



MS Fram

2024.11.10 - 2024.12.02

Legend

— HX Expedition

100 nm

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Punta Arenas - Day 1

We all arrived in Punta Arenas, the Gateway to Antarctica! We embarked on the ship MS Fram, which would be our home for the next three weeks. All of us were looking forward to visiting the

Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica. We settled on the ship, enjoyed a lovely first dinner onboard and after the safety drill, we set sail towards our first destination, the Falkland Islands.

At Sea - Day 2

Our first day onboard started with Wildlife Watch out on deck while we were sailing towards our first destination, the Falkland Islands. We joined a few mandatory briefings to be prepared for our destinations. During the afternoon we met our scientists in the Science Center. Some of us also joined an art corner with Jane called "South American

Street Art". Later in the day we met the Captain and the bridge officers during the Captain's welcome. Afterwards, the entire expedition team introduced themselves. Before we went to bed we learned about our plans for the upcoming day.





New Island & West Point - Day 3

In the early morning we arrived at the Falkland Islands and started the day after breakfast with a landing at New Island. We landed on a beach next to a picturesque wooden shipwreck, called the Protector. After a short walk, we arrived at a cliff with a breathtaking view over a colony of rockhopper penguins and black-browed albatrosses. We stood within the tussock grass and enjoyed the scenery. After a short

break onboard, we landed at West Point in the afternoon and started a longer hike towards another colony of black-browed albatrosses. We walked within a tussock grass labyrinth on the path and the albatrosses flew close over our heads. An experience certainly nobody will ever forget. Some of us even joined a land rover ride towards the colony and that was an adventure on its own.





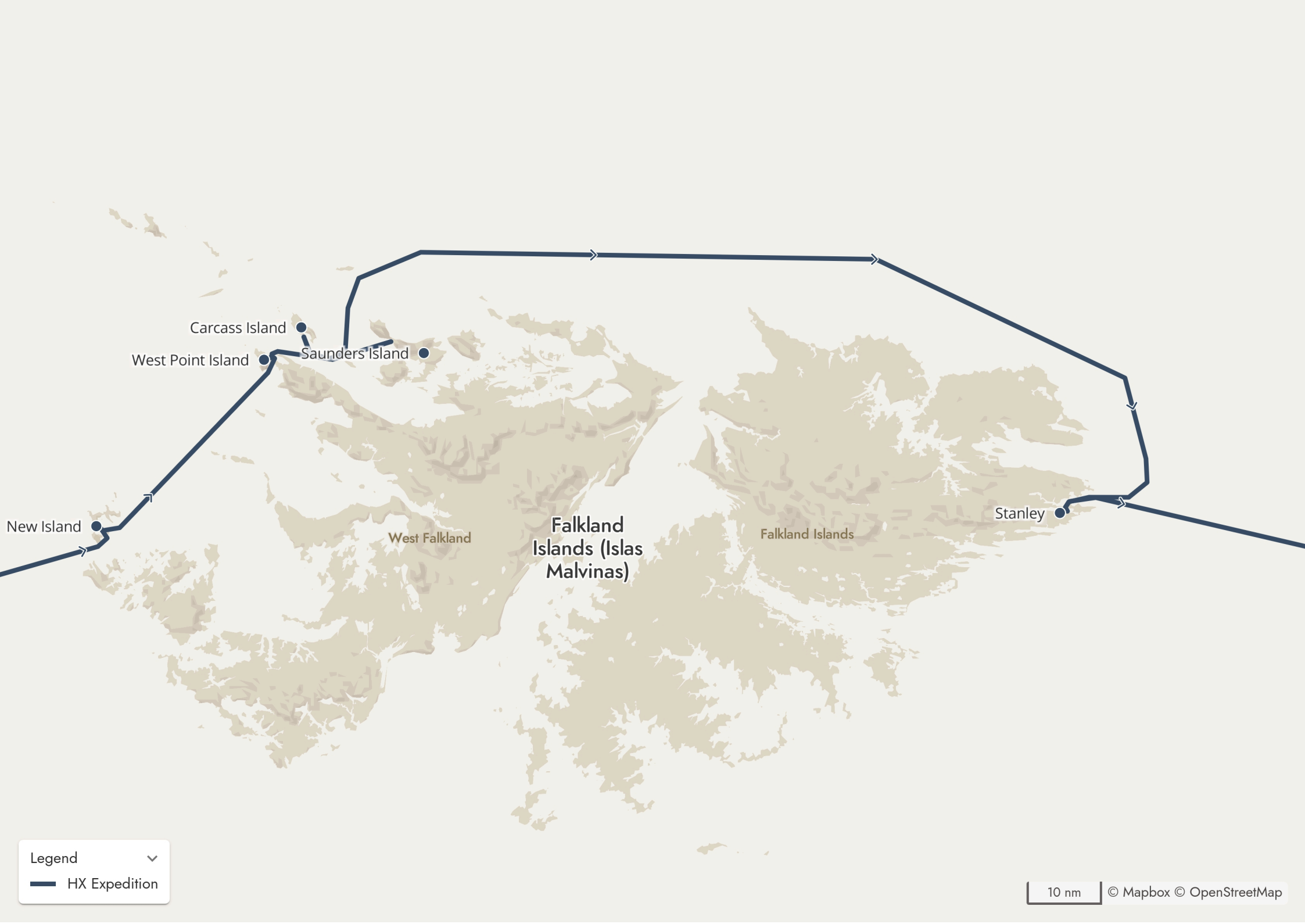
Saunders Island & Carcass Island - Day 4

