrying beakfuls of seaweed to line their nests.

The *Sylvia Earle* then repositioned to Cierva Cove. After a delicious lunch we had a Zodiac cruise through a classic Antarctic landscape of icebergs, growlers and bergy bits. The shoreline was mostly comprised of dramatic glaciers and deep snow with rocky mountain tops erupting through it.

Yet again the conditions were perfect with sun and smooth water. The icebergs were simply magnificent, sculpted by sea, sun and wind into abstract and complicated shapes and colours. If you could transport one of them to one of the world's great art galleries, say in Paris, London or Sydney it would not look out of place on display as a great abstract work of art.

When we got to the Argentinian base of Primavera it seemed to have been abandoned by humans, but hundreds of gentoo penguins were nesting around the dilapidated old buildings. We spent some time watching a large flock of gentoos propoising up and down along the shoreline as they tried to get ashore. There was a layer of

bergly bits, which made it difficult for the penguins to land but eventually they managed by swimming under the ice and popping out onto the rocks. But in the meantime they gave us some great views of them swimming and diving very close to our Zodiac. Then it was back for a great dinner onboard.

What a remarkable day it was.



Cuverville, Brown Station/Skontorp

DAY 5 | Wednesday 14 December 2022

Position at 1647 on Dec 14
Latitude: 65°04'500 S
Longitude: 064°02'174 W

Course: 128.4°
Speed: At anchor

Wind Speed: 6 knots
Barometer: 990

Air Temp: 5°C

In many ways, the Antarctic is a world of suspended animation. Suspended between outer space and the fertile continents. Suspended in time – without a local civilisation to make history.

—Diane Ackerman

We woke up this morning to a view of beautiful mountains at Cuverville Island.

Cuverville Island was named by de Gerlache on his 1897-99 Belgica Expedition and honours J.M.A. Cavalier de Cuverville, a French vice-admiral.

During the early morning, the wind picked up to 20 knots so the team decided to cancel the morning snowshoe and kayak activities. Instead, we all went together for the landing on Cuverville. The Zodiacs maneuvered between the ice, taking us safely towards the landing, where everything went smoothly. We were 100 expeditioners on the landing and had a nice walk amongst thousands of gentoo penguins. The gentoo penguins marched back and forth on their highways and seemed quite inquisitive towards us on the beach, much to the delight of everyone.

We spotted a lost frozen penguin egg and learned that sometimes the penguins must wait for the ice to melt in order to reach their nest. If the waiting becomes too long, they need to abandon their egg. Luckily, they are able to produce another egg after a week or so.

On our way back to the ship we spotted a few seals on the ice and then Reza's smiling face in the mudroom.

Back on board, we continued our journey whilst enjoying a lovely lunch and taking in the amazing scenery as we sailed towards Paradise Bay. The landing at Brown Station was the first and only opportunity for us to set foot on the continent of Antarctica.

Most of the kayakers and snorkellers used this opportunity to join the rest of the expeditioners on the landing and save their activities for another time.

On arrival, the weather had changed in our favour. The sea was calm and glassy, the scenery was the most amazing you could wish for.

After putting the kayakers, snorkellers, and Zodiacs in the water we were ready for our exploration of Paradise Bay.

On our Zodiac cruise we spotted blue-eyed shags on the cliff, and penguins in the water around us.

The snowshoe team enjoyed a spectacular hike, the first time on the rope. The view from that high was breathtaking.

The snorkelling team went slightly to the right of the landing station. They spotted starfish and the highlight of the day was snorkelling amongst the penguins. "This is the best snorkelling of my life," commented one expeditioner. After this amazing landing the group went for drinks in the jacuzzi.

The kayakers paddled past Brown Station, then turned southeast into the cove towards the glacier while learning everything Wes knows about ice-paddling. They saw a bunch of blue icebergs and bergy bits.

Back onboard, it was time for our daily recap, another delicious cocktail and a scrumptious dinner with great company!

To top it off: The day blissfully ended with calming tunes by our photographer Bartosz on the piano. What a day!



Petermann Island, Pleneau/Port Charcot

DAY 6 | Thursday 15 December 2022

Position at 1810 on Dec 15

Latitude: 64°39'595 S

Longitude: 062°02'830 W

Course: 335.0°

Speed: At anchor

Wind Speed: 5.7 knots W

Barometer: 1010

Air Temp: 3°C

Antarctica is a separate world. One can feel its presence in the approaches, sailing south from more temperate climes. Standing on deck, one may follow the reeling albatross, feel the drop in temperature, the bite of the wind and the motion of the waves. Yet it is the presence of ice, from the first occasional fragments, escalating in shape, form, and frequency, and finally dominating all else, that brings assurance of arrival in Antarctica.

—Mark Jones, *Wild Ice: Antarctic Journeys*, 1990

We started the day in a bit of a mystic atmosphere with mist over the water and fog in the mountains. When we entered the Lemaire Channel we went through a narrow passage which got even smaller near the floating icebergs. Some of us headed outside for photos and got impressive images of the rocky and glaciated coastline along the channel.

We reached our first landing at Petermann Island and took the Zodiacs into Port Circumcision to land where we were accompanied by several penguins right at the start of our trails. The snorkel team explored the area and the kayak team, fearless as we know them, went out to explore the area around the landing site and the ice floating nearby.

While the kayak team at least stayed at ground level the snowshoe team disappeared into the clouds and had a look at the nearby peaks.

After an amazing time back on the ship, exploring the coastline "with new light" we had lunch and were treated to whales along the way.

Our second landing had a steeper entrance at Port Charcot. We hiked up to the nearby mountain peaks, explored the historic site and had the kayaks in the water again.

The kayak team got cold noses in the wet weather, but along with the Zodiac team, they got to see a whale taking a close look at the ship.

Good thing we had the Zodiac cruise around the icebergs and got to spot that whale.

Some would say the camping team was lucky as the weather gods sent them to the bar instead of into a cold and



Damoy Point, Wilhemina Bay

DAY 7 | Friday 16 December 2022

Position at 1400 on Dec 16

Latitude: 62°45'194 S

Longitude: 061°12'827 W

Course: 169.3°

Speed: At anchor

Wind Speed: At anchor

Barometer: 975

Air Temp: 3°C

Beauty and grace are performed whether or not we will or sense them. The least we can do is try to be there.

