

M/V PLANCIUS

ANTARCTICA, POLAR CIRCLE & WHALE WATCHING

11 NIGHTS | TRIP CODE: PLA32-24

21st MARCH - 1st APRIL 2024

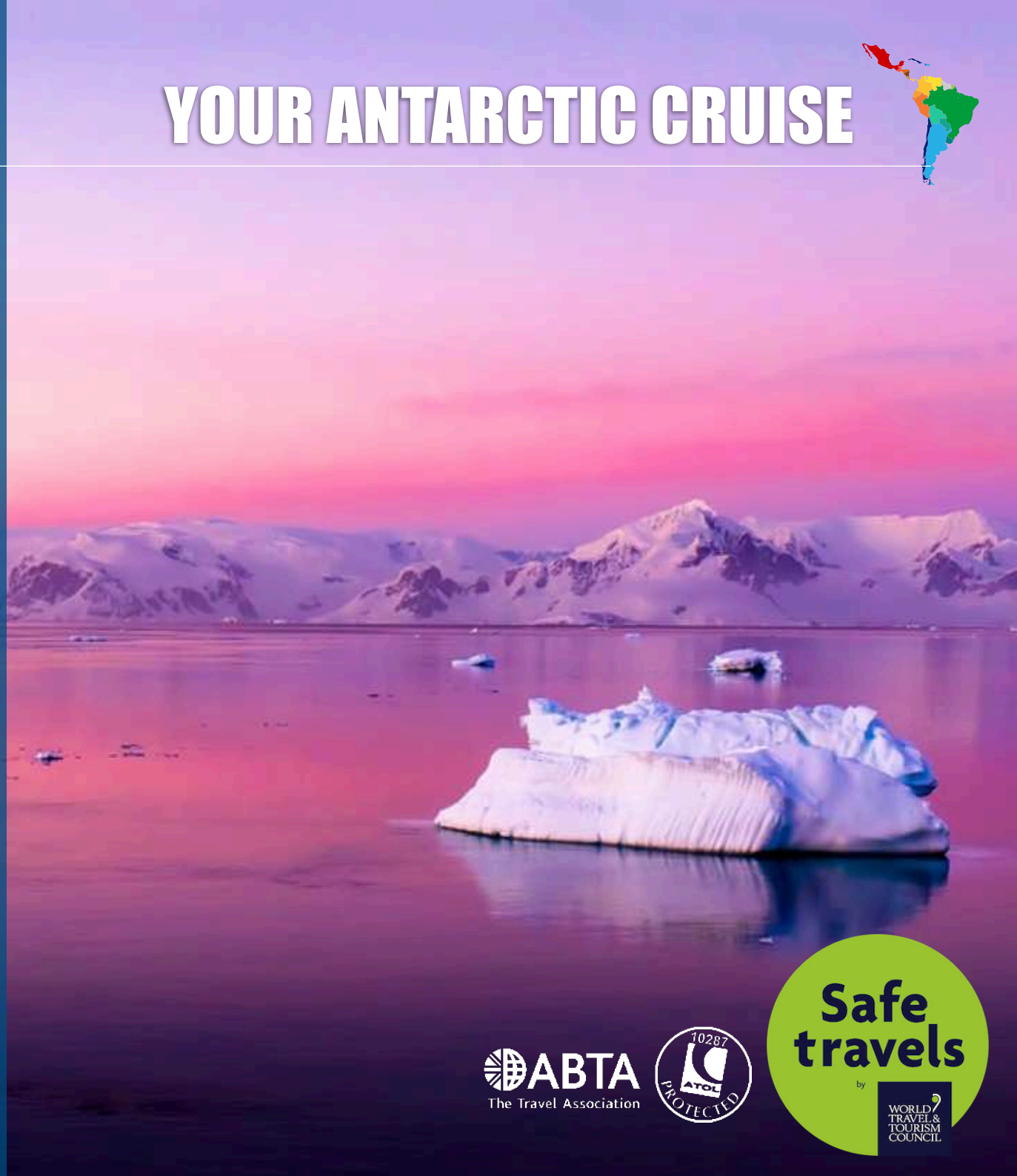
USHUAIA - USHUAIA

This Polar Circle and Antarctic Peninsula cruise passes through waters travelled by Humpback, Minke and Fin whales. Anchoring in various spots around the region, the expedition offers the chance to hike, kayak, and dive in the iceberg-heavy waters.

