



MS Fridtjof Nansen

2024.11.01 - 2024.11.18

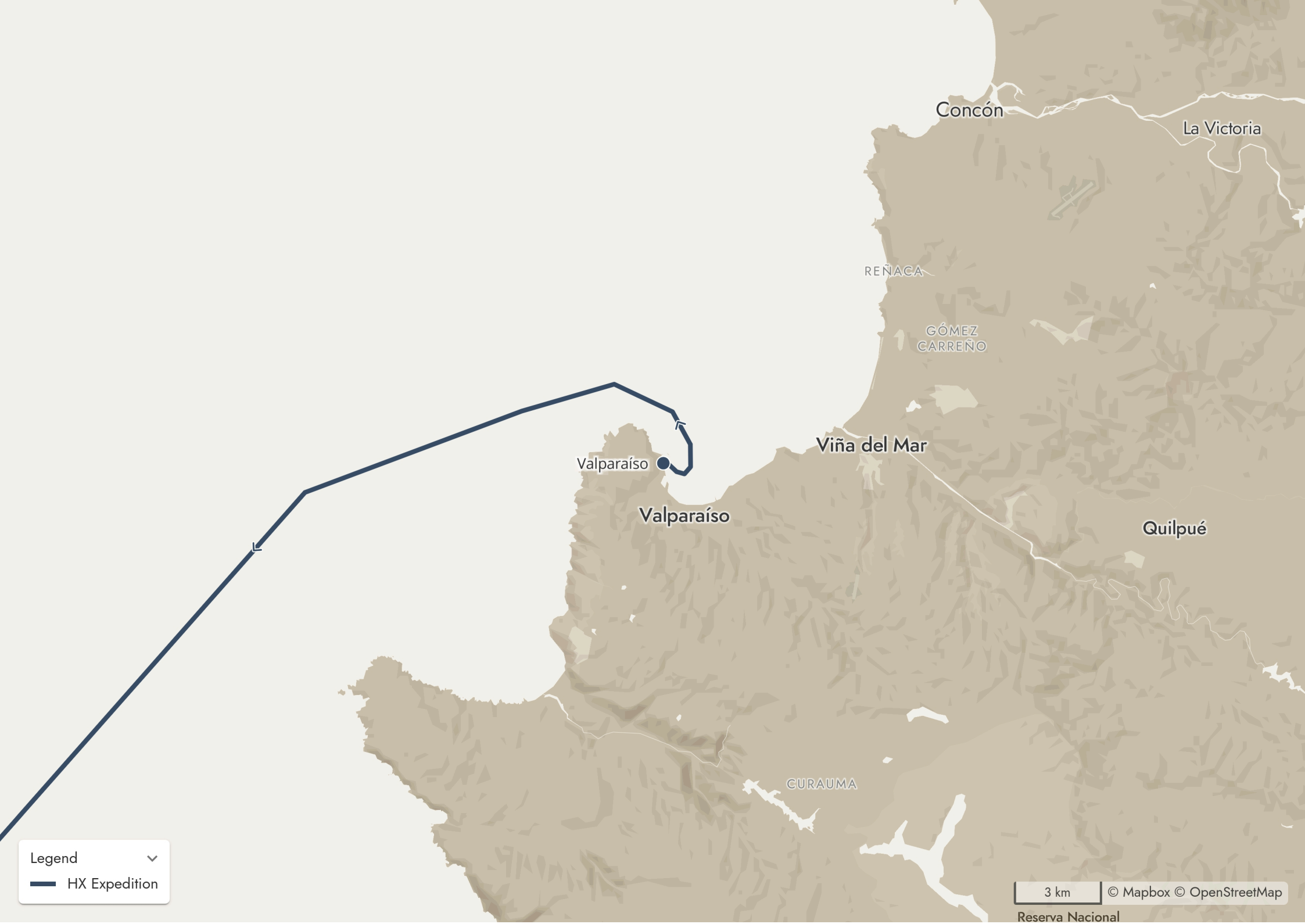


Day 1

As we boarded the MS Fridtjof Nansen in Valparaiso, there was an air of excitement permeating the ship. Excited for the adventure to come,

we got settled in our new floating home and began to prepare for the voyage ahead.