—Annie Dillard, Pilgrim at Tinker Creek

This morning we woke up to a heavy snowfall over Damoy Point, located off the west coast of Wiencke Island on the Antarctic Peninsula.

We were all very excited for our last landing in Antarctica.

The day started with our shore party landing at Damoy Point. They checked out the historic hut and had a look inside. The hut was established by the British Antarctic Survey in 1975. It's very well preserved and cosy. Clothes were laid out to show what people used to wear. The path to the top was marked by one of the Expedition Team to allow us to walk up the ridge to the gentoo penguin colony. It was unusual for this time of the year to have so much snow which made it harder for the penguins to make their nests. The view was outstanding, with the mountain range peering through the spot of sun and mist. A beautiful southern skewer was admired soaring through the air above.

The snowshoers ascended the ridge below Jabet Peak and gained panoramic views looking towards Doumer Island and the large glaciers on Anvers Island. They could see down to Port Lockroy from the ridge they were walking on and saw where there used to be a laneway for a ski-plane.

The kayakers went for a paddle along the coastline and cruised along icebergs with beautiful shades of blue. As they were heading towards the penguin colony, they were lucky enough to spot two elephants seals relaxing on the rocks and many birds flying around. As they kept heading towards Port Lockroy they spotted a whale, but unfortunately, they were unable to identify what kind of whale it was. The kayakers commented that this was their favourite paddle of the trip! Everyone was ecstatic about it.

From above to below, our snorkellers had a wonderful experience in the cold water alongside the penguin colonies nesting on exposed rocks. With penguins, it's all about patience, as curiosity will eventually get the better of them. Our snorkellers floated quietly on the surface, observing and waiting for the penguins to make their move. They were then rewarded by a few curious penguins swimming over and sharing their environment them.

It was quite a show to watch from the safety Zodiac.

Gentoo are one of the most curious species of penguins and do love getting our attention. Besides penguins, the snorkellers went along a rock wall covered of moss and seaweed. They saw a translucent colonial salp which is a good sign of a healthy sea, one of the most primitive organisms and a pteropod clone which was described by one of the snorkellers as an alien floaty red little thing.

After a delicious lunch, we cruised through Wilhemina Bay where we spotted many humpback whales and had the opportunity to participate in a few Citizen Science projects, such as Cloud Survey, E-bird surveying and Happy Whale.

Everyone else then enjoyed some down time with picture editing, video sharing, games and a glass of wine.

The excitement started to grow onboard as we were getting ready for the famous Polar Plunge. Many of us were up to the challenge of jumping into the icy Antarctic water and for those who cheered us on, we thank you.

Big congratulations to our 43 brave plungers!

The day finished with a lovely dinner and a Polish documentary made by Bartosz.



Polar Plunge

DAY 7 | Friday 16 December 2022







President Point, Elephant Point

DAY 8 | Saturday 17 December 2022

Position at 1800 on Dec 17

Latitude: 58°41'848 S

Longitude: 064°10'661 W

Course: 353.1°

Speed: 11.3 knots

Wind Speed: 6 knots

Barometer: 980

Air Temp: 5°C

We shall not cease from exploration
And the end of all our exploring
Will be to arrive where we started
And know the place for the first time.

—T. S. Eliot, 'Little Gidding'

We are in our last day of expedition and what an amazing day we had!

As we approached the South Shetland Islands, we were gifted a small window of good weather which allowed us to enjoy the view of more amazing wildlife.

The Shetland are wild, rich in history and covered in natural beauty. They lie about 950 kilometres south-east of Cape Horn and 100 kilometres north-west of the Antarctic Peninsula, from which they are separated by the Drake Passage and Bransfield Strait. The island groups can be divided into two geographically and geologically distinct parts: 1) Elephant and Clarence islands group; 2) the islands between King George and Low islands.

During the morning, we enjoyed a great landing on Snow Island, at President Point. Along with the landing ashore, the kayak and snorkel groups had an amazing morning full of activity. This Island was known by the sealers who named it as early as 1820.

Snow Island is part of the South Shetland archipelago, with a north-east orientation along the Pacific margin of the Antarctic Peninsula, and is largely covered by permanent ice. Outcrops of the island are mainly restricted to President Head Peninsula, where we landed.

We were greeted at the beach by a large group of elephant seals and weaners. We could see them playing and learning how to fight so that when they grow up, they can compete for the top spot of beach master. There were also gentoos and chinstraps penguins, along with nesting giant petrels.

Since we were on a beach, Ashley conducted the Microplastic Citizen Science project with some of along the shore.

Close to midday we started our way back to the ship and started cruising to our next destination, Elephant Point at Livingston Island.

After lunch we approached Livingstone and started getting the Zodiacs ready for the afternoon activities.

Once there, we could see why Elephant Point was named this way. The site was full elephant seals, adults, juveniles and weaners.

The site also holds a large colony of gentoo penguins, and we were so lucky to see several of them with chicks already. The geology of the place is also stunning, with a combination of volcanic, volcanoclastic and plant bearing sedimentary sequences from the cretaceous stage.

During the afternoon, the climate weather started to change, as usual around here, so we started gathering again to make our way back to the ship. A beautiful and surprise-filled landing.

Coming to the end of our day, the daily recap was full of information and plans for our crossing. What an amazing journey, and it's not over yet: Drake Passage, here we come.



Drake Passage towards Ushuaia

DAY 9 | Sunday 18 December 2022

Position at x 1400 on Dec 18

Latitude: 62°22'676 S

Longitude: 063°29'888 W

Course: 174.1°

Speed: 10 knots

Wind Speed: 10 knots

Barometer: 1000

Air Temp: 7°C

We live in a wonderful world that is full of beauty, charm and adventure.

There is no end to the adventures we can have, if only we seek them with our eyes open.

—Jawaharlal Nehru

This morning many of us enjoyed a well-deserved sleep-in, after a night of being gently rocked to sleep on our journey north across the Drake Passage. Today's schedule allowed for plenty of time to rest, enjoy the ship, catching up with new friends, sharing photos, and reflecting on our time in Antarctica.

