



MS Fridtjof Nansen

2025.01.17 - 2025.01.27



Day 1 -Embarkation in Ushuaia

It only seemed like minutes after our heads hit the pillows in our hotel room before we were up again. Like excited children on Christmas morning, we quickly got ready and gathered for our early morning flights to Ushuaia. Our flight descended over the Beagle Channel and the city at the end of the world—but for us, it was the beginning of everything. Our ship was waiting patiently at the pier, tugging at its

lines, itching to surge southward again.

Sailing down the Beagle Channel, we were greeted by local wildlife, including Magellanic penguins—truly a good omen for the voyage ahead.



Beagle Channel, Chile - Jan 17, 2025

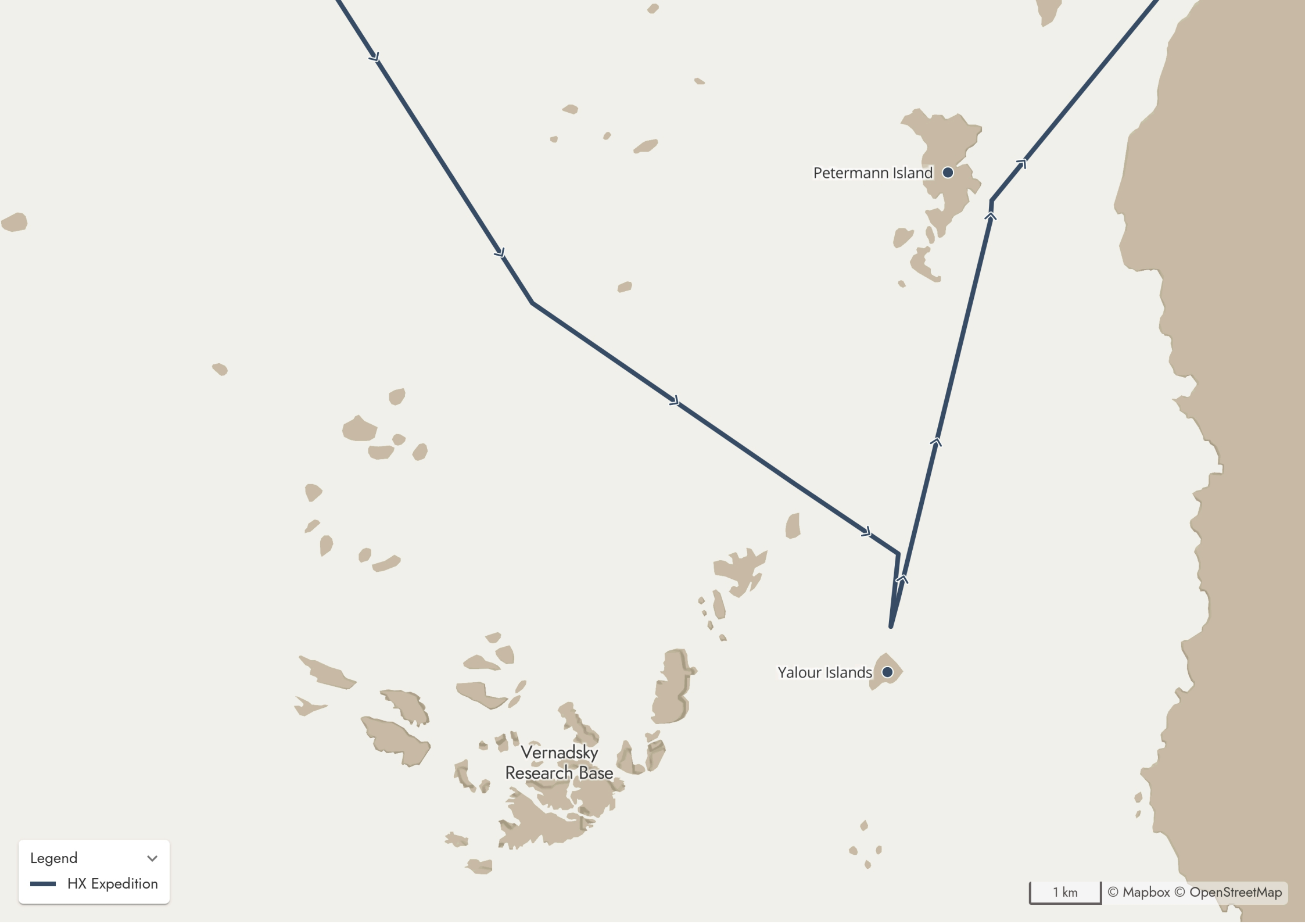
Drake Passage - Jan 18, 2025

Day 2 - Drake Passage

The Drake welcomed us with its signature personality—rough waters that kept everyone on their toes! Movement around the ship became an art form as passengers braced and balanced like seasoned mariners. Spirits remained high, with everyone taking the conditions in stride, treating the rolling seas as part of the adventure. Amidst the

swell, we filled the day with onboard activities, setting the stage for the incredible experiences ahead. It was a proper introduction to Antarctic waters, and we all felt one step closer to the White Continent.





Petermann Island

Yalour Islands

Vernadsky
Research Base

Day 3 - Drake Passage

