IX

SCIENCE & EDUCATION REPORT



Highlights of Antarctica

MS Fridtjof Nansen, 10 – 20 November 2026



Science & Education Programme

During this voyage, the Expedition Team shared knowledge through 34 talks and nine workshops about wildlife, landscapes, history, and photography. We ran five Citizen Science projects, and our guests helped collect a large amount of scientific data for research.

The Science Team thanks you for your interest in and enthusiasm for our Science & Education Programme.



History & Culture

We learned about the Islands' first settlements, sovereignty disputes, and current population.

Visiting the capital, Stanley, and settlements on the smaller islands gave us a chance to learn about different ways of life and experience the strong British influence first-hand.

The wreck of the Protector on New Island offered a glimpse into the Falklands' brief sealing history.

The museum in Stanley rewarded a visit not only for its natural history exhibits, but also for its human history, the Reclus Hut, and the islanders' perspective on the war.



Citizen Science Projects

A summary of the projects supported and observations made



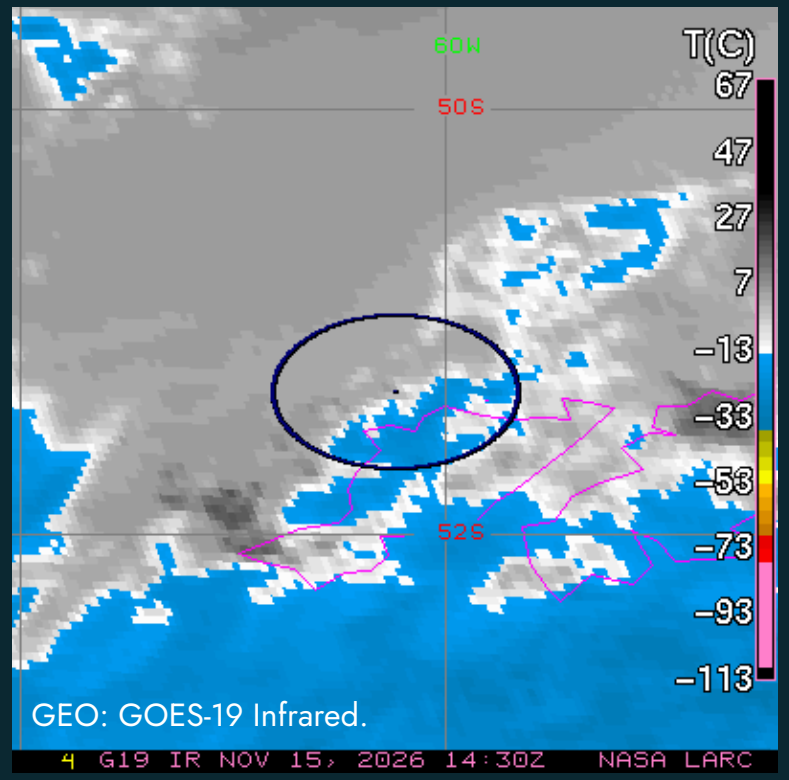
NASA's GLOBE Clouds Observer

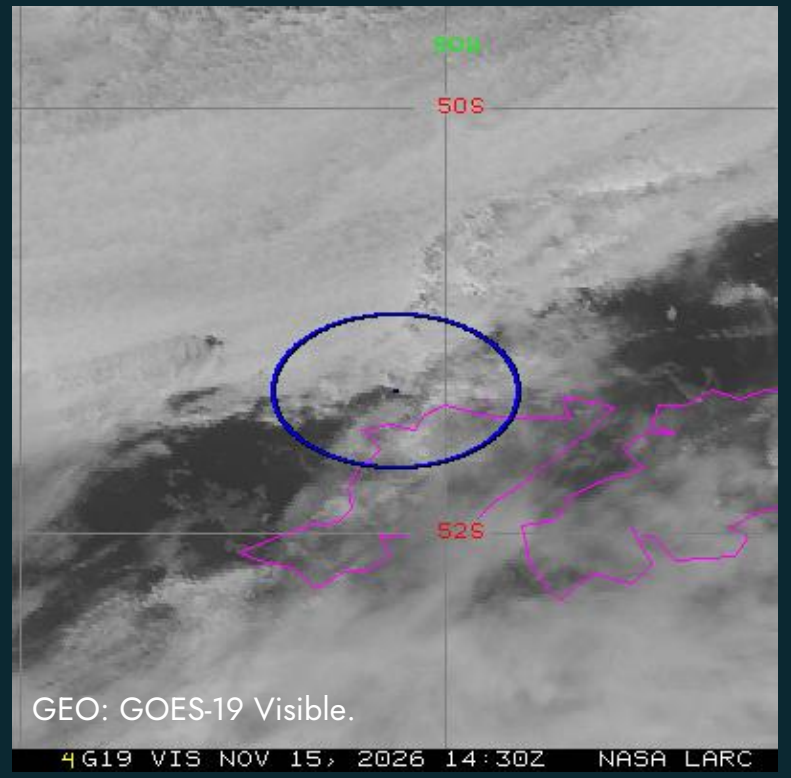
Together with our guests, we completed seven sessions of NASA's GLOBE Cloud Observer across the Falkland Islands, recording cloud observations and contributing valuable ground-based data to the global Citizen Science programme.

