



MS Fram

2026.05.01 - 2026.05.11



Legend

 HX Expedition

300 km © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap



Legend

— HX Expedition

## Lisbon

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We embarked MS Fram in Lisbon during the afternoon, the city's traditional buildings offering fine views from the deck. Many took time to explore the ship, find their way around, and settle comfortably into their cabins, collecting their expedition jackets along the way. As

the ship departed, we gathered on deck for the sail out of Lisbon, passing beneath the iconic 25 de Abril Bridge — a striking moment that set the tone for the voyage ahead.



## Porto

Arriving in Porto in the late morning, the day began in a city known for its historic riverside setting and port wine heritage. Many joined a guided walking tour, strolling along the Douro River and through the colourful Ribeira district, with views of the Dom Luís I Bridge and the traditional port lodges across the water. Others opted for a scenic

river cruise followed by a port tasting experience. The evening brought a beautiful sunset, followed by the Captain's Welcome, where a toast was raised and the Officers and Expedition Team were introduced.



## Ferrol

Guests began the morning with an introduction to the onboard science programme and the Citizen Science projects they could join during the voyage. The ship arrived in Ferrol in the afternoon, where some guests enjoyed a guided walk through the city centre, while others travelled to Santiago de Compostela to visit its famous

cathedral, the culmination of the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage. In the evening, departure was marked by a local bagpiper playing on the quayside, giving a memorable and distinctly Galician send-off as the ship sailed away through the Ria of Ferrol.





Isles of Scilly

English Channel

Alderney

St Peter Port

Jersey

Dover

Legend

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© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

France

## At Sea

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Calm, glassy seas and warm sunshine accompanied today's crossing of the Bay of Biscay. During the morning wildlife watch, dolphins were seen riding the ship's bow wave. Throughout the day, guests enjoyed a varied onboard educational programme, including lectures on expedition photography, the marine ecology of the Bay of Biscay, and the remarkable patterns of bird migration. Workshops also

introduced the Happywhale Citizen Science programme and reflected on wildlife sightings from earlier in the voyage. Time on deck was equally rewarding, with many guests identifying clouds for NASA's GLOBE Cloud Observer and practising wildlife spotting with binoculars.

## Isles of Scilly

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After arriving at St Mary's in the Isles of Scilly, guests spent the morning exploring the island beneath slightly windy skies. Some joined a wildlife cruise around the smaller islets, spotting grey seals, puffins, razorbills, and several other seabirds along the rugged coastline. Others visited Garrison Castle, a historic star-shaped fort

overlooking Hugh Town, before spending time exploring the town's quaint cafés and nearby beaches. During the afternoon, guests travelled to Treco, where many visited the renowned Treco Abbey Gardens, home to plants gathered from across the world and flourishing in the islands' remarkably mild climate.



## St Peter Port

Today brought a visit to the Channel Island of Guernsey, with guests enjoying a full day exploring St Peter Port and its surrounding coastline beneath sunny skies. Guided walks through the harbour and town centre introduced the island's history, from its maritime heritage to its longstanding connection with Britain and Normandy. The tour concluded at Castle Cornet, the historic fortress that has guarded the

harbour for more than 800 years, where guests explored the castle grounds and admired panoramic coastal views from the ramparts. During the afternoon, some guests joined a coastal hike to nearby Herm Island, discovering quiet paths, sandy bays, and rugged shoreline scenery.



## Alderney

A short journey across from Guernsey brought guests to Alderney, where a warm welcome from local residents awaited ashore. Coastal walks revealed sightings of ringed plovers, stonechats, and other seabirds, with impressive views towards Fort Clonque, a 19th-century fortress dramatically positioned on a rocky tidal islet off the western coast. Some guests continued onwards to Les Étacs, home to one of

the largest northern gannet colonies in the region, with thousands of breeding pairs gathered on the offshore stacks. The walks returned through Alderney's town centre, passing cobbled streets, pastel-coloured buildings, and small cafés. The ship then set sail for Dover across the English Channel.



## Dover

Our arrival into Dover was marked by views of the famous White Cliffs and Dover Castle, first established in the 11th century and long regarded as the 'Key to England' due to its strategic position overlooking the Channel. While some guests disembarked, others

joined an excursion to the historic city of Canterbury, exploring its charming town centre and the magnificent Canterbury Cathedral, surrounded by peaceful gardens. The voyage then continued northward through the English Channel and into the Wadden Sea.





## Harlingen

The morning was spent sailing through the Frisian Islands towards the Dutch city of Harlingen, passing traditional sailing vessels along the way. After arriving in port, guests had time to explore the city's historic streets, canals, and waterfront at their own pace. During the late afternoon, expedition boat cruises with the Expedition Team

offered a closer look at Harlingen from the water, travelling through narrow canals and passing hand-operated locks still in use today. The route also passed several historic buildings, including the town hall, originally built in 1720. Calm conditions and clear skies provided a colourful sunset to conclude the day's exploration.



## Helgoland

Today, we sailed towards Helgoland, recognised for its striking red sandstone cliffs. Breezy conditions made the expedition boat transfer ashore a lively and occasionally wet experience. Once ashore, guests explored the town before walking to the island's northern gannet colony, where they were able to watch courtship displays and admire

the birds' golden head plumage and vivid blue eyes in remarkable detail. Guests also had the opportunity to visit Düne Island, where several grey seals were hauled out along the beach. The voyage concluded with the Captain's Farewell, celebrating a memorable journey on MS Fram.





## Hamburg

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Today we arrived in Hamburg, marking the final stop of our voyage. Guests disembarked throughout the morning, bringing an end to a memorable expedition filled with remarkable wildlife encounters,

historic coastal towns, and shared experiences both ashore and on board.



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