Legend

HX Expedition

Day 2

Our first day at sea was spent familiarising ourselves with the ship and learning about life onboard. We were introduced to the Captain and

the team, and celebrated the start of our voyage.



Day 3

On the second sea day, we attended some fantastic lectures about the areas we would be visiting and were given an introduction to some of

the activities we can expect to participate in once we reached Antarctica.





Legend

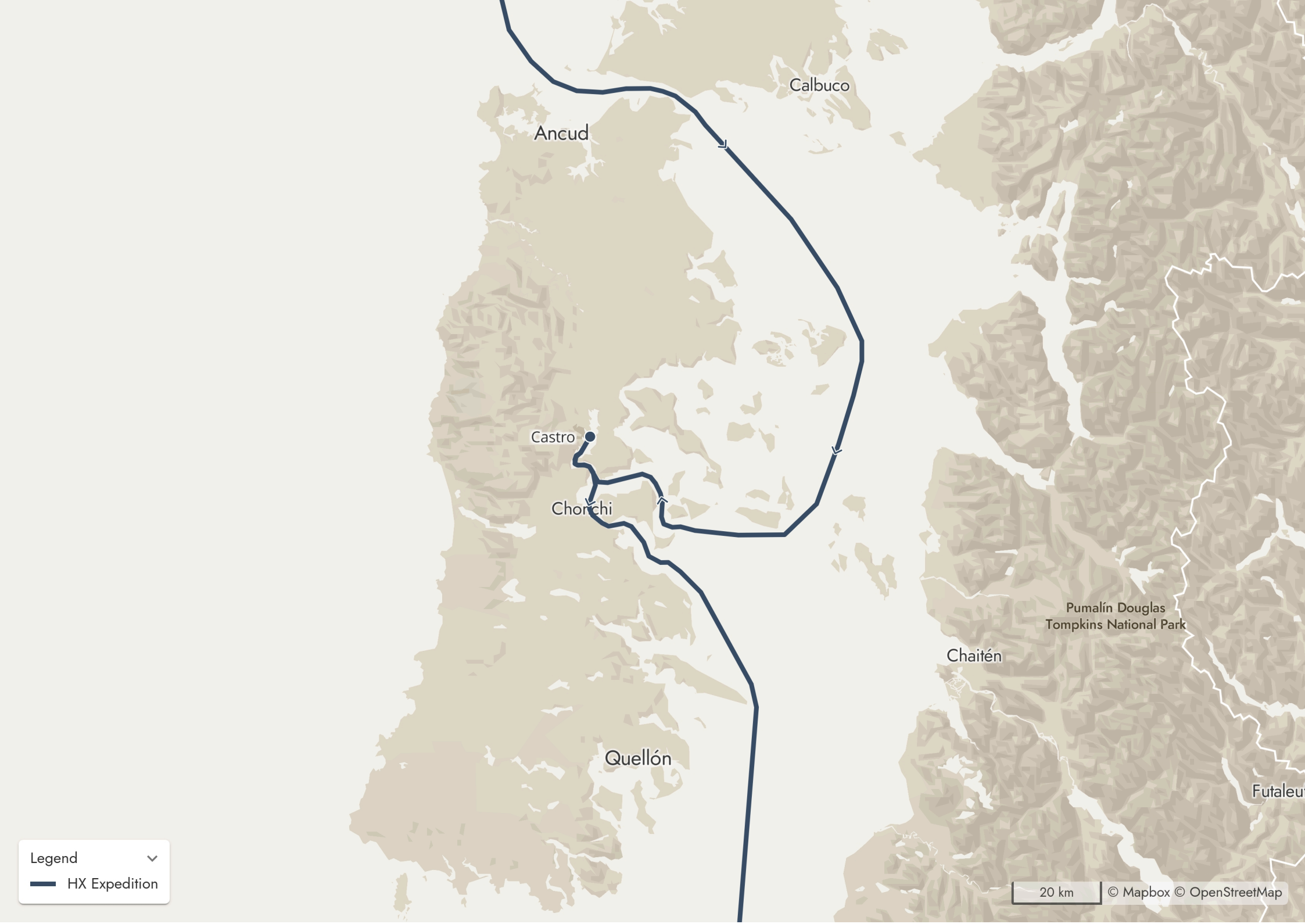
— HX Expedition

Day 4

Today we arrived at our first port, Castro, a charming town situated on a hillside. Some of us participated in a guided tour of the town, while

others took buses to visit the national park or went via boat to the island of Chiloé to enjoy the colourful churches that dotted the island.