On four occasions, our observations coincided with satellite overpasses, including GOES-19, creating a direct connection between observations made on the ground and measurements taken from space.

1. Beagle Channel, 2. Beagle Channel, 3. NE Falklands, 4. New Island, 5. Saunders Island, 6. Saunders Island, 7. Argentine Sea.

Thank you for your participation.





iNaturalist

Throughout our voyage to the Falkland Islands, we documented local biodiversity through iNaturalist, contributing valuable observations to global Citizen Science research.

Together, guests and the Expedition Team gathered 1,488 observations and identified 191 species. In total, 12 observers took part.

The most observed species was the black-browed albatross, and the South American sea lion was the most observed mammal.

Ready to add your own sightings? The project remains open for further observations while you sort through your photos at home.

View our data submitted via our iNaturalist project



eBird

During our voyage, we recorded data on bird diversity and abundance using eBird. We logged data during wildlife watches on deck, as well as during our landings at different locations.

Across 28 separate surveys, we recorded data on 53 bird species. This information feeds into high-resolution maps and models, helping scientists understand the shifting movements and distributions of birds across the world.

View our data on our eBird trip report



ORCA Ocean Watchers

During this voyage, ORCA Marine Scientist Leoni Zimmerman collected 14.5 hours of sightings data, covering a total survey distance of 216.6 km. Throughout the surveys, she recorded 71 sightings, including 12 unidentified whales and dolphins, five humpback whales, two minke whales, five sei whales, 16 Peale's dolphins, and 31 Commerson's dolphin sightings.

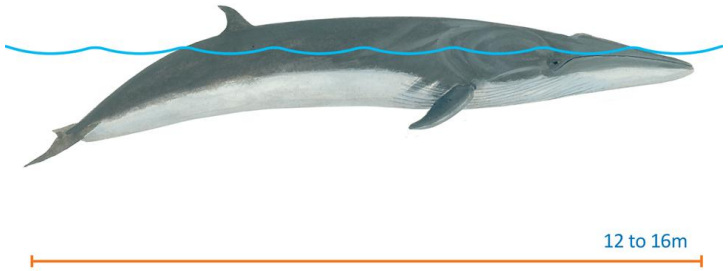
These observations contribute to ORCA's ongoing Citizen Science Programme, helping us better understand and monitor cetacean distribution and abundance in the Falkland Islands.

Find out more about ORCA's Citizen Science Programme at orca.org.uk

Humpback whale



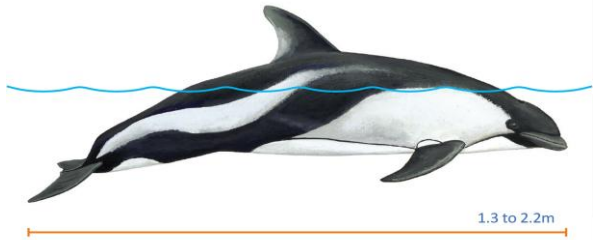
Sei whale



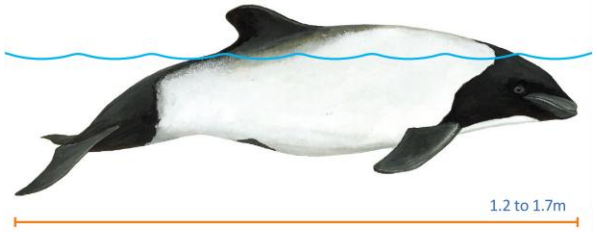
Minke whale



Peale's dolphin



Commerson's dolphin



Science Boat Sessions

Across 11 science boat sessions throughout our time in the Falklands, 77 of our guests went beyond observation and experienced hands-on exploration of the Falklands' coastal waters. With each plankton net tow, CTD cast, and Secchi Disk reading, guests became active participants in the scientific process.

The plankton net revealed the microscopic life supporting the food webs in the Falklands, the CTD uncovered the water column's temperature and salinity structure, and the Secchi Disk provided a simple but powerful measure of water clarity linked to phytoplankton abundance.