We had a swell of about 2 metres and some strong winds, which contrasted with our incredibly placid southern crossing. A wonderful silver lining to this weather was the sea birds that came out to ride on the wind and swoop around the ship, a sight we missed on our venture south.

Before lunch, Ian was joined on Deck 8 by some keen citizen scientists who participated in an E-Bird seabird survey. They spotted giant petrels, a good number of prions, and several black browed albatrosses. They even saw a few storm petrels, riding the wind with the big guys.

In the afternoon Melina presented an informative talk titled 'What we don't see when we look at Antarctica' which covered the fossils related to the time when Antarctica was ice free, covered in trees and the climate warm, back around 200 million years ago! Melina also explained the continental drift theory of when Antarctica started to move south away from Australia and South America, the gap with South America forming what is now known as the Drake passage.

In the afternoon an impressive afternoon tea was served in the Citizen Science centre. A delightful selection of finger sandwiches, small tortes, scones and cakes.

A favourite place on the ship today was the front of the Citizen Science centre, where we found ourselves perched kneeling on the lounge, with faces against the windows, watching the bow rise and fall over the waves, with the occasional wave or spray hitting the windows.



By late afternoon the term 'batten down the hatches' took on a literal meaning on the ship, with the seamen closing the port hole covers on the lower decks. Many of us said we wanted a more stormy, wild Drake crossing on the return to Ushuaia, and we received that very wish! Luckily for us the *Sylvia Earle* is a very comfortable ship for such seas, and we were once again rocked to sleep with the comfort of knowing we have a competent skilled captain and crew, navigating us safely through the night towards Ushuaia and beyond.



Drake Passage, Cape Horn, Beagle Channel

DAY 10 | Monday 19 December 2022

Position at 2100 on Dec 19

Latitude: 55°00'S
Longitude: 066°47'W

Course: 126°
Speed: 11 knots

Wind Speed: 9 knots SE
Barometer: 990

Air Temp: 9°C

I am the albatross that waits for you
at the end of the earth.
I am the forgotten soul of the dead sailors
who crossed Cape Horn
from all the seas of the world.
But they did not die
in the furious waves.
Today they fly in my wings
to eternity
in the last trough of the Antarctic winds

All good things come to an end, and so, today was our last day of this incredible maiden voyage aboard the *Sylvia Earle*.

As we were making our way back to Ushuaia through the Drake Passage, our Expedition Team made sure we were kept informed and entertained. We started the day with a little bit of a sleep-in and a lazy breakfast, followed by an engaging talk delivered by our fantastic Naturalist, Ian: "A Thousand Wild Dawns". Ian shared some of the most memorable experiences from his decade-long career as a wildlife filmmaker (for BBC and National Geographic, among others). He talked about the times spent in the wild filming bears, wolves and albatrosses, and played selected film clips from all over the world.

After the lecture, we listened to the important disembarkation briefing. There's a lot of work behind-the-scenes and logistics involved to make the disembarkation day run smoothly. Good coordination proved particularly important, given that Argentina had recently won the Football World Cup in Qatar, and the entire nation took holidays to celebrate it.

After lunch, our amazing Expedition Team Trainer, Ashley, delivered a lecture about some of the most interesting features of our state-of-the-art ship, the *Sylvia Earle*. We learnt about how the ship's engines and the sewage systems work, how we process the waste and how we use progressive stabilization systems to balance the ship.

Everyone was excited about the evening's Captain's cocktails, when our Captain, Artem, and our Expedition Leader, Howard, shared highlights of the last 10 days we spent together and thanked everyone for joining the very special *Sylvia Earle* maiden voyage.

The night concluded with a special voyage slideshow, showcasing some of our favourite moments on the trip. The slideshow was both sentimental and entertaining.

As we entered the Beagle Channel, the atmospheric landscapes of the Islas Fueguinas stood out as we sailed towards Ushuaia. So many memories and friendships made. We will miss Antarctica, but that's exactly what this voyage logs is for: to bring back those good memories again and again.



Ushuaia

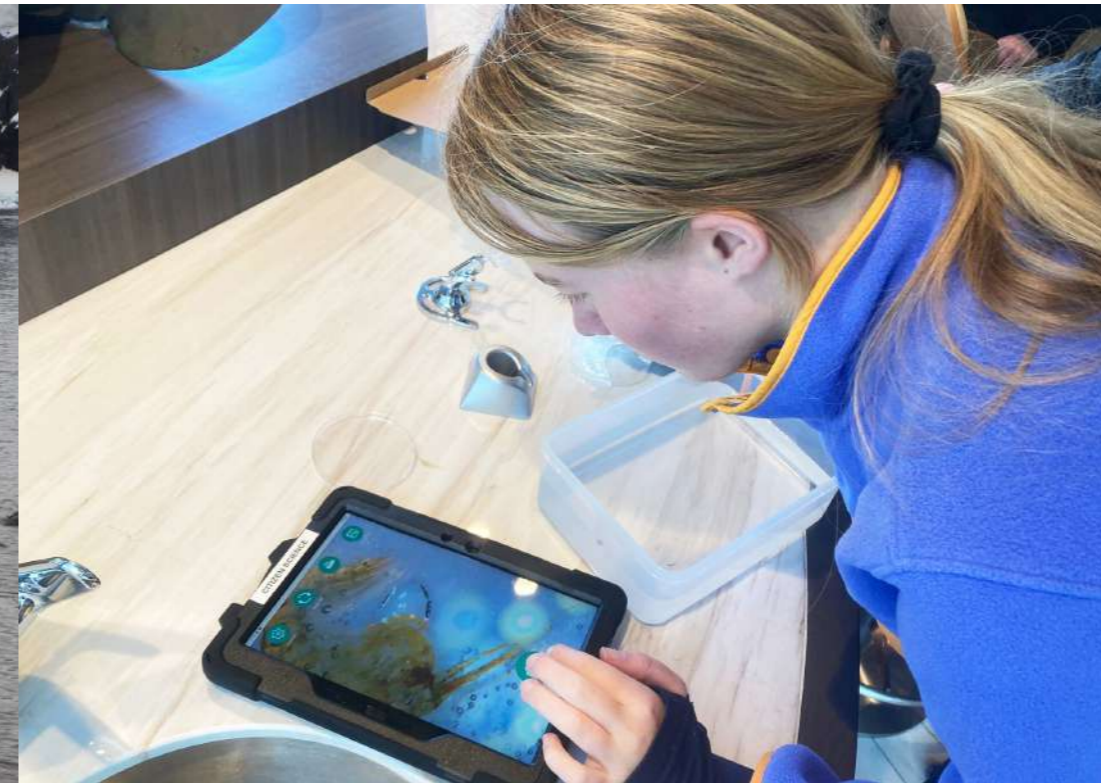
DAY 11 | Tuesday 20 December 2022

Antarctica left a restless longing in my heart beckoning towards an incomprehensible perfection forever beyond the reach of mortal man. Its overwhelming beauty touches one so deeply that it is like a wound.