Day two brought no relief from the Drake's legendary swells, but by now, everyone had found their sea legs - or at least learned how to roll with it, literally! The day's highlight was the mandatory IAATO briefing, where the Expedition Team guided us through the protocols for visiting this pristine wilderness. The excitement grew as we imagined

the adventures ahead. In the evening, the Captain and his team officially welcomed us aboard, setting a tone of confidence and camaraderie for the journey. Despite the wild seas outside, the energy inside the ship remained electric.

Day 4 - Yalour Islands

Antarctica truly delivered today, gracing us with clear skies and perfectly still conditions - an ideal backdrop for our adventures. In the morning, we explored the Yalour Islands by small boat, weaving through ice-laden waters to reach a lively colony of Adélie Penguins.

These charming birds put on quite a show, while Weddell and Crabeater seals lounged nearby, seemingly unbothered by our presence.



Day 4 - Petermann Island

By afternoon, we had repositioned to Petermann Island, where a bustling Gentoo Penguin colony awaited us. Landing onshore, we marvelled at the picturesque views of the Penola Strait, framed by

jagged peaks and shimmering ice. The same pristine weather accompanied us, making the experience all the more magical.







Booth Island

Lemaire Channel

Legend
HX Expedition

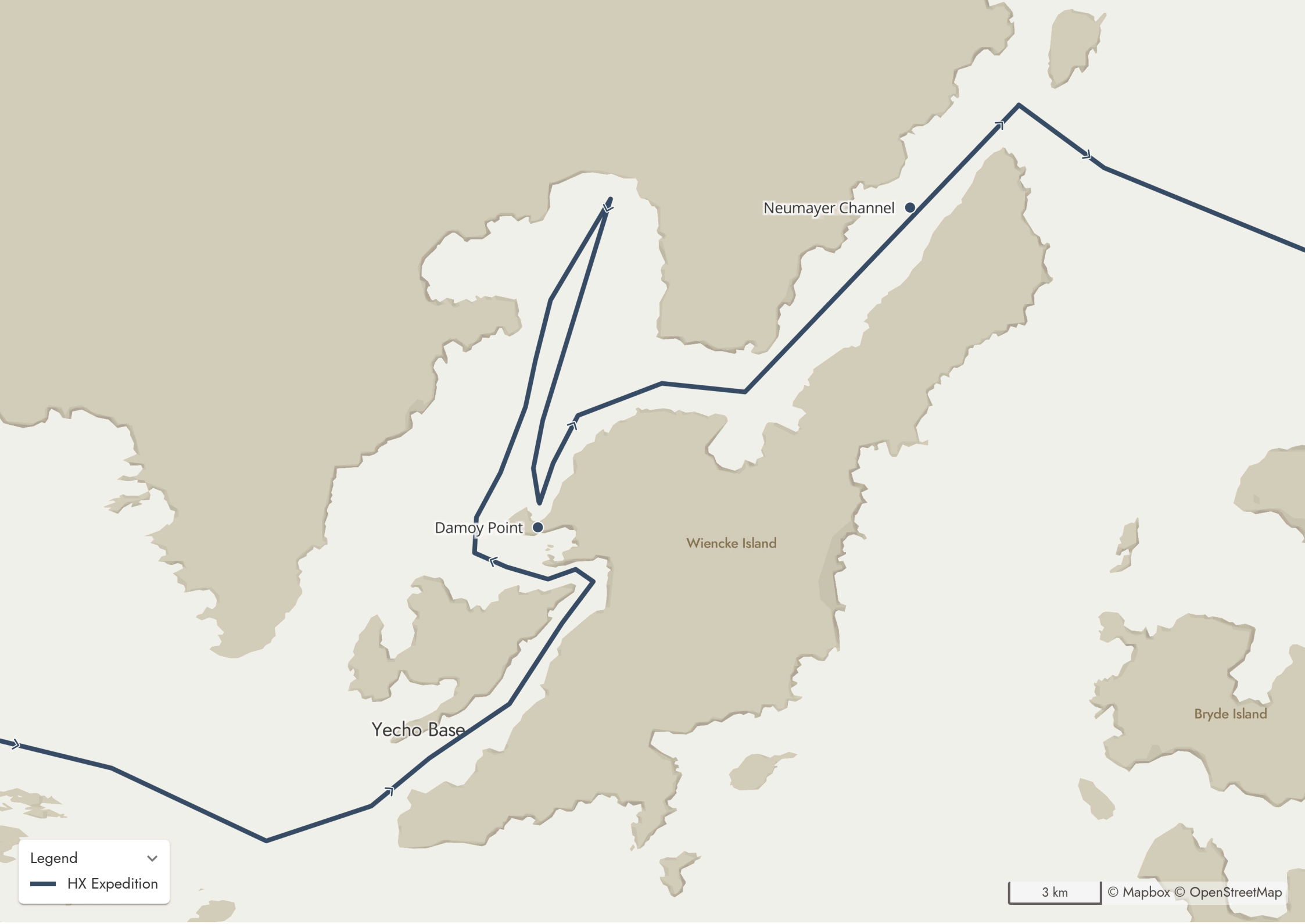
1 km © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 4 - Lemaire Channel