In the morning we landed at a place called Saunders Island, which is just a paradise of its own! We walked along a beach, passing magellanic penguins standing on grassy slopes with Falkland sheep in the background. We continued walking towards a white Caribbean looking beach with king penguins & their brown fluffy juveniles waddling around. Dolphins were riding the beach and also gentoo

and rockhopper penguins were around. Back at the beach, we met the local couple who lives on the island. During the afternoon we landed at Carcass Island on a very adventurous type of pier. From there, some of us went on a longer hike towards a beach and others didn't make it all the way, because they got stuck at the so-called Cookie House, where locals provided lots of cake, cookies and coffee.







Legend

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Stanley - Day 5

MS Fram went alongside the pier in Stanley and we all explored the only town on the Falkland Islands on our own. Some of us went on an excursion, such as the "Highlights of Stanley". We all went for a stroll in this picturesque place and we were very lucky to again have a

sunny day. After we left Stanley and its gorgeous smell of the yellow gorse flower, we joined the Wildlife Watch with Jenna while sailing away. Many of us also joined a Science Centre session about "What's in the water of the Falkland Islands?". What a lovely day!



At Sea - Day 6

We woke up on a slightly bumpy ocean on our way to our next destination, South Georgia! We got prepared for this new place via IAATO briefings, held by our expedition leader, Steffen. During the

afternoon many of us joined Jane's art corner and a Tiny Talk Roulette about the 'Tropical Islands in the South'. It was a day of relaxation and processing the impressions of the last previous days.



At Sea - Day 7

Our second day at sea was a little calmer in terms of waves, and we were all excited to arrive in South Georgia. Our photographers Geraldine & Jan, provided a photo corner and Jane gave us a lecture about the story of Shackleton's Trans-Antarctic Expedition. We all also

prepared and cleaned our outdoor gear for the next destination, so that we wouldn't introduce any kind of grass or seeds to South Georgia. We all enjoyed spending time out on deck and watching the different kind of birds flying around the ship.

