



MS Roald Amundsen

2025.01.28 - 2025.02.13

Legend

— HX Expedition



And Here We go!

Today, we flew from Buenos Aires to Ushuaia, where we took a bus from the airport to the MS Roald Amundsen, our new floating home for the next 16 days. The ship looks absolutely gorgeous! That gigantic six-story screen definitely made an impressive first impression. The crew is so nice—everyone greeted us with a smile. Little did we know

how many of these new faces would become such wonderful hosts, and some even good friends we hope to see again. The Science Centre is impressive, the cabins are very cosy, and we could feel the warmth from the very beginning. And here we go!



First Day at the Drake

Today we had so much going on in the lecture hall and the science centre. Many lectures about the life on board, the science and education program, and so on. It was a truly interesting introduction to how this is not going to be a typical cruise, which is exactly what we came here for. Our first day on the infamous Drake Passage, the

gateway to our grand adventure in the Great White Antarctic, had begun. Somehow everyone started to talk about boots and patches... soon we would find out they would be our best companions for the adventure to come.



A Surprising Drake Lake

Many had braced for the infamous Drake Shake, expecting a turbulent crossing - but to our surprise, the Drake Passage showed us a rare moment of mercy. With calm seas, we eased into the journey, attending our first lectures and discovering just how enriching the

ship's educational and science programmes would be. With anticipation building, we looked forward to the adventures that lay ahead!



Almost there...

Today was packed with activities. The Expedition Team delivered fascinating lectures, giving us deeper insights into the journey ahead while allowing us to get to know them better. With each passing day, the ship felt a little more like home. Some chose to unwind in the Spa

and Wellness Centre, while others ventured out on deck to embrace the crisp polar breeze and scan the horizon for wildlife. We're now halfway there - our adventure is truly taking shape!



Crossing, Cruising and that King Neptune...

We finally crossed the Antarctic Polar Circle! The first thing we did was head out on the zodiacs for our first close encounter with the Great White Continent, with its icebergs and sea ice. It was absolutely fantastic! We even did a sea ice landing on a small ice floe, which truly surprised us, and for many of us, it was the most unique and

genuine experience of our lives. When we got back, we had a proper ceremony where we were baptized by the captain and... KING NEPTUNE HIMSELF... in the most authentic way possible: by ice-cold water. (How come he wasn't freezing cold???)



They are so fluffy!

Red Rock Ridge was a world of wonders packed into a single landing. The rugged mountain formations were truly striking, creating a dramatic backdrop for our first encounter with a penguin colony. Along the way, a few curious skuas made an appearance, but the real

highlight was the penguins - especially the tiny, fluffy chicks. Watching the parents feed them was an unforgettable sight, one that will stay with us forever, both in our memories and in our hearts.