As the sun began to lower, we sailed through the legendary Lemaire Strait, often called the "Kodak Gap" for good reason. Towering cliffs reflected off glassy waters as we navigated the narrow passage, with

everyone on deck savouring the spectacle. It was the perfect way to round out an unforgettable day in this frozen paradise.





Neumayer Channel

Damoy Point

Wiencke Island

Bryde Island

Yecho Base

Legend
HX Expedition

3 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 5 - Damoy Point

Antarctica spoiled us once again with flawless weather, setting the stage for yet another extraordinary day. The morning was a visual feast as we sailed through the breathtaking Peltier Channel, followed by the tranquil Neumayer Channel and the ice-laden Børgen Bay. With such spectacular scenery, it was impossible not to be captivated by the continent's rugged beauty.

In the afternoon, we landed at Damoy Point, where the ever-entertaining Gentoo Penguins greeted us onshore. Our visit also took us to the historic Damoy Hut, offering a glimpse into Antarctica's past. For those seeking extra adventure, a snowshoeing excursion provided

an incredible opportunity to explore the area further, with stunning views at every turn.

The excitement didn't end there. As the sun dipped toward the horizon, a group of intrepid guests stayed behind to camp on Antarctic ice—a true bucket-list moment for those brave enough to embrace the chill of the polar night.

From the morning's scenic cruising to the evening's daring campers, every moment felt like another chapter in the unforgettable story of our journey.







Neumayer Channel

Wiencke Island

Bryde Island

González Videla
Antarctic Base

Brown

Neko Harbour

Legend



— HX Expedition

5 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 6 - Neko Harbour

Today marked an incredible milestone as we set foot on mainland Antarctica at Neko Harbour - a moment filled with awe and significance for all aboard. The day began with a special encounter in Andvord Bay, where we crossed paths with our sister ship, Roald Amundsen, amid the icy expanse. Seeing two explorers meet in this remote wilderness was a sight to remember.

At Neko Harbour, a mix of small boat cruising and an onshore landing revealed Antarctica's raw beauty. Cloudy skies created a dramatic backdrop for the towering glaciers and sculpted icebergs, while calm

winds made for ideal conditions. Cruising among the floes, we spotted Weddell seals basking on the ice and seabirds soaring above. Onshore, the glacier-framed bay and the bustling penguin colony brought the landscape to life.