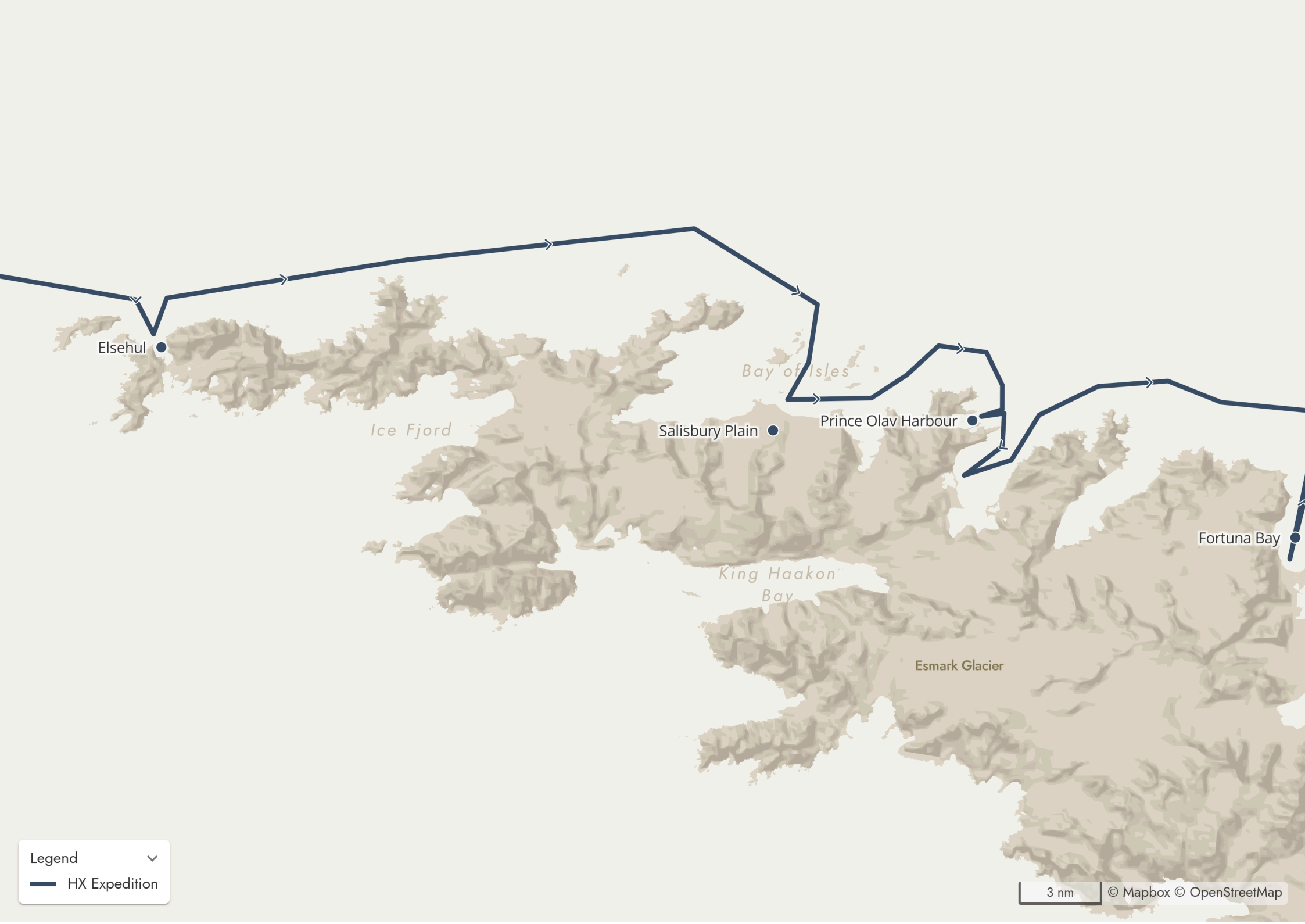
Jason Harbour - Day 8

South Georgia welcomed us with strong winds and lots of swell, so our Expedition Plan A wasn't possible. But as expedition works, an alternative was found and the expedition team surprised us with an evening small boat cruising at Jason Harbour. We drove along the beach and saw a group of king penguins, lots of fur seals and birds,

such as skuas and giant petrels. Today we have spent quite some time out on deck, having a glimpse of Salisbury Plain with thousands of king penguins and enjoying lots of them jumping in the water around the ship.