View our data submitted to the Secchi Disk Project

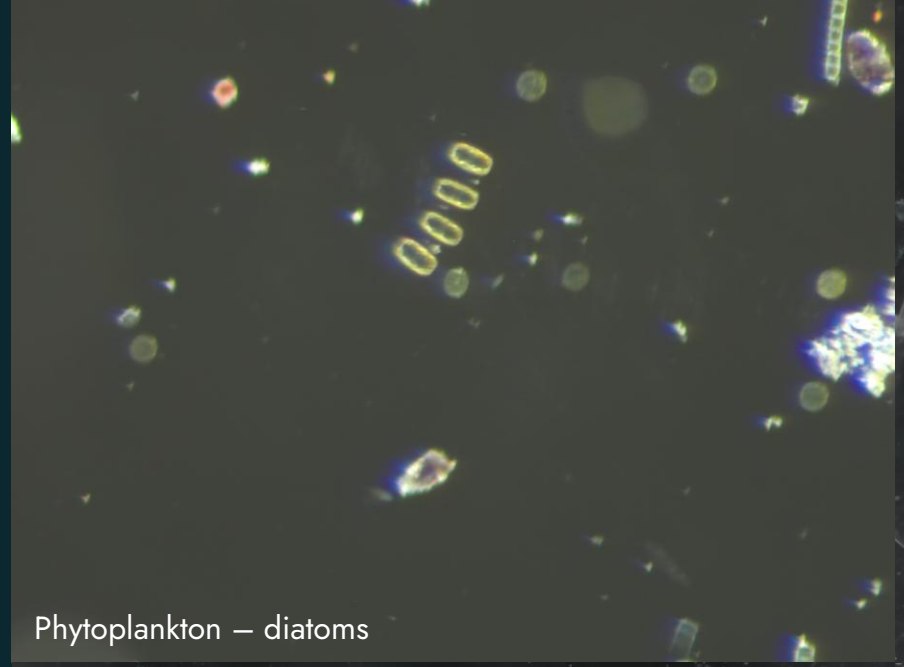


Plankton Samples

Back in the Science Centre, we brought the ocean into focus, examining our water samples under the microscope to uncover the hidden world of phytoplankton and zooplankton.

Using microscopes, we projected magnified images onto the screen, allowing everyone to see the intricate details of these tiny organisms. Smaller binocular microscopes offered a hands-on experience, inviting our guests to search for life in each drop of water.

The samples revealed a world of drifting life forming the foundation of the marine food web. What seemed invisible to the eye became a vivid reminder that even the smallest life forms play a vital role in the health of our oceans.



Phytoplankton – diatoms



Zooplankton – jellyfish



Zooplankton – copepods



Zooplankton – polychaete worm

Wildlife List — Birds



Wildlife List — Birds

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	中文
Chloephaga picta	**Upland Goose**	Magellangans	斑胁草雁
Chloephaga hybrida	**Kelp Goose**	Kelpgans	白草雁
Chloephaga rubidiceps	**Ruddy-headed Goose**	Rotkopfgans	棕头草雁
Tachyeres brachypterus	**Falkland Steamer Duck**	Falkland-Dampfschiffente	短翅船鸭
Lophonetta specularioides	**Crested Duck**	Schopfente	冠鸭
Anas flavirostris	**Yellow-billed Teal**	Südandenente	黄嘴鸭
Chionis albus	**Snowy Sheathbill**	Weißgesicht-Scheidenschnabel	白鞘嘴鸥
Haematopus leucopodus	**Magellanic Oystercatcher**	Magellanaustернfischer	智利蛎鹬
Haematopus ater	**Blackish Oystercatcher**	Südamerikanischer Austernfischer	南美蛎鹬
Gallinago paraguaiae	**Magellanic Snipe**	Magellanbekassine	南美沙锥
Stercorarius antarcticus	**Brown Skua**	Subantarktikskua	大贼鸥
Stercorarius chilensis	**Chilean Skua**	Chileskua	智利贼鸥
Leucophaeus scoresbii	**Dolphin Gull**	Blutschnabelmöwe	豚鸥
Larus dominicanus	**Kelp Gull**	Dominikanermöwe	黑背鸥
Sterna hirundinacea	**South American Tern**	Falklandseeschwalbe	南美燕鸥