Calbuco

Ancud

Castro

Chonchi

Quellón

Chaitén

Pumalín Douglas
Tompkins National Park

Futaleufú

Legend



 HX Expedition

20 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap



Castro

Chonchi

Quellón

Quellón

Chaitén

Esquel

Futaleufú

Corcovado
National Park

Puerto Cisnes

Archipiélago
de los Chonos

Puerto Aisén

Coyhaique

Chile Chico

Laguna San Rafael
National Park

Parque Nacional
Patagonia

At Sea: Chilean Fjords

Legend

— HX Expedition

50 km

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Day 5

As we sailed south, we were surrounded by beautiful fjordlands that sheltered us from the weather we were to experience at midday. Our

first taste of big seas in preparation for the Drake Passage!





Legend

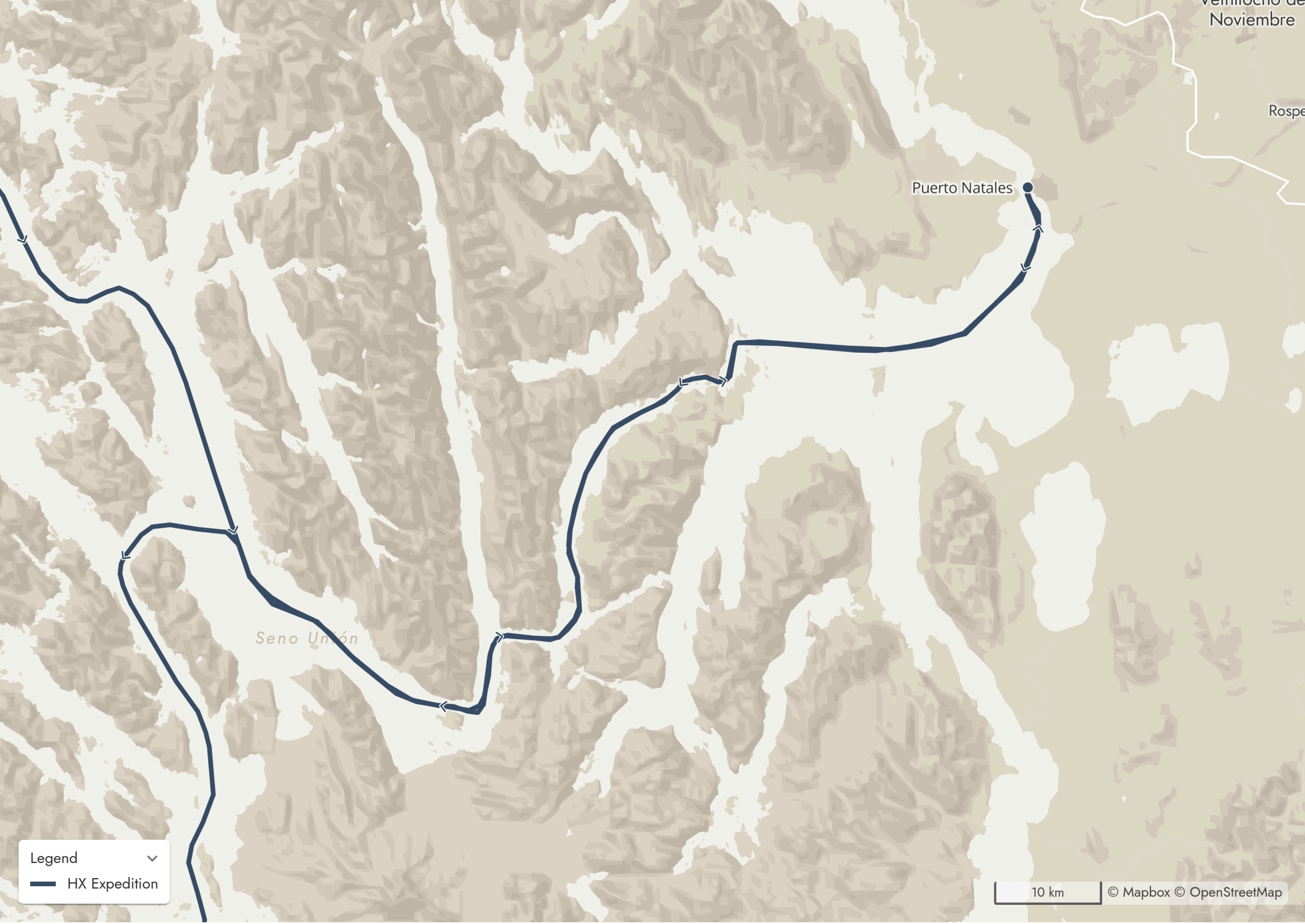
HX Expedition

Day 6

Our second day in the Chilean Fjords was spent either on deck, watching for wildlife, or at one of the various onboard activities. We had the opportunity to learn traditional card weaving, listen to many

lectures and even learn Salsa in the Explorer Lounge. In the afternoon we arrived at the spectacular Amelia Glacier and went cruising in our zodiacs along the glacier front!





venidocho de
Noviembre

Rospe

Puerto Natales

Seno Unión

Legend

HX Expedition

10 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 7 - 8

This morning, we arrived at the White Narrows, the small channel that stood as the gateway to Puerto Natales. It is crucial to wait for the right moment - slack tide, before sailing through the Narrows. After docking we boarded buses and made our way to the Milodon Caves about 20 minutes out of town. The next day, we ventured into the Torres del

Paine National Park. The sun was shining and the sky was clear blue as we drove into the park, stopping along the way to take in the breathtaking scenery. We spotted wildlife such as condors, guanacos, a Patagonian llama, and there was even a puma spotted stalking the land!





At Sea: Chilean Fjords

Alberto de Agostini
National Park

Cordillera
Darwin Icefield

Legend



— HX Expedition

20 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 9

This morning, we said goodbye to Puerto Natales to recross the White Narrows and begin our voyage towards Drake Passage. We remained

in the fjordlands during the day and were afforded stunning views of the surrounding land as we sailed south.