PLEASE NOTE:

All itineraries are for guidance only. Programs may vary depending on ice, weather, and wildlife conditions. Landings are subject to site availabilities, permissions, and environmental concerns per IAATO regulations. Official sailing plans and landing slots are scheduled with IAATO prior to the start of the season, but the expedition leader determines the final plan. Flexibility is paramount for expedition cruises. The average cruising speed for our vessel is 10.5 knots.

YOUR ANTARCTIC CRUISE



M/V PLANCIUS - ABOUT THE SHIP

Plancius was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was named Hr. Ms. Tydeman. The ship sailed for the Dutch Navy until June 2004 when it was purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions.

Plancius is a Dutch flagged completely rebuilt and converted passenger vessel complies with the latest SOLAS- regulations, classed by Lloyd's Register in London. The name Plancius is a tribute to the predecessor of Oceanwide Expeditions (Plancius Foundation, 1981-1996), the first cruise operator on a yearly base in Spitsbergen, offering voyages with a small cruise vessel named Plancius.

- Comfortable and nicely decorated, but not luxurious. It's made for explorers
- Spacious yet small ship character, comfort & style and modern technology
- Base camp for active, adventure and wildlife minded modern explorers
- Small ship operation: 108 passengers in 50 passenger cabins with private facilities (toilet, sink shower)
- 4 quadruple porthole cabins, 9 twin port- hole cabins, 25 twin cabins with window and 2 twin deluxe cabins, - all (ca. 15 m2), and 10 superior cabins ca. 21 m2)
- All cabins offer lower berths (either two single beds or one queen-size bed), except for the 4 quadruple cabins (2 bunk beds),
- Restaurant/lecture room (deck 3) and a spacious observation lounge (with bar, deck 5) with large windows offer full panorama view
- Large open deck spaces (with full walk-around possibilities on deck 4), giving excellent opportunities to enjoy the scenery and wildlife
- Equipped with 10 Mark V inflatable zodiacs, including 40 HP 4-stroke outboard engines
- 2 gangways on starboard side, that guarantees a swift zodiac operation
- The ship is manned by 17 nautical crew, 19 hotel staff (6 chefs, 1 hotel manager, 1 steward-barman and 11 stewards / cabin cleaners), 7 expedition staff in Antarctica (1 expedition leader and 6 guides lecturers), for the Arctic we will have 8 expedition staff (1 expedition leader and 7 guides/ lecturers) and 1 doctor.