Elsehul

Ice Fjord

Bay of Isles

Salisbury Plain

Prince Olav Harbour

King Haakon
Bay

Esmark Glacier

Fortuna Bay

Legend



— HX Expedition

3 nm

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap





Fortuna Bay & Strømness - Day 9

The day started with a morning landing at Fortuna Bay, which was our very first landing in South Georgia. A place with an incredible amount of wildlife! King penguins, fur seals and elephant seals just everywhere! Some of us went on the legendary Shackleton Hike from Fortuna Bay to Strømness. While the hikers were on their way by foot, the others went to Strømness with MS Fram. In the afternoon, we

landed at the abandoned Strømness whaling station and we walked towards the waterfall at the end of the valley, where we were met by the hikers again. After we had left Strømness, we passed by another abandoned whaling station, called Leith Harbour. What a special day full of history and storytelling.





Leith Harbour, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands - Nov 18, 2024

1.7 nm

Husvik, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands - Nov 18, 2024

3.7 nm

Hercules Bay, South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands - Nov 19, 2024

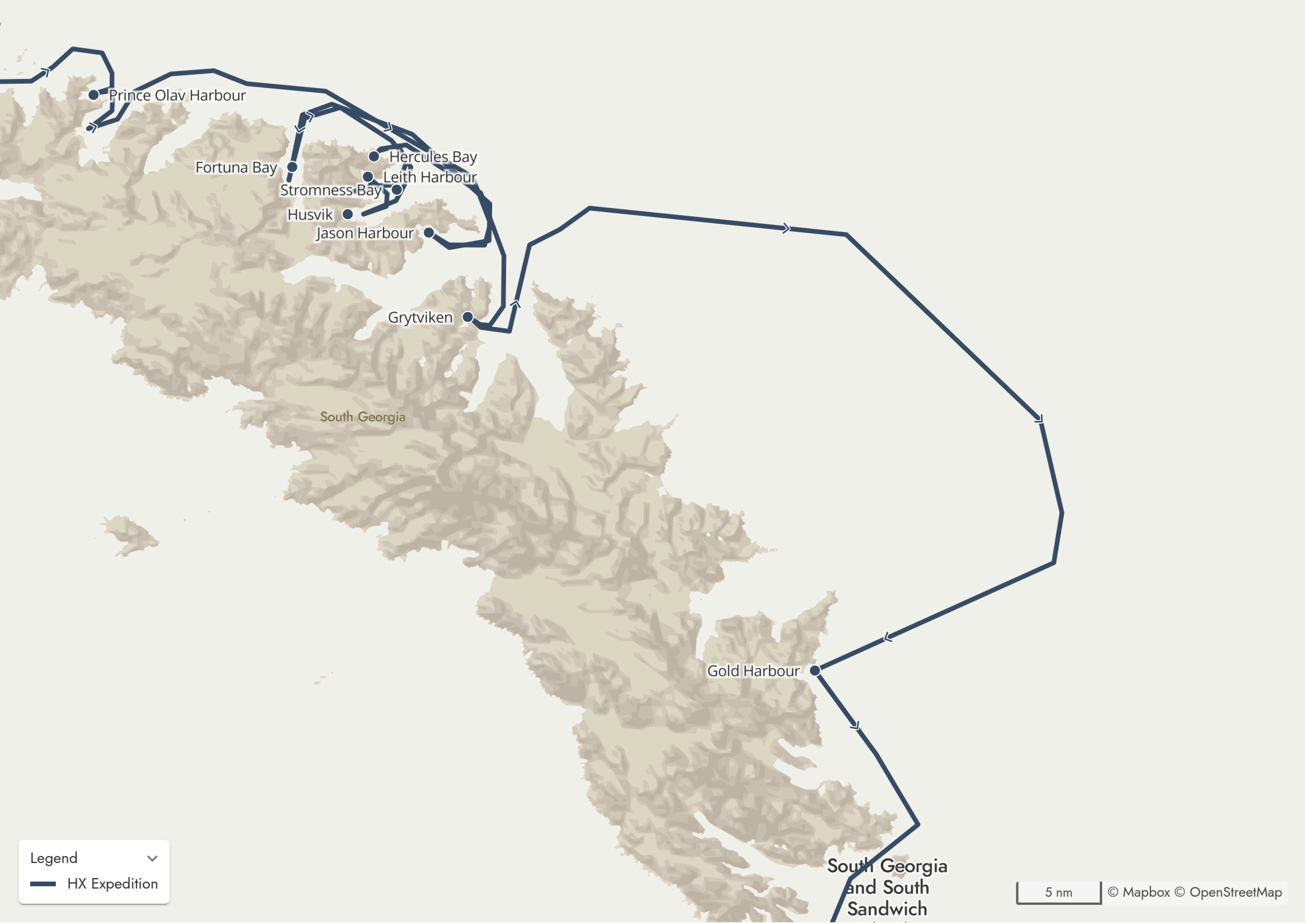
7.3 nm

Hercules & Grytviken - Day 10

We started the morning with a small boat cruising in Hercules Bay in pure sunshine and very calm conditions. It was breathtakingly beautiful to see all the wildlife in this little bay. Fur seals, elephant seals, gentoo penguins and the star of the morning was the macaroni penguin, which is spotted quite rarely. We spent the afternoon in Grytviken, where we visited the grave of Sir Ernest Shackleton and explored the