—Edwin Mickleburgh, *Beyond the Frozen Sea*

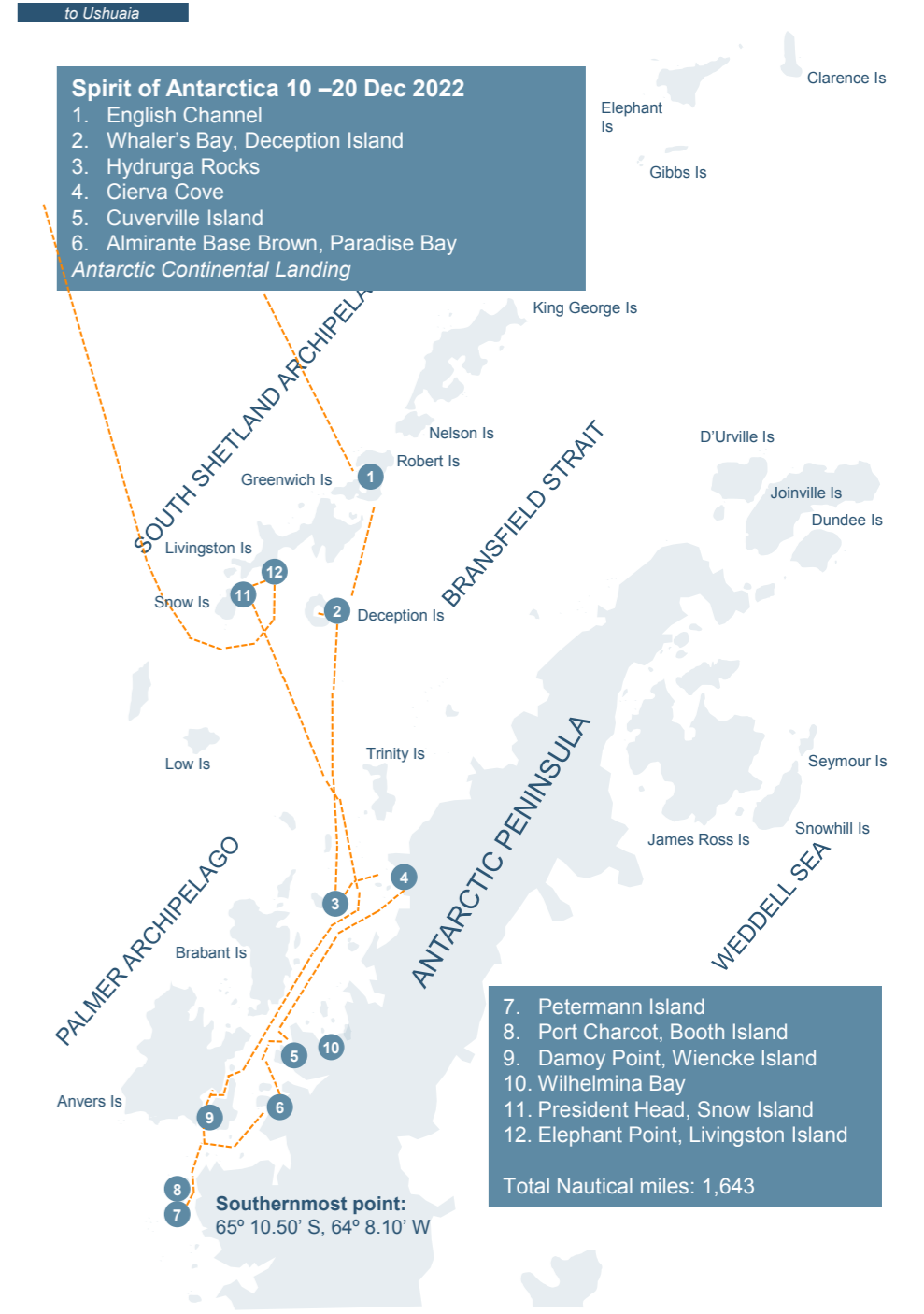
This morning we woke after a peaceful slumber on our pleasant crossing of the Drake Passage on our good ship *Sylvia Earle*. It has been an amazing voyage.

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.



Citizen Science Log

Project Name	How many times was this project done during this voyage?
eBird Seabird Survey	3
Secchi Disk	3
Zooplankton Collection	1
NASA Globe Cloud Observations	7
Snow algae	2
Microplastics Survey	1



Kayaking Log

Kayak Masters: Wesley McNeil, Vanja Davidsen, Sigurð Davidsen

Number of Paddlers: 22 Total Paddle Outings: 7 Total Distance Paddled: 63.6 km

Paddlers:	Jen Cochrane	Shawn Battreall-Showers	Jessica Heckman
Orlaith Spooner	Beau Fabry	Robert Showers	Henry Perrin
Jacob Dreyer	Natasha Ali	Moses Barber	Pippa Perrin
David Dryer	Suzanne Vorlicek	Daniel Barber	Charlotte Perrin
Judy Curtis	Andrew Collins	Anitha Weiss	Merf Owen
Vince Hammond	Lauren Collins	Bonnie Newman	

13 December 2022, AM: Hydrurga Rocks - Distance: 4.7km

After towing the kayaks into lee of the island. We did a Zodiac launch, we found that the currents and wind were moving us south into the more exposed open sea.