SPECIFICATIONS

Registered: The Netherlands

Length: 89 meters

Breadth: 14.5 meters

Draft: 5 meters

Ice class: 1D

Displacement: 3,211 tons

Propulsion: 3x Diesel-Electric

Average cruising speed: 10,5 knots

Passengers: 108 in 50 cabins

Crew, guides, doctor: 37 / 8 / 1

Various decks refurbished 2009-2018-2019

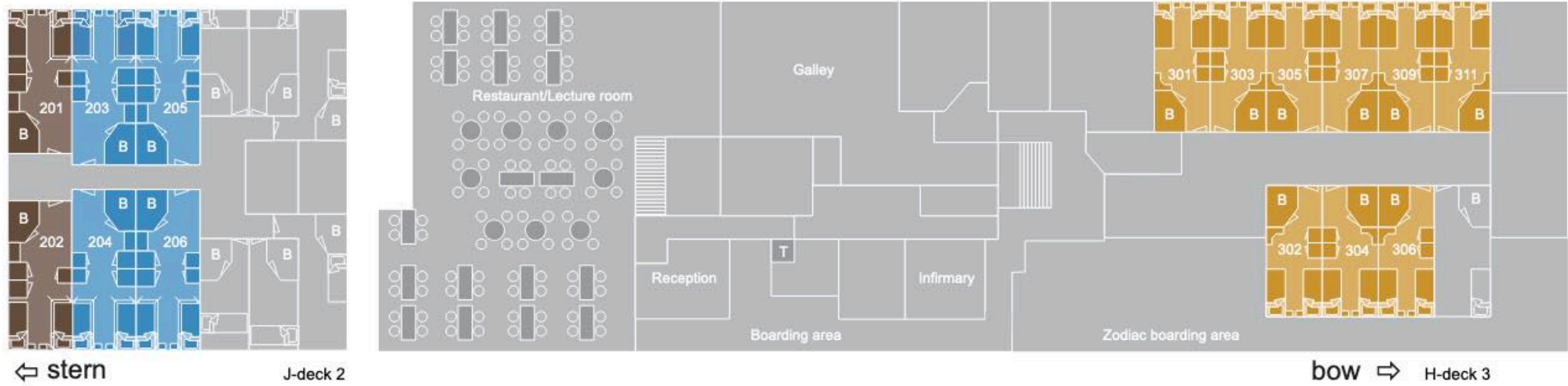


M/V PLACIUS



M/V PLANGIUS - DECK PLANS

DECK 2 & 3

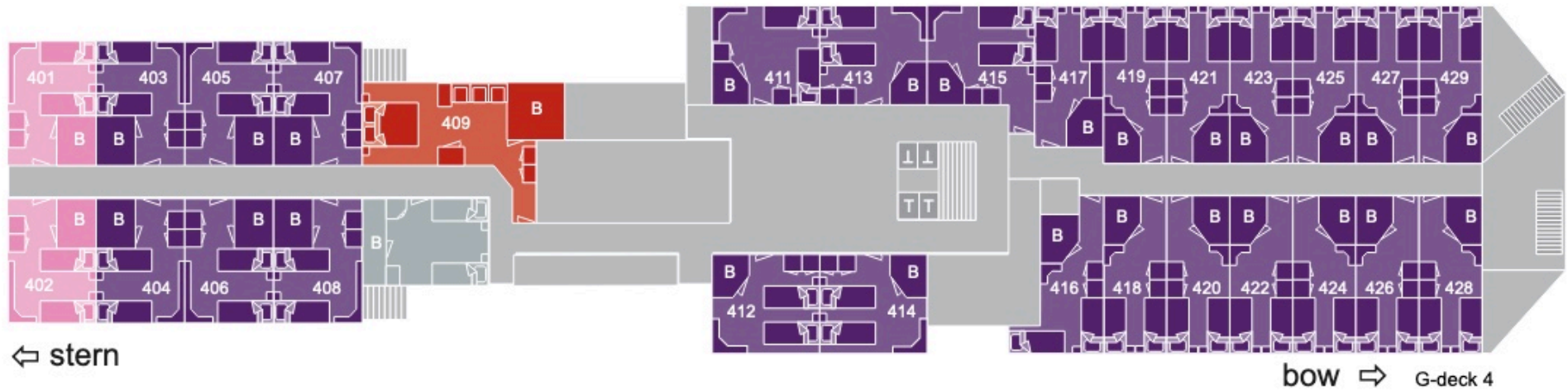