remains of the first whaling station in South Georgia which was active from 1904 to the 1960s. Some of us went on a hike and some others joined the guided walk in Grytviken. In the late evening, we joined Sandra's storytelling about the adventures of Mrs Chieppy, the cat that joined the Endurance.





Prince Olav Harbour

Fortuna Bay

Stromness Bay

Husvik

Jason Harbour

Hercules Bay

Leith Harbour

Grytviken

South Georgia

Gold Harbour

South Georgia
and South
Sandwich

Legend



— HX Expedition

5 nm

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap



Gold Harbour - Day 11

On our last day in South Georgia, we landed in the morning at a place called Gold Harbour. This place had it all! Thousands of king penguins close to a sandy beach, lots of big male elephant seals, albatrosses flying overhead and a landscape like out of a photographer's magazine, with a hanging glacier and steep mountains and the slopes covered in green tussock grass. We couldn't be closer

to paradise and we all enjoyed every moment, before we started sailing towards the white continent. During the afternoon we learned from Jenna about the seals of the south and joined a South Georgia Tiny Talk Roulette. During the evening, we listened to a storytelling by Jane about the "Giants of South Georgia".



A23a - Day 12

While we were on our way South to Antarctica we were offered lots of onboard programmes, such as Wildlife Watch, eBird citizen science project and a workshop about identifying whales. The highlight of the day happened in the afternoon, when saw the biggest iceberg in the

world, called A23a. It has about 3.800 square km, and broke off from the coasts of Antarctica in the 1980s. What a special sighting! In the late evening, we listened to Candice talk about the "Seafarer's secrets - a look behind the scenes".