Wildlife List — Birds

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	中文
Aptenodytes patagonicus	**King Penguin**	Königspinguin	王企鹅
Pygoscelis papua	**Gentoo Penguin**	Eselspinguin	白眉企鹅
Spheniscus magellanicus	**Magellanic Penguin**	Magellanpinguin	南美企鹅
Eudyptes chrysocome	**Western Rockhopper Penguin**	Südfelsenpinguin	凤头黄眉企鹅
Eudyptes chrysolophus	**Macaroni Penguin**	Goldschopfpinguin	长眉企鹅
Diomedea exulans	**Snowy Albatross**	Wanderalbatros	漂泊信天翁
Diomedea epomophora	**Southern Royal Albatross**	Südkönigsalbatros	皇信天翁
Thalassarche chrysostoma	**Grey-headed Albatross**	Graukopfalbatros	灰头信天翁
Thalassarche melanophris	**Black-browed Albatross**	Schwarzbrauenalbatros	黑眉信天翁
Oceanites oceanicus	**Wilson's Storm Petrel**	Buntfuß-Sturmschwalbe	烟黑叉尾海燕
Garrodia nereis	**Grey-backed Storm Petrel**	Graurücken-Sturmschwalbe	灰背海燕
Macronectes giganteus	**Southern Giant Petrel**	Riesensturmvogel	巨鹱
Fulmarus glacialoides	**Southern Fulmar**	Silbersturmvogel	银灰暴风鹱
Daption capense	**Pintado Petrel**	Kapsturmvogel	花斑鹱
Halobaena caerulea	**Blue Petrel**	Blausturmvogel	蓝鹱

Wildlife List — Birds

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	中文
Pachyptila belcheri	**Slender-billed Prion**	Dünnschnabel-Sturmvogel	细嘴锯鳽
Procellaria aequinoctialis	**White-chinned Petrel**	Weißkinn-Sturmvogel	白颏风鳽
Ardenna grisea	**Sooty Shearwater**	Dunkler Sturmtaucher	灰鳽
Pelecanoides urinatrix	**Common Diving Petrel**	Subantarktis-Lummensturmvogel	鹈燕
Phalacrocorax magellanicus	**Magellanic Cormorant**	Felsenscharbe	岩鸬鹚
Leucocarbo atriceps	**Imperial Cormorant**	Kaiserscharbe	蓝眼鸬鹚
Nycticorax nycticorax	**Black-crowned Night Heron**	Nachtreiher	夜鹭
Cathartes aura	**Turkey Vulture**	Truthahngeier	红头美洲鹫
Geranoaetus polyosoma	**Variable Hawk**	Rotrückenbussard	红背鹭
Caracara plancus	**Crested Caracara**	Schopfkarakara	风头巨隼
Phalcoboenus australis	**Striated Caracara**	Falklandkarakara	红腿巨隼
Cinclodes antarcticus	**Blackish Cinclodes**	Falkland-Uferwipper	淡黑抖尾地雀
Muscisaxicola maclovianus	**Dark-faced Ground Tyrant**	Maskengrundtyrann	暗脸地霸鹟
Troglodytes cobbi	**Cobb's Wren**	Falklandzaunkönig	科氏鹪鹩
Turdus falcklandii	**Austral Thrush**	Magellandrossel	南美鸫

Wildlife List — Birds

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	中文
Passer domesticus	**House Sparrow**	Haussperling	家麻雀
Anthus correndera	**Correndera Pipit**	Correnderapieper	科雷鹨
Spinus barbatus	**Black-chinned Siskin**	Bartzeisig	黑颏金翅雀
Leistes loyca	**Long-tailed Meadowlark**	Langschwanzstärling	长尾草地鹨
Melanodera melanodera	**White-bridled Finch**	Weißbart-Ammertangare	黑喉雀鸦
Calidris melanotos	**Pectoral Sandpiper**	Graubrust-Strandläufer	美洲尖尾濱鷸
Cistotorus platensis	**Grass Wren**	Pampazaunkönig	短嘴沼泽鹪鹩

Wildlife List – Marine Mammals



Wildlife List – Marine Mammals

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	中文
Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Antarctic Minke Whale	Sülicher Zwergwal	南极小须鲸
Balaenoptera borealis	Sei Whale	Seiwal	塞鲸
Balaenoptera physalus	Fin Whale	Finnwal	长须鲸
Megaptera novaeangliae	Humpback Whale	Buckelwal	大翅鲸
Lagenorhynchus obscurus	Dusky dolphin	Schwarzdelfin	暗色斑纹海豚
Lagenorhynchus australis	Peale's dolphin	Peale-Delfin	皮氏斑纹海豚
Cephalorhynchus commersonii	Commerson's dolphin	Commerson-Delfin	黑白海豚
Arctocephalus australis	South American fur seal	Südamerikanischer Seebär	南美毛皮海狮
Otaria byronia	South American sea lion	Mähnenrobbe	南海狮
Mirounga leonina	Southern elephant seal	Südlicher See-Elefant	南象海豹

Wildlife List – Land Mammals



Wildlife List — Land Mammals





SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	中文
Sylvilagus floridanus	American Cottontail	Florida-waldkaninchen	棉尾兔



Thanks for your participation!