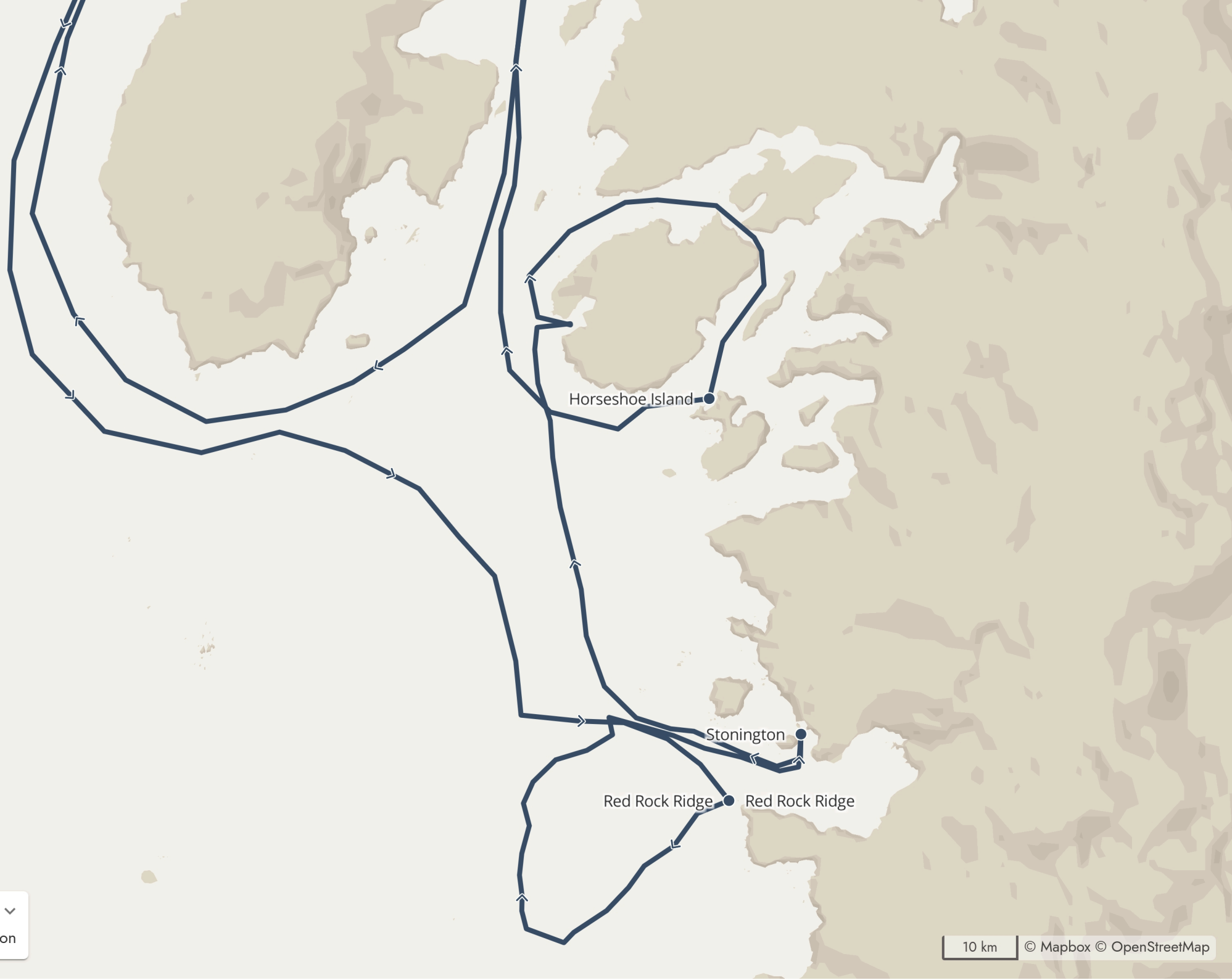
Like a Time Machine

Today's landing was absolutely unique. Other than just the stunning mountains around us, Horseshoe Island gave us the closest encounter we have had with a massive glacier, and it was roaring like a hungry beast, breaking internally and occasionally calving. The island also

gave us the chance to visit two scientific stations from the period right after World War II, including two small tanks buried in the snow! This was just like traveling in a time machine.







Legend



— HX Expedition

10 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Seal Party!

Horseshoe was amazing enough as the landing and the mountain range just left us all in awe. Yes, the first scientific station we saw during this voyage was something special, but the ones who stole the

show were the dozens of seals who were 'chilling' and resting on the ice flows right in front of the landing site. They looked so sweet and cute!



Even More Heavenly

Oh yes... on the same sea day, we navigated through the Gullet. This was such a spectacular passage, with geography unlike any other,

gently touched by the sunlight that made it even more heavenly. This was indeed an unforgettable day.

A Day to Relax

Even though we had no operations this day, it was a good change. After having double operations and many amazing landings, we now had more time to attend interesting lectures in person, take some enlightening workshops, and so on. Some of us took time to pamper

ourselves in the sauna, the spa, or simply grab a coffee to enjoy in the panorama lounge. With our batteries recharged, we'll be ready for the next exploration day.



An Unearthly Reflection

This day was a shining diamond on top of a mountain of treasures. The cloudy day made the breathtaking mountains (like Mount Scott) shine even more. We were able to see Gentoo and Adelie penguins. Everything was fantastic, but we had no idea what was coming

afterward: the Lemaire Channel. This passage was incredibly memorable. Its dramatically vertical walls, the iceberg on one side, the mountains buried in ice, and best of all: the unearthly reflection on the water.



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and



Legend

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30 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Damoy Point - Feb 8, 2025

Damoy Delights

Today's landing and activities were remarkable. The landing site and the weather were excellent. We had a lovely colony of Gentoo penguins, the geography was very dramatic, the snowshoeing excursion was a massive success, and many guests even did the

legendary polar plunge. We finished the day by leaving the campers to experience one night under the Antarctic skies... just like the explorers of old.

Palaver Point - Feb 9, 2025

A Day to Catch Our Breath

After so many successful days full of landings, zodiac cruises, kayaking, snowshoeing, camping, and sometimes all in one day, we were reminded that in the Antarctic, everything is weather-dependent. This day we were not able to go out, and the expedition team kept us

entertained all day in the science centre and in the lecture hall with some fantastic educational content. After all, a day of rest and enjoying the great service onboard does not harm anyone. Everyone is charging their batteries to explore the Antarctic again the next day.

