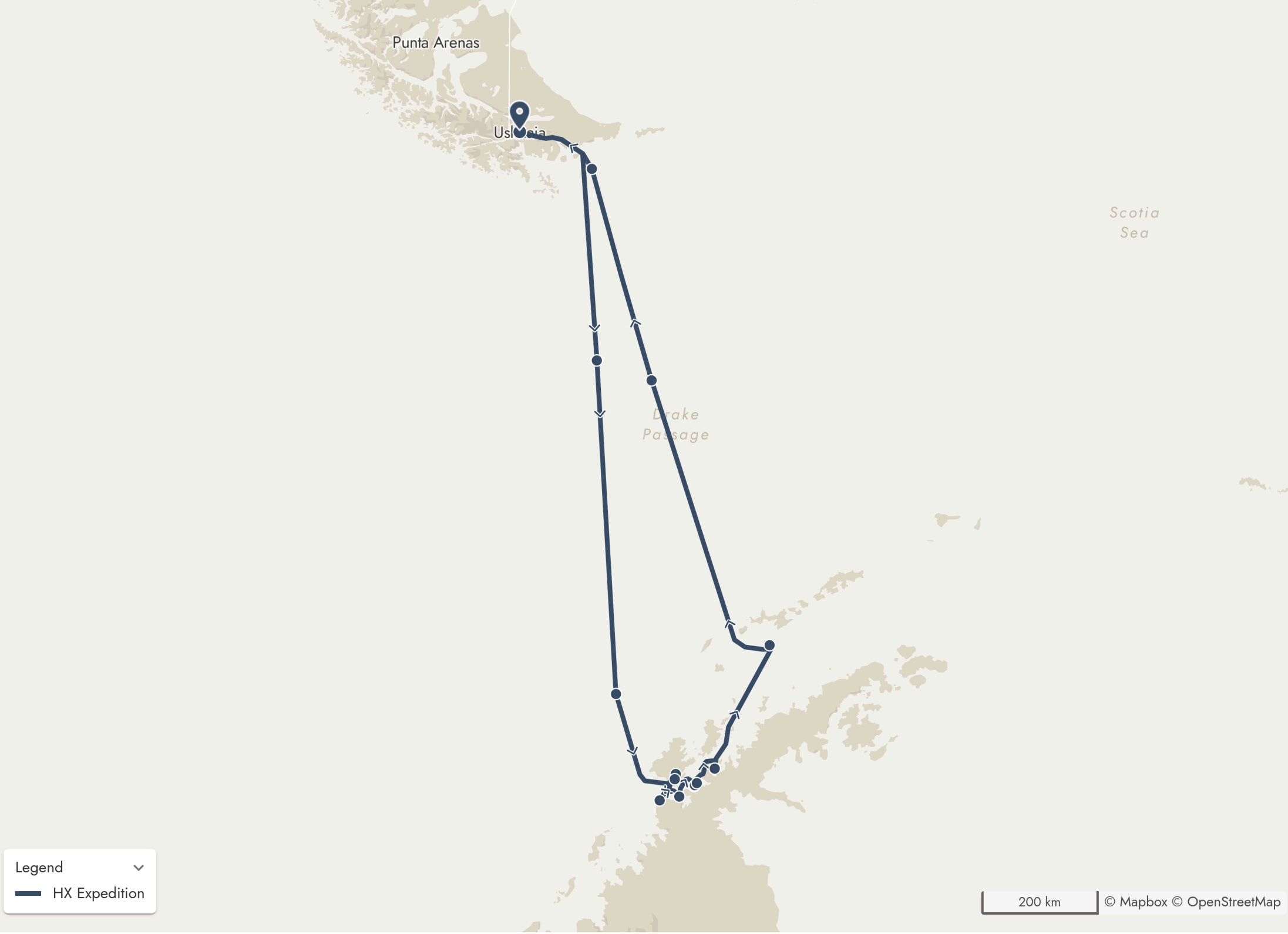




MS Roald Amundsen

2024.12.05 - 2024.12.15



Ushuaia

Our adventure has started! After long hours and thousands of miles of journey we arrived in Ushuaia and in the afternoon, embarked MS Roald Amundsen – our home for the upcoming days. The day was not

over yet. We all participated in a mandatory safety drill to be able sail away at 19:00 and head through the Beagle Channel to our dream destination – Antarctica!



Drake Passage Day 1

First day on the Drake Passage, or in our case, the 'Drake Lake'. The most famous passage in the world treated us very gently. The day was filled with briefings and introductory meetings. We learned about

landing procedures, the importance of safety and biosecurity. In the evening – the Captain's welcome party and an introduction to our Expedition Team.



Drake Passage Day 2

Another day on the 'Drake Lake'. Another day of preparations for the days in Antarctica. All the guests onboard were equipped with rubber

boots and group patches. The day was filled with lectures, workshops and increased excitement before arrival to the 7th continent.



Börgen Bay

Antarctica! We finally arrived. Since early morning, we were surrounded by icebergs and enormous mountains covered by glaciers. We had an early start. In the morning, we were zodiac

cruising in Börgen Bay. We were blessed with the presence of numerous whales and penguins.