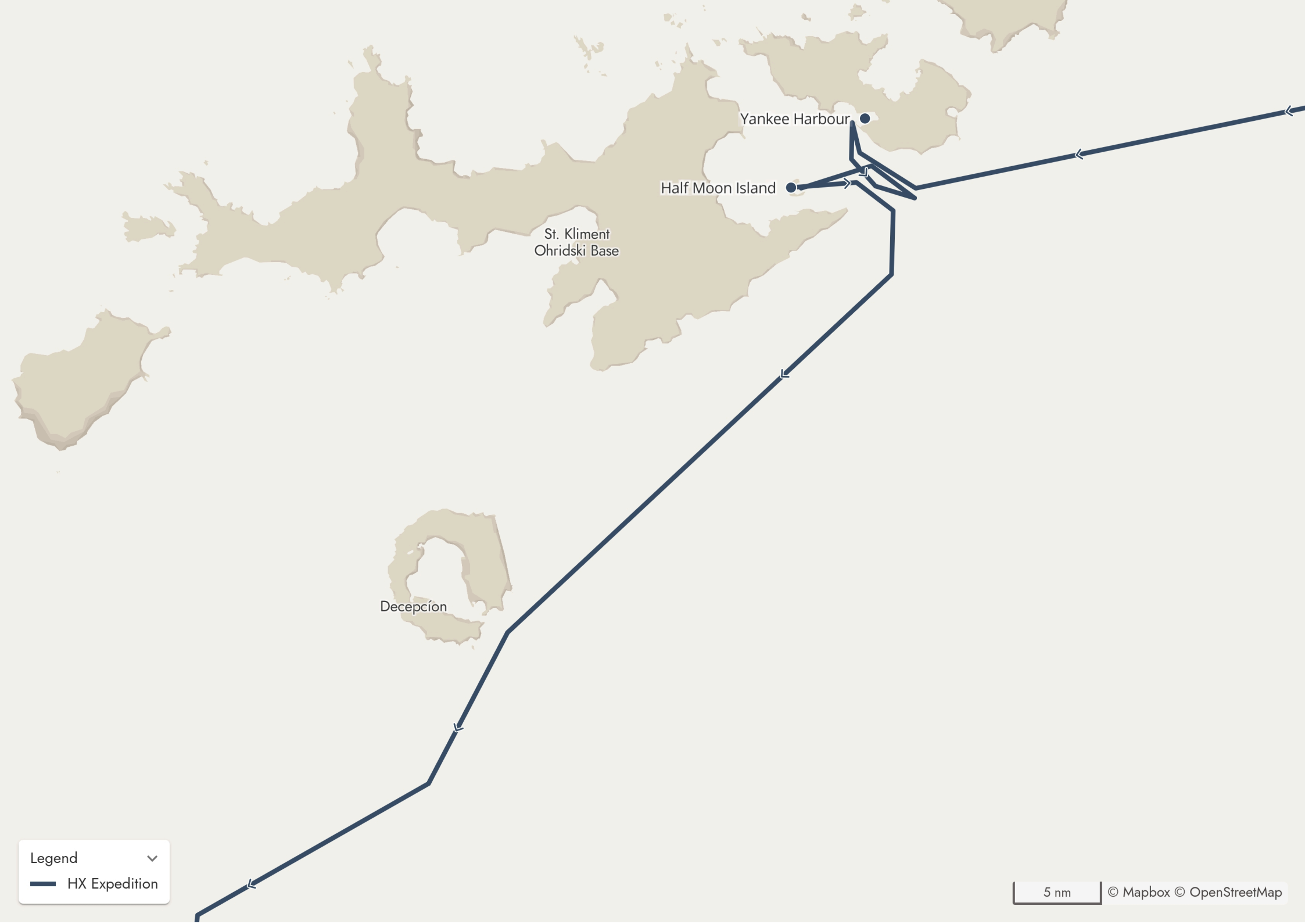


At Sea - Day 13

On our way south to Antarctica, the expedition team offered us lots of onboard programmes. We learned from George about the "Penguins of Antarctica", and many of us joined Jane's workshop to create our own clay penguins. There were lots more to choose from, such as Wildlife Watch, Knitting Corner, Knot Workshop and a Feather

Workshop. During the afternoon we learned from Linda about "Sea Ice". This was also the day of getting ready for Antarctica and we all attended the biosecurity sessions for our clothing and also the rubber boats.





Yankee Harbour - Day 14

In the morning, we were taught by Jane about the "Home for the Huskies" and by Sandra about the "Frozen Voices - The Women of Antarctica". We also attended the Wildlife Watch and the eBird Citizen Science Project. In the afternoon we arrived in Antarctica at Yankee Harbour, and did our first landing. Our first footprints in Antarctica!

We saw lots of gentoo penguins and even one adelia and one chinstrap amongst the gentoos. Already three different types of penguins on our first landing! After we left Yankee Harbour we had a beautiful sunset with light pink and orange light and we could spot several whales around the ship.



Half Moon Island - Day 15

Today we started the day with our second landing in Antarctica at Half Moon Island. We have seen lots of chinstrap penguins and also a group of Weddel seals which we could see from a short distance lying on the snow. Some of us were very adventurous and joined the activity team on a snowshoe hike on Half Moon Island. During the afternoon it was planned to go to Deception Island and land at Whalers Bay, but

due to strong winds this wasn't possible and our expedition team quickly organised an onboard program. Another highlight was a spontaneous rescue of a drone, which had been lost by US scientists and was picked up by our amazing crew drivers, from the wavy waters.