As the day came to a close, we sailed through the Errera Channel under perfect conditions. A mesmerizing sunset bathed the ice and water in shades of gold and pink - an unforgettable finale to an extraordinary day.





Day 7- Spert Island

Antarctica revealed its wild side today, adding an extra thrill to our exploration. The morning brought us to the striking Spert Island, famed for its dramatic rock formations, narrow channels, and hidden sea caves. Swells made navigation challenging, but our skilled team

expertly guided us through, ensuring an unforgettable experience.

Cruising through this labyrinth of rock and ice felt like stepping into another world - raw, untamed, and utterly mesmerising.





Day 7 - D'Hainaut Island - (Mikkelsen Harbour)

In the afternoon, we made our way south to D'Hainaut Island, nestled in Mikkelsen Harbour, for a landing that brought us face-to-face with a lively Gentoo Penguin colony. Their playful antics provided endless entertainment and plenty of photo opportunities.

As our visit drew to a close, a thick fog rolled in, shrouding the island in an eerie stillness. Drifting ice soon followed, adding a sense of urgency and underscoring the ever-changing nature of this polar wilderness. With visibility diminishing and the bay rapidly filling with

ice, we made the call to halt operations for safety.

Though the abrupt end to our landing was unexpected, it only heightened the adventure - reminding us that in Antarctica, nature always has the final word. Adapting to its shifting moods is part of the experience, deepening our awe and respect for this untamed continent.







Luis Risopatron

Half Moon Island

Livingston Island

St. Kliment
Ohridski Base

Deception Island

Decepción

Legend

HX Expedition

Day 8 - Whalers Bay (Deception Island)

Our final day in Antarctica took us to some of its most iconic locations, ensuring memories to last a lifetime. Early in the morning, we navigated through Neptune's Bellows, the dramatic gateway to Deception Island's caldera. From the ship, we took in breathtaking

views of Whalers Bay - a site rich in history, framed by rugged volcanic landscapes. The stillness of the morning and the otherworldly scenery provided a poignant farewell to this extraordinary continent.



Day 8- Half Moon Island

In the afternoon, we made our way to Half Moon Island for a final landing. The lively Chinstrap Penguin colony provided a fitting farewell, their playful antics on the rocky terrain as entertaining as ever. Guests took in every moment, capturing photos and savouring their last steps on Antarctic soil.

For those seeking the ultimate polar adventure, the "Polar Plunge" awaited - a chance to dive into the icy Antarctic waters. The brave

souls who took the plunge emerged exhilarated, their wide smiles and triumphant stories a testament to the thrill of the experience.

As the day drew to a close, we bid farewell to the White Continent and set course across the Drake Passage toward Ushuaia. Yet, the spirit of Antarctica remained with us - a place that leaves an indelible mark on all who are fortunate enough to visit.