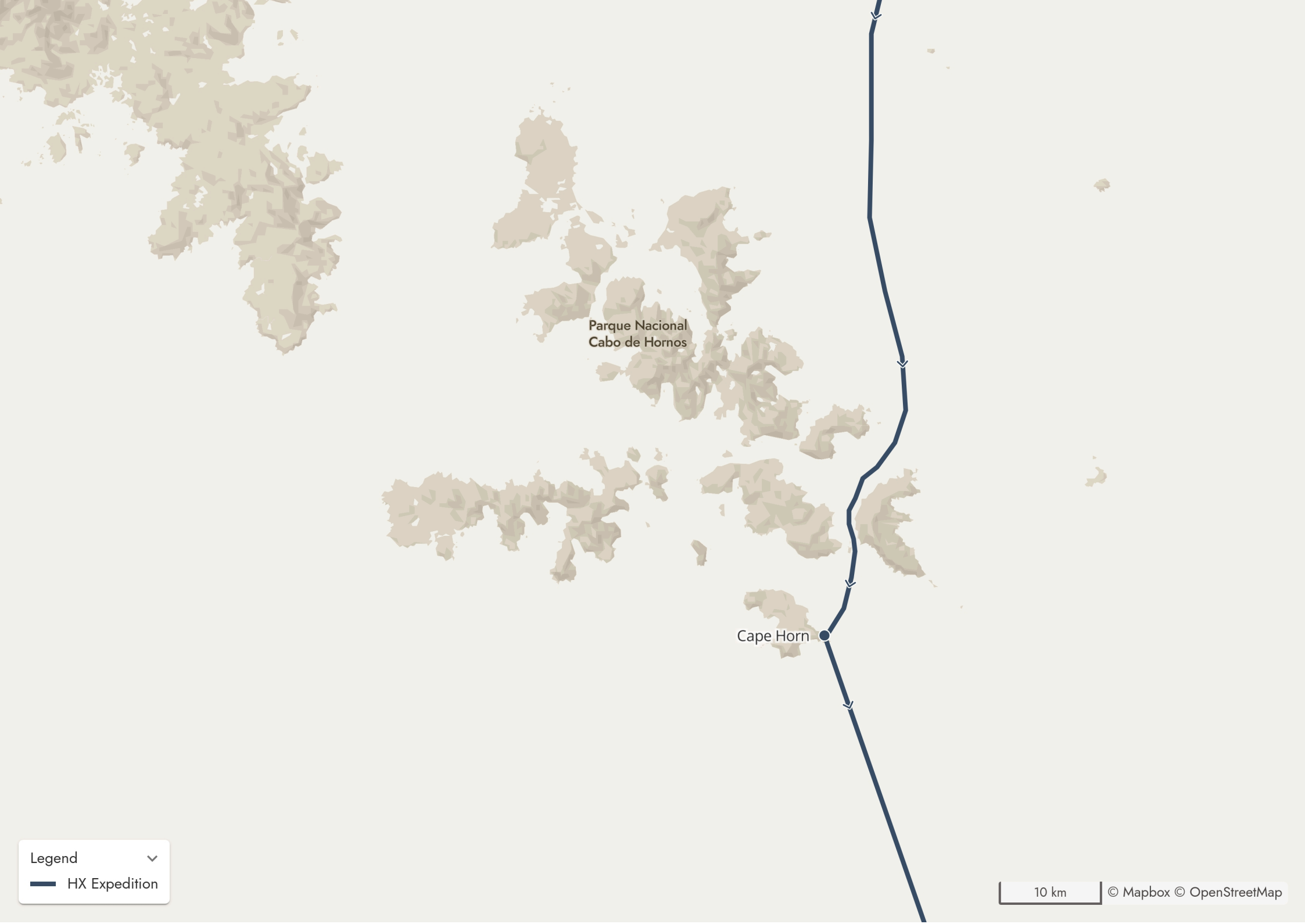


Day 10

The day was spent sailing through the Beagle Channel, reaching the stunning Pia Glacier in the mid-afternoon. The glacier stood as tall as

the Nansen as we approached, and the weather stayed clear, affording us a beautiful view of Pia.





Parque Nacional
Cabo de Hornos

Cape Horn

Legend

— HX Expedition

10 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 11

Such luck! We were able to land today on the infamously stormy landing site of Cape Horn. We were ferried over in the zodiacs and disembarked onto the rocky beach before making our way up the 150

steps to the top of the island and the monument that stands as a marker for the end of the world.



Day 12

Our luck held as we crossed the often treacherous Drake Passage. The weather held and eased our passage south towards our destination, Antarctica. It was definitely a 'Drake Lake' and not a 'Drake Shake'!





Telefon Bay, Deception Island

Deception Island

Decepción

Legend



— HX Expedition

2 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 13

Our first stop was at Deception Island in the South Shetland Islands. Early in the morning, we sailed through the narrow entrance of Neptune's Bellows and into the fabled caldera. We spent the day on

land, walking the edges of a crater - some very brave souls even went swimming and kayaking in this still-active volcano!



Day 14

Landing at Damoy Point today we encountered our first colony of Gentoo penguins! But the day offered so much more - we cruised between the ginormous icebergs, walked amongst the penguin colonies and even visited the bright salmon pink Damoy Hut. As we

learned, parts of the snowy hills used to serve as an airstrip, and our snowshoers made their way up to the viewpoint! The day ended with the campers going ashore to spend the night in the silence of Antarctica.







Day 15

Paradise Bay, a majestic bay ringed with its dramatic glaciers, really lives up to its name! We set out in the zodiacs to explore this amazing place and were lucky enough to spot a leopard seal sleeping on the ice. We also landed at the Argentinian research station, Base Brown, where more Gentoo penguins greeted us with their calls - and their

smell... After a short break inside the warmth of the ship, we headed out in our zodiacs one more time to get a glimpse of the Chinstrap penguins living on Orne Island. With the snow coming down thick, it really was the perfect Antarctic evening.