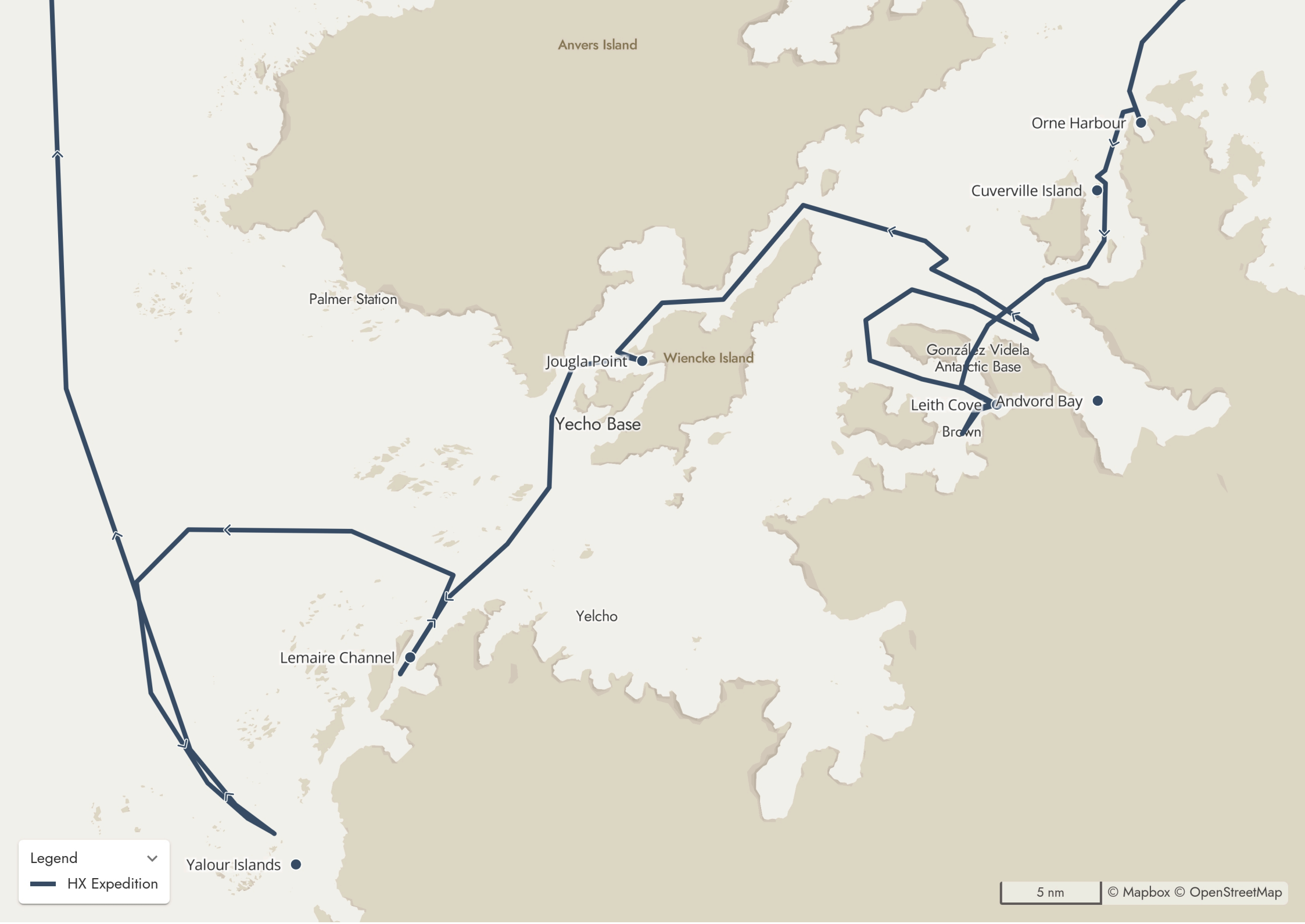
Orne Harbour, Cuverville Island & Leith Cove