We paddled northbound along the western coast of the island, towards the penguin colonies. on our way, we saw some chinstrap penguins, pale-faced sheathbill. Further down the island we saw some crabeater, weddell seals, and penguin colonies. We crossed the sound in a southwestern direction and paddled along our first couple of icebergs on the trip. The wind calmed down enough for us to get out of our kayaks directly at the ship's marina.

13 December 2022, PM: Cierva Cove - Distance: 4.3km

We did a marina Zodiac launch, the weather was amazing, sunny and with glassy water, we paddled for a while in brash ice, stopped up and did a secchi disk measurement for phytoplankton from the kayaks, all the kayak team was involved. we paddled on with some beautiful glacier cliffs in the distance and got to some big icebergs which we circumnavigated one, halfway around some of the paddlers saw a fin whale. On our way back we saw a few gentoo penguins on top of a bergy bit.

14 December 2022, PM: Almirante Base Brown, Paradise Bay. Antarctic Continent - Distance: 6km

We paddled south past Brown Station and stopped by the cliffs to the south of the station. At the cliffs we saw blue-eyed shags nesting on the cliffs, two chicks already hatched. Further south we came to Skontorp glacier, where we saw a powder avalanche which went 300 metres in the air. After enjoying the spectacular glacier, we headed north to the station through the brash ice. At the Station, we made our only continental landing. Where we enjoyed the penguins nesting amongst the buildings.

15 December 2022, AM: Petermann Island - Distance: 4.5km

Despite the wind and chop we were able to launch from the marina in the lee, that the ship provided. From there we paddled directly north-east into a protected cove. Our objective was to round the southern tip of the

island and then go north again to a nice cove where there is a small gentoo rookery. Conditions remained a bit bumpy and windy on the western side and as we headed north between some small islets and large icebergs, we found ourselves blocked by multiple icebergs from the cove we hoped to reach. All of the passages between the icebergs were too narrow and dangerous to go between, so we decided to turn around and found a safe entrance to an iceberg grotto off the southwestern part of the island. From there we paddled back north from the cove and spotted high above some unidentified seals on a patch of snow. We had to beat into the wind and waves on our return, but it was not so bad, as we took the scenic route back between a number of small icebergs. Using them occasionally as a windbreak.

15 December 2022, PM: Pleneau Island - Distance: 8.5km

We were divided into two groups, where Sigurð led the larger group of 10 paddlers and Wes led four paddlers. The initial plan was to paddle eastbound, but as we launched the wind increased to approximately 19 knots, therefore, we started surfing a bit with the wind until we reached the icebergs. To ensure that we would have a pleasant ride back to the *Sylvia Earle* we decided to head south and zigzag between the icebergs to see a nice variety of them. After a few kilometres, we got to some skerries that we paddled in-between and it was an amazing time navigating amongst the bergy bits. We started heading north towards the ship and the wind started shifting so that the last group surfed the waves back to the ship. Recovery was interesting, since the ship was constantly swinging in the wind, and there was a lot of currents.

16 December 2022, AM: Damoy Point, Wiencke Island - Distance: 6km

A Zodiac launch from the *Sylvia Earle*. We started heading west past the landing site, soon after passing the site we started seeing a lot of gentoo penguins and a few chinstrap penguins. We explored the coast and got to a small cove with a beautiful algae spot on the ice. In this spot we saw a few gentoos and two elephant seals lying in the rocks. The paddlers were ecstatic. We explored further southbound into Port Lockroy, where we saw an unidentified whale, while we enjoyed the view of our snowshoers on the ridge. Heading back, we saw some strange creatures on the surface in yellow vests, we'd discovered the snorkelling team.

16 December 2022, PM: President Point on Snow Island - Distance: 3.6km

It is always a pleasure to paddle in a new area. We probably would not have had this opportunity had it not been for some rough weather approaching and an increase in wind and swell. So fortunate were we that the headland of President Point sheltered us from the forces of the ocean. So we loaded the kayaks on a Zodiac and drove them to the beach, where we met our kayakers who travelled on a second Zodiac. While getting ready to paddle, we watched a number of elephant seals and one particular weaner become very curious of our kayaks. The protected beach allowed us to launch safely and explore the nooks and crannies of President Point in relative serenity. The volcanic nature of this area offers features ideal for sea kayaking. We were able to dodge in and out of some fun little skerries and micro bays in and amongst the cliffs. We also hung out with the snorkellers in a small calm passage and watched some elephant seals living their lives. We continued meandering, sometimes in circles checking out the sights. While we were out, the swell and wind subsided and we were able to take a delightful paddle back to the ship.



Snowshoe Log

Snowshoe Guides: Bronwen Waters, Paul Bernsten, Jimmy Armstrong.

Number of Snowshoers: 12

Total Outings: 5

Total Distance: 7.5km

Snowshoers:

Celeste Ashcroft

Jo Hansen

Jenny Rickerby

Ben deBoer

Marcel Berge

Chloe Berge

Ori Brian

Lukas Gondek

Graham Axford

Will Randall II

Kary Sendra-Brittingham

Mark Anderson

13 December 2022, AM: Hydrurga Rocks - Distance: 1km

Our first peninsula landing! The snowshoe team were ready and raring to go today, with our team being the first expedition passengers to land on the Peninsula from the *Sylvia Earle*. Hydrurga Rocks was a great location for our first snowshoe. Being a small island that is not too hilly it is a great location to try out our snowshoes for the first time and get used to walking about with this new equipment. It is also packed with wildlife: we saw chinstrap penguins, skuas, blue-eyed shags, snowy sheathbills and Weddell seals.

14 December 2022, PM: Almirante Base Brown, Paradise Bay. Antarctic Continent - Distance 1.5km

An exciting snowshoe trip this afternoon as we set foot on the Antarctic continent for the first time. We made our way between the Argentinian base buildings, then ascended a short steep hill to reach a large flat plateau. Once on the plateau, we walked across to a high point that looked down on Paradise Harbour and across to Bryde and Lemaire Islands. We also had views up some huge glacier valleys that flowed down from the mountains on the Antarctic continent. If we were quiet, we could hear the distant thunder-like noise of seracs collapsing in these icefalls. Otherwise, all was silent and still this afternoon. The sea was dark, silky and still, and punctuated with many bergy bits. A special snowshoe for the team.