Damoy Point

Just after lunch, we started our operation at Damoy Point. This place, rich in penguin colonies, was our first landing in Antarctica. We saw an abandon British hut used for airlift operations supporting the British Antarctic Survey and Rothera Station. We did not get to go inside

because the area beneath the hut is now used as a shelter for nesting penguins. We walked around Damoy Point, having to stop several times to give the right of way to crossing penguins – what the experience.



Lemaire Channel

Night crossing of Lemaire Channel heading south. This channel used to be called Kodak because of how picturesque this place is. Even though the hour was late and we had started the day very early, we all

gathered on deck to observe just how spectacular Lemaire Channel is.



Flandres Bay

Very early in the morning, we reached Port Charcot. Unfortunately, due to the ice conditions, the landing had to be cancelled. We sailed back north again, crossing the Lemaire Channel and headed towards

Flandres Bay, where we found shelter from the strong winds. In this marvellous bay filled with ice and surrounded by glaciers, we went zodiac cruising. Another beautiful day on the waters of Antarctica.



Paradise Bay

The day was overcast from early morning. We started with a very icy cruising in Paradise Bay, surrounded by numerous floating ice formations. 'Real' Antarctic weather showed up, with heavy snow and

wind appearing around noon. Although the weather was challenging, we spent great quality time riding zodiacs and exploring the area.





Anvers Island

Börgen Bay

Palmer Station

Damoy

Wiencke Island

Yecho Base

González Videla
Antarctic Base

Leith Cove Camping

Paradise Bay

Almirante Brown
Scientific Station

Wilhelmina Bay

Flandres Bay

Lemaire Channel

Legend



— HX Expedition

10 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Brown Station

In the afternoon, we went to Brown Station. The weather had changed, and the sun appeared. It was our first continental landing. We did it! Our 7th continent! Brown Station is an Argentinian station used for research. When we visited it, there were no scientists occupying it. The place of researchers was taken by penguins, who decided to nest between the buildings of the station.

Above the station, a hilly path led us to the viewpoint from where we could observe the station, penguins colonies, and the MS Roald Amundsen - which was surrounded by icebergs and constantly appearing whales.



Leith Cove Camping

In the evening, our lucky and brave campers started their adventure. Taken by the Expedition Team to the Leith Cove, a tiny island covered by snow and ice, the campers started to set up their tents. The wind, which started to get stronger, did not make this task easy. Surrounded by glaciers, the campers fell asleep to experience the unique Amundsen-style night.

Early morning pick-up was disturbed. The way to the zodiac was blocked. Not permanently but by little visitors - a couple of curious Gentoo penguins who decided to walk around. Back onboard, a well-deserved breakfast in Fredhaim was waiting for us.



Wilhelmina Bay

Another very special day in Antarctica. We spent the morning looking for sea ice for our sea ice landing. When we found a large surface of frozen sea, our Captain took over the steering wheel (a joystick in case of such a modern ship) and drove into the ice. When we stopped, the scouting team headed out onto the ice to drill through the ice and measure its depth. The first attempt was not successful; the ice was not

thick enough. The whole team went back onboard and the Captain drove the ship even farther into the ice. This time, full success! The Expedition Team was able to establish a safe perimeter for all guests onboard to roam freely. What an amazing experience it is to stand on ice with 698m of water beneath!





Whalers Bay

Legend



— HX Expedition

20 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Whalers Bay

Our adventure continued with a sailing to the famous volcanic island – Deception Island. Around noon, we went through Neptune's Bellows, the entrance into the famous Whalers Bay, which was our destination for the day. At Whalers Bay, we had the opportunity to visit the Norwegian whaling station from the early 20th century and/or walk to the 'window' - a viewpoint with a spectacular panorama of the inside of Deception Island on one side and the open sea on the other.

Many of us joined the Polar Plunge that day. The possibility of swimming in the Antarctic waters was an even more special

experience due to the numerous penguins accompanying us on the beach.

In the evening onboard, the Hurtigruten Action took place - an opportunity to purchase souvenirs from the trip and support a good cause. The night ended with a Crew Band concert. Crew members from all the departments gathered together to perform. The music was making us roll with the waves, which welcomed us as we entered the Drake Passage towards Ushuaia.



Drake Passage

Heading back to Ushuaia. This time, the Drake Passage had nothing to do with the 'Drake Lake'. A couple meter-tall waves rolled the ship up and down. We spent time enjoying the onboard program, filled with

lectures and talks, and resting after the very intensive days in Antarctica.



Captain's Farewell

The last day on the Drake. Getting closer and closer to Tierra del Fuego. The day was filled with onboard activities. We slowly started packing, as it was time to return our great boots and group patches.

In the evening, we were all invited to the Explorer Lounge for the

Captain's farewell. A great opportunity to meet all the crew for the last time and enjoy the trip's highlights, provided by our expedition photographer. Great pictures and wonderful memories that will stay with us forever. Share them with the world, keep them in your heart.







Ushuaia, Argentina - Dec 15, 2024





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