During our morning landing at Orne Harbour, we actually touched ground on the Antarctic Peninsula. A continental landing! We made our way up a steep, snowy slope and enjoyed the view over the dramatic landscape of glaciers and mountains while we heard chinstrap penguins in the distance. That morning, we also saw the David Attenborough ship, which picked up the BAS Scientists who had been onboard. During the sunny afternoon, we landed at

Cuverville and enjoyed the presence of thousands of gentoo penguins and a stunning view over a big bay filled with icebergs. Some of us joined the activity team for a kayak adventure through this very special scenery. In the evening some of us joined another kayak adventure at Leith Cove while others were brought to their Antarctic campsite. A night in Antarctica!









Andvord Bay, Jougla Point & Lemaire Channel

Early in the morning the campers among us got picked up from Leith Cove, and after breakfast, we started a small boat cruising in the Neko area. We spotted humpback whales and enjoyed the Antarctic scenery with lots of ice. When back onboard we spotted a big group of orcas who stayed with us for a while. In the afternoon we landed at Jougla Point, where we went for a loop-shaped walk. We spotted several

small colonies of Gentoo penguins and a number of nests of the blue-eyed shag. Some of us also went at Jougla on a kayak excursion. Later in the evening, we entered the Lemaire Channel and enjoyed a spectacular view of many big icebergs and the surrounding mountains while enjoying a hot chocolate.





Yalour Islands - Day 18

On our last day in Antarctica, we attempted a landing at the Yalour Islands, which wasn't possible due to the area being completely full of ice. We sailed a few miles away and instead started a small boat cruising amongst big icebergs and lots of penguins who were jumping next to the zodiacs. After lunch we started our way toward the

northeast and through the Drake Passage. Soon it became foggy but the ship was accompanied by a group of Antarctic Petrels, which are rarely seen. Such a lovely goodbye from Antarctica. We learned from George about the 'Seabirds of the Southern Ocean' and listened to a tiny talk roulette regarding the frozen continent.



Drake Passage - Day 19

We woke up on a relatively calm Drake Passage, and the Expedition Team had prepared a day with an onboard program. We learned about scurvy, the plague of the sea, joined Wildlife Watch with George and Jenna and some of us joined the Scavenger Hunt

prepared by our Activity Team. We also learned from Linda about the climate change of the Frozen Continent. The day ended with George's excellent voyage quiz. We went sleeping in the gentle waves of the Drake Passage while heading north.

Puerto Williams - Day 20

Whilst we were coming closer to the Chilean fjords, we joined the art corner, learned about skulls in the Science Centre and also learned from Steffen about navigation. During the afternoon, we stopped at

Puerto Williams and many of us joined the Wildlife Watch with Jenna. Later in the evening we celebrated our lovely voyage by listening to live music by the awesome MS Fram Crew Band.

Chilean Fjords - Day 21

In the morning, we sailed along the "Nation Glaciers" in the Beagle Channel and enjoyed the landscape of the Chilean fjords. At the same time, we looked out for wildlife in the area. Later on, we heard from Maeva about Chilean wines, and George told us about Darwin's discoveries. The science team provided information about

echolocation and Linda showed us the NASA Globe Cloud Observer. In the afternoon, the expedition team showed us their favourite moments of the voyage, and this was followed by the Captain's Farewell and the slideshow by our photographers, Geraldine and Jan.





Cerro Sombrero

Punta Arenas

Punta Arenas

Porvenir

Rio Grande

Tierra del Fuego

Alberto de Agostini
National Park

Nation Glaciers

Ushuaia

Puerto Williams

Legend



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20 nm

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A sunny day on the water

Today we spent the whole day on the water. Some of us were able to go kayaking in the Antarctic waters for the first time. What a paddle it

was! The rest of us accompanied on the ice and basked in the sun on the outdoor decks.

Punta Arenas - Day 22

Sadly, our voyage came to an end and we all disembarked the MS Fram, which had become our home over the last three weeks. We will arrive home with lots of wonderful and special memories which will

take some time to process. The MS Fram team hopes to see us all again back onboard.



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