15 December 2022, AM: Petermann Island - Distance: 2.5kms

We awoke to snowflakes falling and moderate wind gusts as the ship came to anchor in the lee of Petermann Island this morning. The snow flurries came and went as Bronwen headed off in the Zodiac with Ashley to check out the possibility of landing on the northern shore of Petermann Island. They returned with a landing scoped, and when the cloud lifted and the summit of the island became visible Celeste, Ori and Lukas - undeterred by the weather and ready for an adventure - joined Bron, Paul and Jimmy for a new snowshoe trip for all of them.

The Zodiac placed us on a wide rock bench on the northern shoreline, and with a short walk on the grey sea-worn rock, we reached a spot where we could step up onto the snow. After putting on the ropes we had a

pleasant walk up the northern slopes, zigzagging our way up past some gentoo colonies, with some skuas also perched between them, keeping a keen eye on the penguin colonies. We reached the summit and made our way south along a wide summit ridge, with the cloud coming and going, making it very atmospheric. We descended a slope on the south-east of the island between two harbours, to join the rest of the passengers at Circumcision Bay. A great adventure today.

15 December 2022, PM: Pleneau Island - Distance: 2.6km

This afternoon the snowshoe Zodiacs headed off in the opposite direction to the main landing site, landing on the northern shore of Pleneau island. Pleneau Island is at the northern tip of Hovgaard Island, and the two are connected by a small section of sea ice for much of the year. We walked up a gentle hill through gentoo colonies to reach a long gradual ridge that took us to the wide summit of this island. We had expansive views in every direction – across to Girard Bay and the huge Leay Glacier on the mainland, and to an intricate area of coastline to our west which contained many small snow-covered islands with icebergs wedged amongst them. The sea ice between Hovgaard Island and Pleneau was broken up, and we could view numerous long black lumps on the remnant sections of ice.

Whilst wandering down for a closer view Paul counted 50 of these ‘lumps’ that we suspected were seals. We reached the end of the island’s snow cover and found ourselves standing above many sleeping crabeater seals on the sea ice. We had the perfect vantage point as just below us was a breathing hole. We witnessed a seal slowly make its way across the ice to the hole, and gently slink down the hole and into the ocean. It was spectacular to watch. We then headed back north to our starting point, enjoying the view across Pleneau Bay and towards the ship. This was a favourite snowshoe for many in the group, with everything on offer – wonderful and diverse wildlife, a feeling of remoteness away from the ship, big views, and an atmospheric and changeable sky with lots of moody high cloud.

16 December 2022, AM: Damoy Point, Wiencke Island - Distance 2.4km

Once again we had a snowy start to the morning, and our Zodiac trip to shore saw us covered in snowflakes - but once we reached shore the clouds lifted, and we were able to view the summits all around us. We left the main landing site by the huts and made our way up a hill to a viewpoint below Jabet Peak. From here we could see all the way down to Port Lockroy and towards the dramatic, craggy peaks of Wiencke Island.

We stood here for a while in intentional silence, taking in the view and alpine grandeur of this region of the Peninsula. Heading back to the main landing site we followed a broad ridge that was a ski-plane runway until the mid-1990s. Today was a wonderful final snowshoe journey.



Snorkel Log

Snorkel Guides: [Darren Clarke](#), [Anais Poulalion](#), [Ania Baranek](#)

Number of Snorkellers: 8 Total Outings: 9

Snokellers:	Mays Jumah	Alexandre Darron
Lisa Blair	Preston Vorlice	Michael Benzaquen
Naida Entwistle	Katherine Fitzgerald	Mary Broome

13 December 2022, AM: Hydruga Rocks, Enterprise Island

It was the best start to the snorkelling program, a beautiful Antarctic morning, glassy smooth seas and some otherworldly icebergs and floes. Hydruga Rocks provided us with a perfectly sheltered, quiet beach, where we could get our first taste of how it feels to snorkel in Antarctica. We got familiar with the use of the drysuits and we tried our polar gear on. There was even a curious Weddell seal watching us entering the icy waters of the Southern Ocean. A small iceberg floated in and we were mesmerised with the glimpses of all shades of blue it cast in the sun. The highlight of the outing was when a penguin suddenly jumped in the water after having observed the snorkellers trying it out first.

13 Decemberr2022, PM: Cierva Cove

After an extraordinary morning, we all enjoy some lunch and quiet time on the ship before the exciting moment when we heard the announcement for another opportunity to go snorkelling. With more confidence, we geared up very efficiently and helped each other as a team. We started with a lovely Zodiac cruise, all eyes open at the sights of wildlife and a large number of icebergs all around us. After about 10-15 minutes of cruising in calm and sunny weather, we found a lovely island where penguins were gathering and deemed safe to go snorkelling. With a lot more ease, we don on fins, hood, mask and snorkel and entered the water. The water was blue, and we were amazed by the seaweed, krill and jellyfish. We collected some water samples for one of our Citizen Science Projects. We even had some penguins swimming in the water and making a few jumps around our Zodiac.

14 December 2022, AM: Cuverville

Cuverville welcomed us with quite unexpected sea conditions, there was quite a lot of sea ice at our usual anchorage, so our skilled Captain took our ship to a different, more sheltered harbour, surrounded by towering mountain cliffs and glaciers in each direction. The views were spectacular. Howard, our Expedition Leader, led the way through a fairytale-like labyrinth of constantly moving icebergs and ice floes, and we were lucky to have a front seat view of a gentoo penguin family nesting right on the pebbly beach, just above the waterline, which is very unusual for this species. We took out time to find a suitable snorkelling location, as the site was heavily dependent on the wind and current conditions. Finally, we found a shallow, sheltered bay, which was one of the few safe places for us to snorkel, and we had a chance to see some krill underwater. The shallow waters made it easier for us to keep practicing the skill of getting back on the boat.