Day 16

Our first taste of bumpy sea met us when we entered the Drake Passage. We spent the day listening to lectures and enjoying the roll

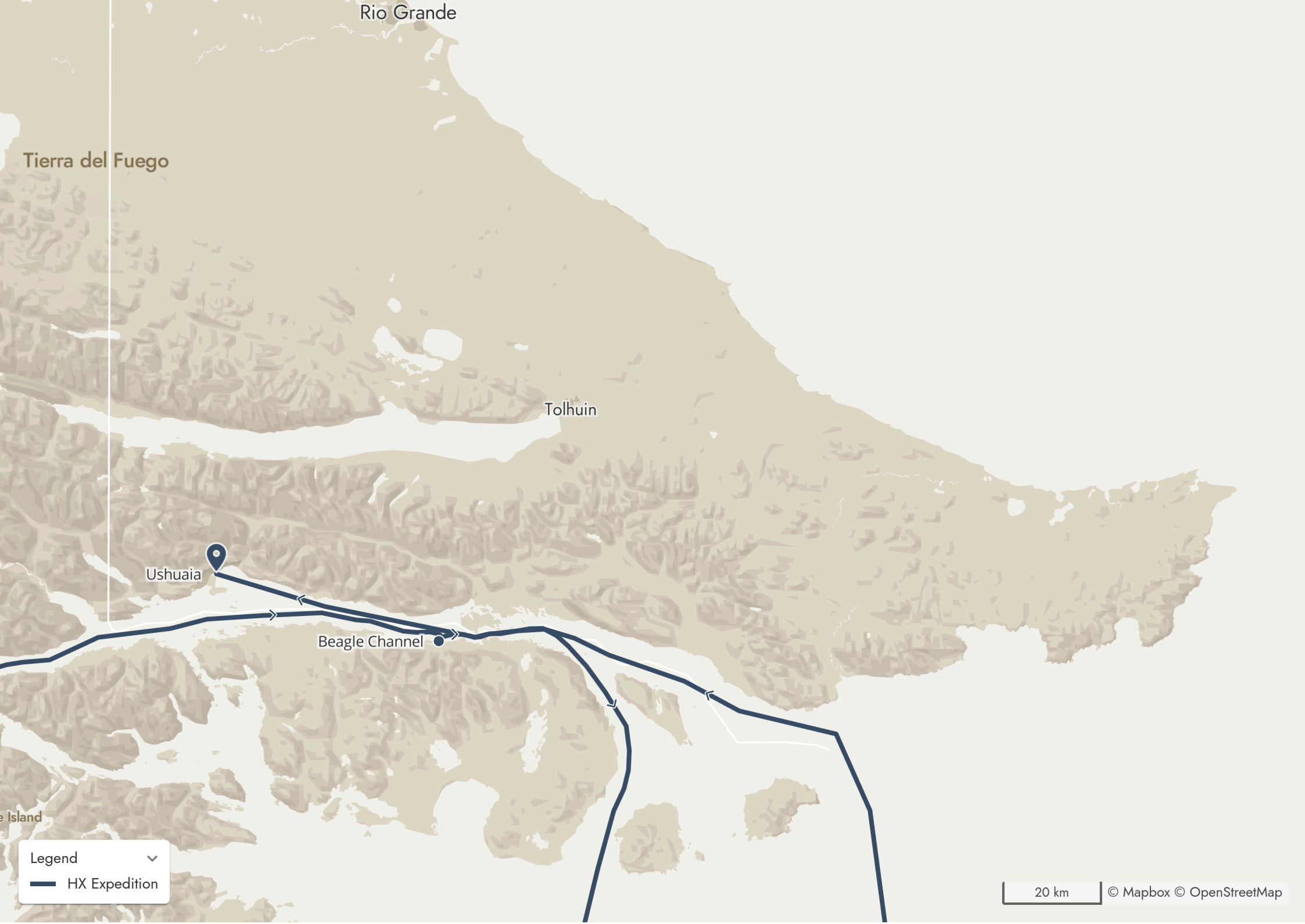
of the waves, watching the seabirds soar by the ship on the stormy winds.



Day 17

Our final day at sea and the weather calmed down, giving us a smooth sailing the last stretch along the Tierra del Fuego towards the port town of Ushuaia.





Rio Grande

Tierra del Fuego

Tolhuin

Ushuaia

Beagle Channel

e Island

Legend

HX Expedition



Day 18

We arrived safe and sound in Ushuaia after a magical journey and an unforgettable experience.





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