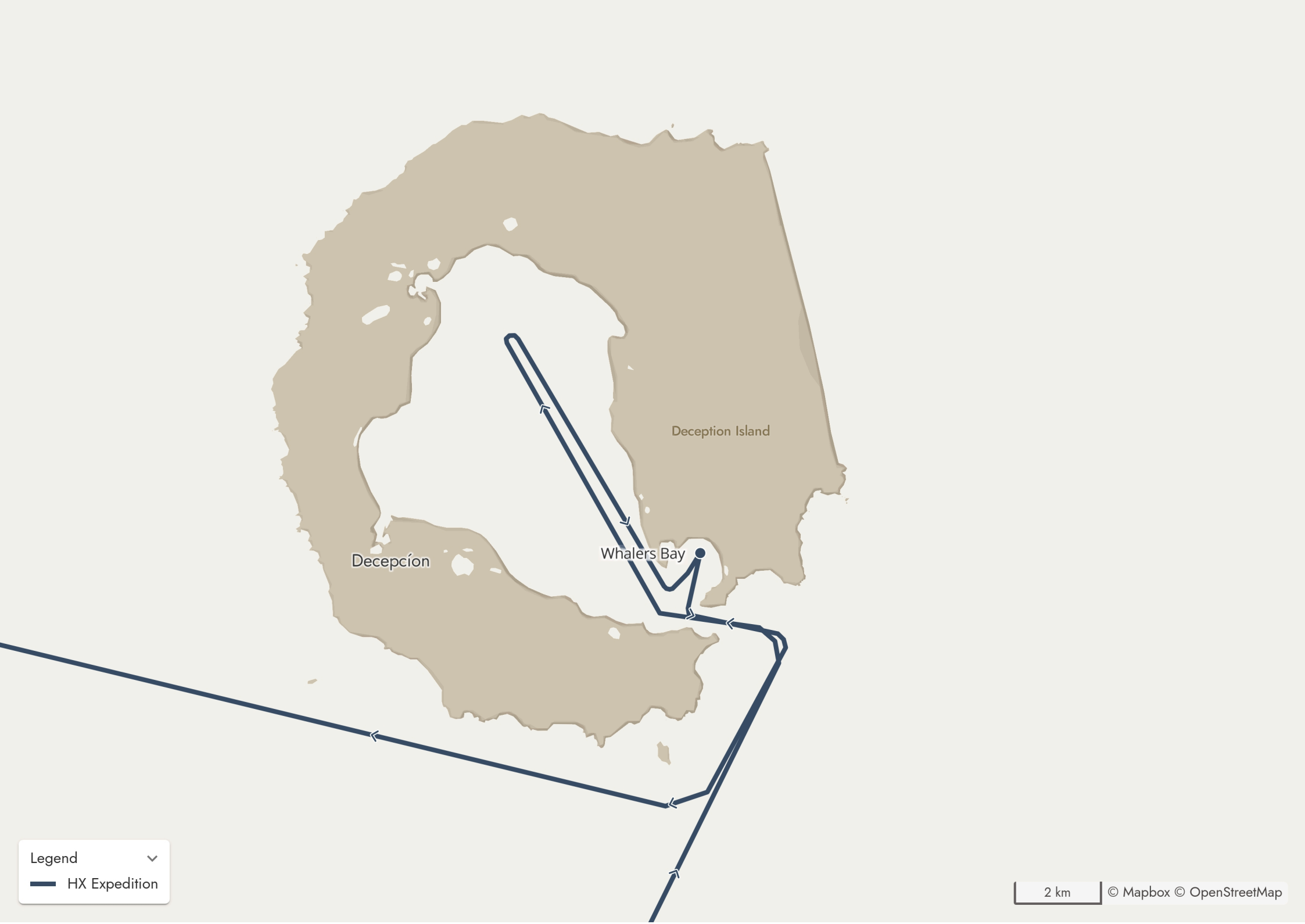
Heading for Deception Island - Feb 10, 2025

Palaver Point

Palaver Point was absolutely stunning. The way up was steep, but it was absolutely worth it. The morning snowy and windy weather reminded us of the polar explorers making their way across the pristine Antarctic and the hardships they endured, and the afternoon was almost worthy of another polar plunge with the blue skies and

hotter weather. On the landing site, we had the chance to see our first and only colony of chinstrap penguins, who looked remarkably cute all going uphill in single file. Some seals scattered close enough for the expedition team to keep their guard up, adding another layer to the experience. This will be a landing for the ages.





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2 km | © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Whalers Bay - Feb 11, 2025

Feeling the History in the Air

Just when we thought that we had seen all types of Antarctic landscape, we were wrong. Our last day in Antarctica surprised us with a completely different vibe. We entered through the breathtaking Neptune's Bellows as we approached our landing site. Whalers Bay is an abandoned whaling station that transported us back to the 1920s,

and seeing all the rusted equipment was truly special; overall, the atmosphere was almost post-apocalyptic. Some fur seals were there, and the occasional penguin made an appearance. The best last Antarctic day we could have hoped for.