14 December 2022, PM: Brown Station - Paradise Harbour

This afternoon, we cruised on the *Sylvia Earle* along Neko Harbour before getting to our destination of Brown Station in Paradise Bay. Paradise was named by the whalers and sealers who sought shelter in this huge bay. And aptly conditions were mirror calm, what a change of scenery compared to the wind-swept Cuverville outing this morning. We landed on the Antarctica Peninsula for the first time on this voyage, the excitement was great as we set foot on a new continent (for one of our snorkellers, Naida, it was the seventh continent she has visited!), meanwhile, our snorkel guide team went scouting on the Zodiac to check out a couple of potential snorkelling sites. We found an amazing site, with a steep wall and a magnificent drop. The visibility looked incredible from above. We geared up enthusiastically and entered the water. We were in awe with what we were seeing, all we could hear was "woohoo", "look", "come over here"! We saw starfish, cuttlefish and small crustacean and then the magic happened. A gentoo penguin standing on the rock nearby and observing us for a while, made up his mind, and after a quick glance at us it jumped in, swimming right in front of us. This was best snorkelling we've done so far in Antarctica!

We got back on the Zodiac and slowly headed back to the ship as we admired the magnificent landscape around us and (very quietly!) sang "happy birthday" to one of our fellow snorkellers, Lisa.

15 December 2022, AM: Petermann Island

Today we had a chance to experience real Antarctic weather conditions: the island often gets wet and windy, and there was a lot of snowfall this morning. Petermann Island is significant for French polar exploration history: this is where Jean-Baptiste Charcot overwintered during the 1907-1910 expedition, chartered a lot of the nearby coastline and conducted some of the first scientific research on penguin behaviour. It is the only place where we had a chance to see some adelic penguins on our expedition, as their usual habitat is further South. We made a landing and enjoyed a short hike to start with, while our snorkel guides scouted the area to find a site that would be sheltered from the wind and swell. We dropped into the water close to the landing site, and we enjoyed the company of some gentoo penguins nearby. One of them let us watch it jump into the water and dived along with us, with a couple of lucky snorkellers grabbing footage on their underwater cameras. We were also able to locate the PP letters engraved into a rock nearby by the Charcot party over a hundred years ago: due to a high tide, only visible to the snorkellers this time! PP stands for "Pourquoi Pas" – "Why not?". A fond memory of Charcot's early childhood adventures, and his personal motto in adult life that pushed him to always keep exploring. As we made our way back to the ship, we were treated to the sight of a small iceberg rolling, something that we all hoped to get a chance to see on this voyage. One of the snorkellers, Lisa, put together a short video that we all enjoyed during our afternoon recap.

15 December 2022, PM Pleneau / Port Charcot - Booth Island

This afternoon, we decided to go for a short Zodiac cruise before jumping in the water. It was perhaps the coldest day on our voyage so far – it was overcast and quite windy, but it didn't matter, as we had an opportunity to zip through some of the most amazing iceberg alleys we've seen. After the cruise, Darren, Ana and Ania took us to a nice, sheltered, little jump-in spot, just behind a small island. Lisa and Naida jumped in first and started to swim along a rock wall. There were lots of shells attached to the wall and lots of giant kelp on the seabed. Almost immediately, we started seeing lots of small creatures. Large and small, orange and pink starfish, and a pink sea urchin. We saw an orange shrimp. The visibility was amazing and as we kept swimming, the seabed extended out from the wall and we swam over more giant kelp and a big stringy bush of seaweed. Then, a small orange shrimp

swam up into the open water and started swimming around in front of us. Lisa started filming it and it started coming right up to the camera and dancing around in front of it... it was so cute and funny and it performed for us for a good minute! By then we were pretty cold and decided to jump out.

16 December 2022, AM – Damoy Point

Today we decided to combine a short landing at Damoy Point with a long snorkel that followed a visit to a historic hut established by the British Antarctic Survey in 1975. The sea conditions were perfect, glassy still waters of this large bay offered breathtaking views of snowcapped mountain peaks and impressive glaciers. No wind, no swell, we felt spoiled. And so, we spent a good amount of time in the water – over half an hour watching a group of gentoo penguins jumping through the snow and sliding down the rocks to enter the water. It was a delightful show. We got back on the Zodiac and returned to the ship, admiring the surrounding mountain views and icebergs that inspired imagination: our guide Darren even saw an elephant shape in one of them! Today was a morning outing only, as we knew we had to start heading back north, so we farewelled the Peninsula and got ready for a ship cruise around Wilhelmina Bay, known for being a 'whales playground'. We hope to see a few of them out there tonight.

17 December, 2022, AM - President Point

We're back in the South Shetland Islands, leaving the Antarctic continent behind us. Today we went to explore a location called President Point. Massive dark cliff with only very little snow, the dramatic rocky landscape looked so different to what we left behind at Wilhelmina Bay last evening. Our Expedition Leader, Howard, was very excited to go ashore, as this was also new location for him! We found a sheltered area close by the landing area. It was a magnificent landscape, huge dark cliffs and rocks contrasting with green moss growing atop. This place is home to an elephant seal colony. We were so impressed of their size. One of the seals was in the water, observing us, and after a while it went for a swim in the water before heading back to its colony. The small gully we found between the rocks offered perfect sheltered conditions for snorkelling, and great views above and below the water. It was also our first snorkelling location where we could see a sandy ocean floor. We found starfish, plenty of microorganisms, lots of kelp around the rocks and an elusive grey fish – the only fish we saw in the Antarctica waters.

17 December, 2022, PM - Elephant Point

The ship anchored nearby a group of small, rocky islands; the sea mist gave it quite a mysterious look. This afternoon was our last opportunity to jump into the Antarctic waters, and there were three of us snorkellers, keen on making that happen. We weren't sure if we would be able to go snorkelling, as the swell was getting bigger. After the decision was made that the passengers will make a landing, we took our snorkel Zodiac for scouting and we checked out a few small islands around, but the sea conditions made it impossible to swim around them. In the end, we decided to go for a quick dip in the calmest part of the sea we could find, but there wasn't much to see, and the visibility was deteriorating, so we went to the landing spot and joined the rest of the passengers on the beach. We were greeted by a number of large seals, and to hear them vocalising sounded out of this world. Before getting back on the Zodiacs, we had a chance to watch a penguin chick hatch! Our Antarctic experience felt complete. Tonight, the shake of the Drake awaits us, as we're starting to make our way back to Ushuaia. The forecast says the sea will be a little bit more rolling than on the way in, but it doesn't really matter, as we feel we have certainly made some lifelong memories on this special, maiden voyage of the *Sylvia Earle*.