Day 9 - Drake Passage

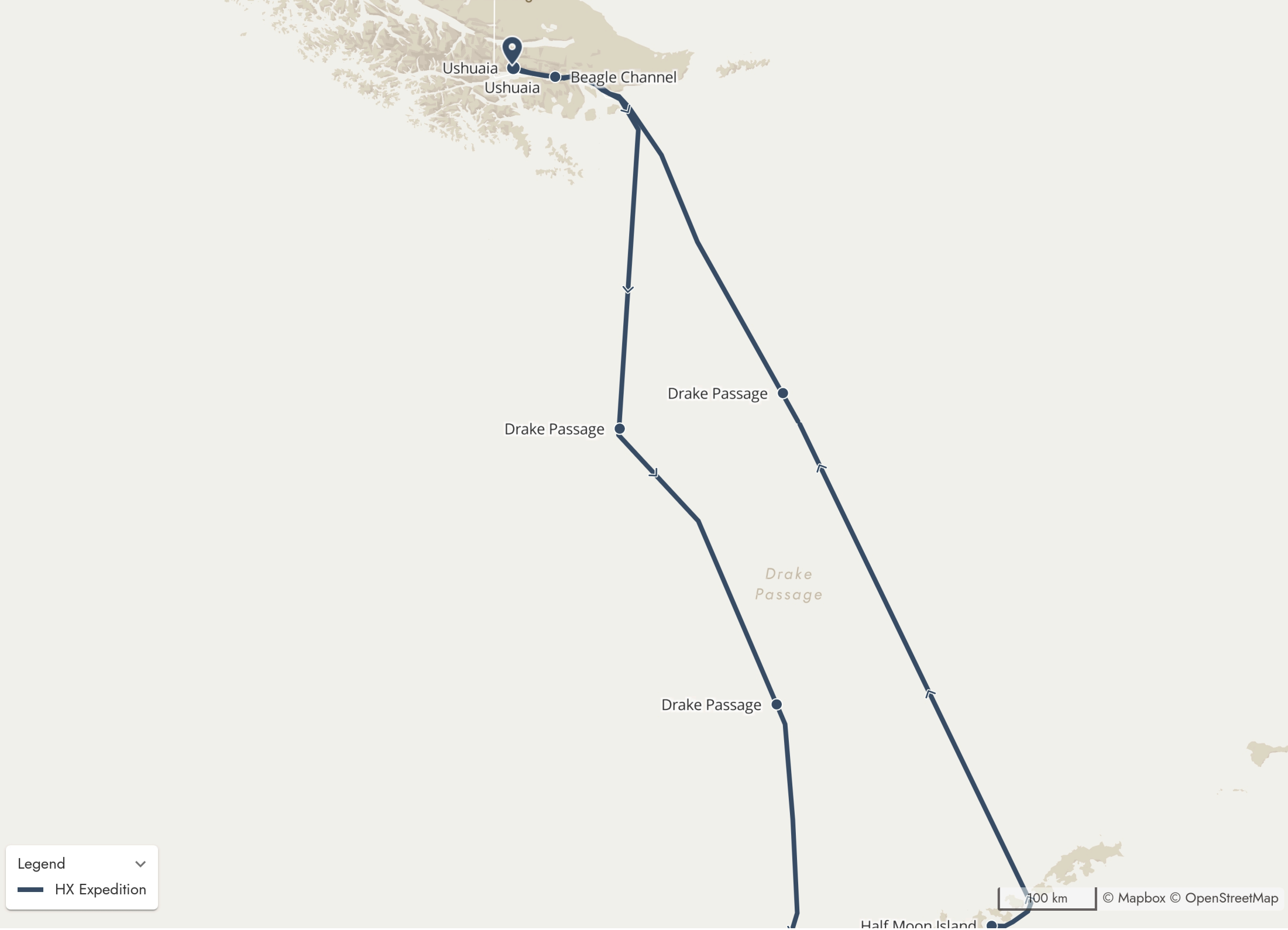
As we began our journey back to Ushuaia, the Drake Passage greeted us with unexpectedly calm conditions - a stark contrast to our lively crossing on the way south. With little swell and smooth sailing, guests had the perfect opportunity to reflect on the incredible experiences of the past days.

The day aboard the ship was filled with activities that kept spirits high. Guests returned their boots and biosecurity patches, with many taking part in cleaning them - a small but meaningful gesture to help preserve Antarctica's pristine wilderness.

Recap sessions and engaging lectures by the Expedition Team allowed us to relive our adventures and deepen our understanding of this remarkable continent. Meanwhile, music sessions created a relaxed and joyful atmosphere, offering a chance to unwind and share stories from the journey.

With calm seas and a sense of fulfilment, the first day of our northward crossing felt like a gentle transition back to the world beyond the ice.







Day 10 - Drake Passage, Beagle Channel & Ushuaia

Our final day at sea began with the last stretch of the Drake Passage, which continued to treat us kindly with calm conditions. By noon, we entered more sheltered waters, and the distant islands of the Chilean Southern Archipelago came into view—a reminder that our Antarctic adventure was nearing its end.

In the afternoon, we sailed into the scenic Beagle Channel, surrounded by the dramatic landscapes of Patagonia. As if bidding us farewell, dolphins danced in the ship's wake, penguins bobbed alongside us, and even whales graced us with their presence. This

vibrant display of wildlife was a fitting reminder that the magic of this region extends far beyond the Antarctic Peninsula.

By 19:00, we arrived in Ushuaia, the southernmost city in the world, where some guests took the opportunity to explore the charming town before the journey officially concluded. Though our time in Antarctica had come to an end, the memories and stories we carry will stay with us forever—a testament to the power and beauty of this remarkable part of the world.



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