At sea - Feb 12, 2025

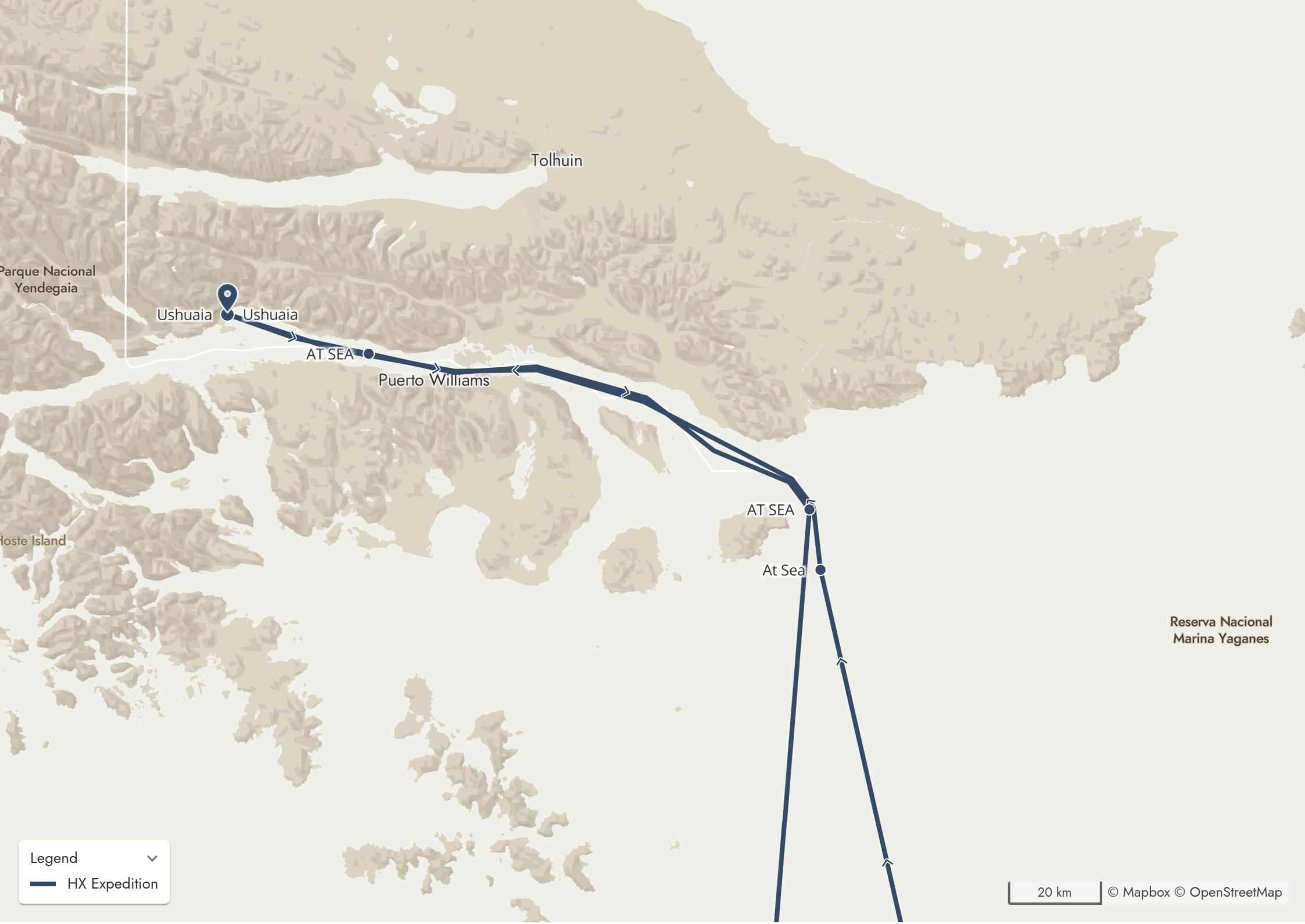
The Way Back

Our breathtaking adventure is nearly at its end! The Drake Passage remained kind to us, and though the sky was overcast, the energy onboard was anything but.

Today, we returned our boots and patches to the Expedition Team.

Lectures continued, offering a final dose of insight, while many of us reluctantly began packing. The day wrapped up on a high note with an exciting auction led by Niek, and the crew band made us all dance to some of our favourite songs!

At Sea - Feb 13, 2025





Farewell

The final day of our adventure - so many memories to reflect on and unforgettable moments to cherish. The Expedition Team delivered their last lectures and workshops, while guests packed their belongings and savoured one final evening onboard.

The journey culminated with the Captain's Farewell, Ted's beautifully crafted recap video (which captured the essence of our voyage perfectly), and, with our eyes on Buenos Aires, a lovely Tango class with Giulia. A perfect ending to an experience we will never forget.



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