Bird and Mammal Sightings

Bird Species

December

	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Gentoo Penguin							•				
Chinstrap Penguin					•		•				
Wandering Albatross									•	•	
Black-browed Albatross									•		
Grey-headed Albatross								•	•		
Light-mantled Sooty Albatross	•	•	•								
Giant Petrel	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•		
Antarctic Petrel	•	•	•								
Cape Petrel									•	•	
Prion sp. (probably mostly Antarctic)	•		•			•	•	•	•		
White-chinned Petrel									•		
Sooty Shearwater											
Wilson's Storm-petrel										•	
Chilean Skua										•	
Snowy Sheathbill				•	•	•	•	•			

Mammal Species

December

	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Southern Elephant Seal					•	•		•			
Fin Whale		•									
Humpback Whale		•				•	•	•			
Orca		•									





Expeditioners:

Natasha Ali

Eric Anderson

Cindy Anderson

Mark Anderson

James Armstrong

Celeste Ashcroft

Graham Axford

Katherine Bagerman

Alexander Bagerman

Tatyana Bagerman

Moses Barber

Daniel Barber

Shawn Battreall-Showers

Frances Bean

Michael Benzaquen

Marcel Berge

Chloe Berge

Linda Blair

Lisa Blair

Lou Borrego

Ori Brian

Mary Broome

Colin Broome

Marion Brown

Elaine Bunce

Michelle Cheesman

Dara Childs

Judy Childs

Nancy Childs

Kelly Clayton

Bitsy Clayton

Jen Cochrane

Lauren Collins

Andrew Collins

Shayla Copas

Judy Curtis

Alexandre Darmon

Kielian De Witt

Chuck De Witt

James Dean

Ben deBoer

Eben Diskin

Mike Douglas

Rosemary Dray

Jacob Dreyer

David Dreyer

Brad Duncan

Naida Entwistle

Beau Fabry

Katherine Fitzgerald

Peter Giammanco

Leslie Giammanco

Lukas Gondek

Mark Grantham

David Hamer

Vince Hammond

Joanne Hansen

Mark Hayakawa

Carolene Hayakawa

Jamie Hayakawa

Krista Hayakawa

Michael Heath

Jessica Heckman

Tami Hiraoka

Mark Jergens

Mimi Jergens

Jonas Jørgensen

Mays Jumah

Randy King

Oat King

Jesse Lambersky

Stuart Marra

Peter Merrow

Dasarahally Mohan

Juli Morgan

Shreyas Nagaraj

Shingo Narumi

Bonnie Newman

Steve Nickelsberg

Ruth Nickelsberg

Line Nielsen

Merf Owen

Jenny Park

James Pearson

Charlotte Perrin

Pippa Perrin

Henry Perrin

Miklos Petravich

Catalina Potes

Danielle Purdy

Melanie Purdy

Will Randall II

Andrea Rasmussen

Rebecca Jane Ready

Stacy Richardson

Jenny Rickerby

Susan Rozario

Naomi Salaveria

Lakshmi Sathyanarayana

Luc Schoups

Sherrri Schugart

Charles Schugart

Kary Sendra-Brittingham

Shubhra Shetty

Ajay Shetty

Robert Showers

Faith Sotoy

Orlaith Spooner

Mike Tossy

David Villagomez

Suzanne Vorlicek

Preston Vorlicek

Anitha Weiss

Kalena Yim

Rhonda Zorman

Greg Zorman

Expedition Team:

Expedition Leader: Howard Whelan

Assistant Expedition Leader: Elena Wimberger

Onboard Expedition Manager: Justine Bornholdt

Naturalist: Ian McCarthy

Naturalist: Lizelle Naudé

Historian: Nina Gallo

Photography Guide: Bartosz Stróżyński

Special Guest: Lisa Blair

Expedition Medic: Kai Muller

Kayaking Master: Wes McNeil

Kayaking Guide: Sigurð Davidsen

Kayaking Guide: Vanja Davidsen

Snowshoe Master: Bronwen Waters

Snowshoe Guide: Jimmy Armstrong

Snowshoe Guide: Paul Berntsen

Snorkel Guide: Darren Clarke

Snorkel Guide: Ana Poulalion

Snorkel Guide Trainee: Ania Baranek

Zodiac Master: Sergei Andronov

Mudroom/Shopkeeper: Reza Rusooly

Senior Officers & Heads of Department:

Master: Artem Kolmykov

Chief Officer: Jorge Alexis Ferdinez Candelaria

Second Officer: John Paul Aguilar Marmito

Deck Cadet: Annika Yaneth Bulgin Nuñez de Zinkovskyy

Safety Officer: Andrey Zakalashnyuk

Bosun: Leo Francis Magnaye Marzan

Ship Doctor: Gino Tiraboschi

Chief Engineer: Praveen Kumar Kaushal

First Engineer: Kristofer Al Carpio La Torre

IT Officer: Nathaniel Buhain Vibares

Hotel Director: Osman Ozpolat

F&B Service Manager: Balvant Singh

Head Bartender: Rajesh Sugreev Murao

Chief Purser: Liza Merillo

Executive Chef: Allan Estoque

Sous Chef: Vinay Kumar Singh

Hotel Controller: Reynaldo Hernandez Cañeda

Receptionist: Kateryna Tauzhnianska

Receptionist: Jaypee Alota Abonitalla

Head Stateroom Attendant: Sotero (Terry) Agtagma

Able Seaman: Sendiri Alam

Able Seaman: Mangsur Fnu

Able Seaman: Imam Santuso

Able Seaman: Nestor Fernandez Arangorin

Able Seaman: Rene Balsomo Casipe

Able Seaman: Dragan Zivkovic

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Lisa Blair

Ana Poulalion

Ania Baranek

Darren Clarke

Bartosz Stróżyński

Paul Berntsen

Sigurð Davidsen

Bron Waters