← stern

J-deck 2

bow → H-deck 3

DECK 4



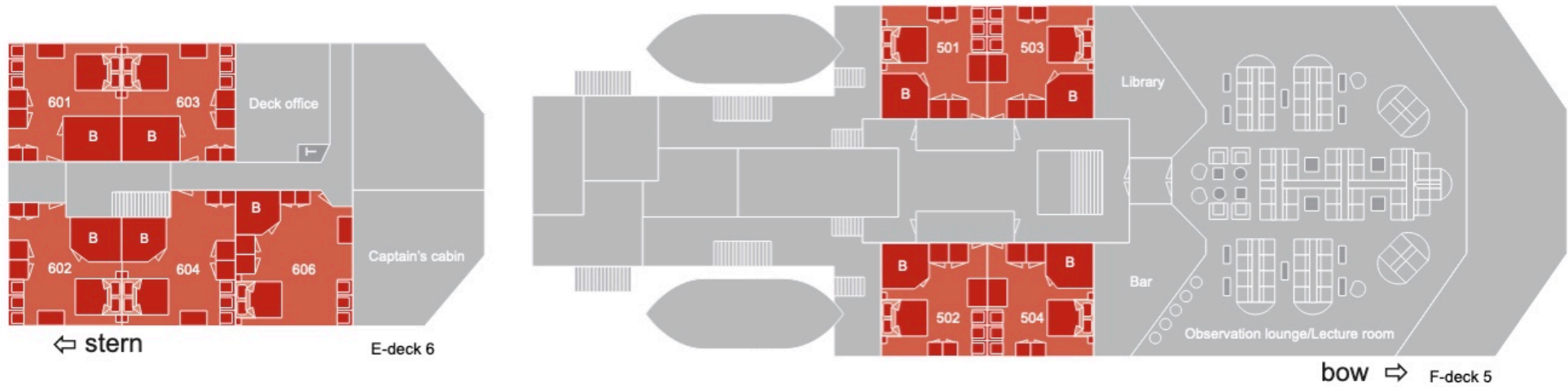
← stern

bow → G-deck 4














M/V PLACIUS - DECK PLANS

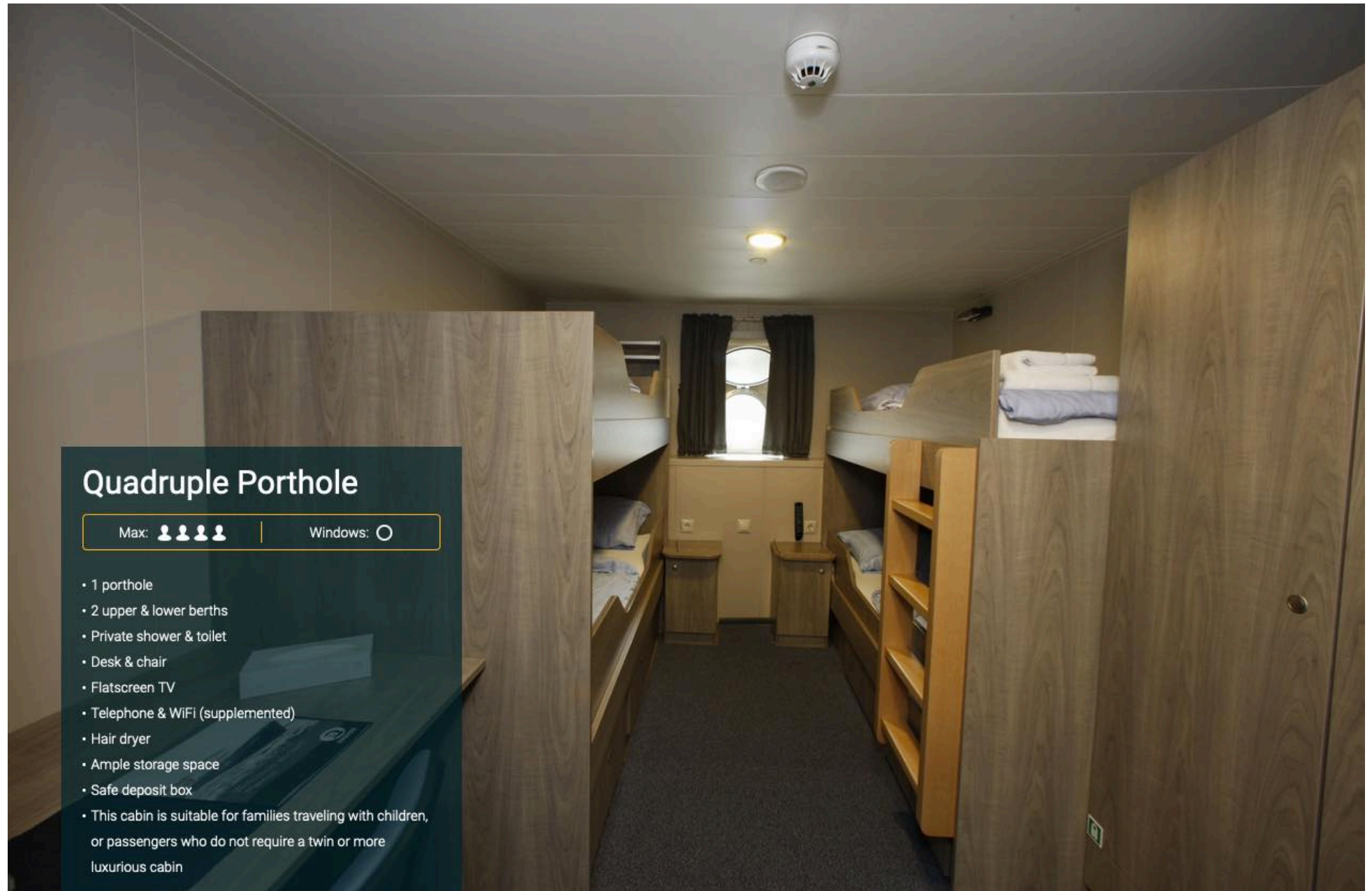
DECK 5 & 6



KEY


m/v Placius deckplan			
	Superior		lower berth
	Twin Deluxe		upper and lower berth
	Twin Window		double bed
	Twin Porthole		Toilet
	Twin Porthole plus additional third bed		Bathroom
	Quadruple Porthole		





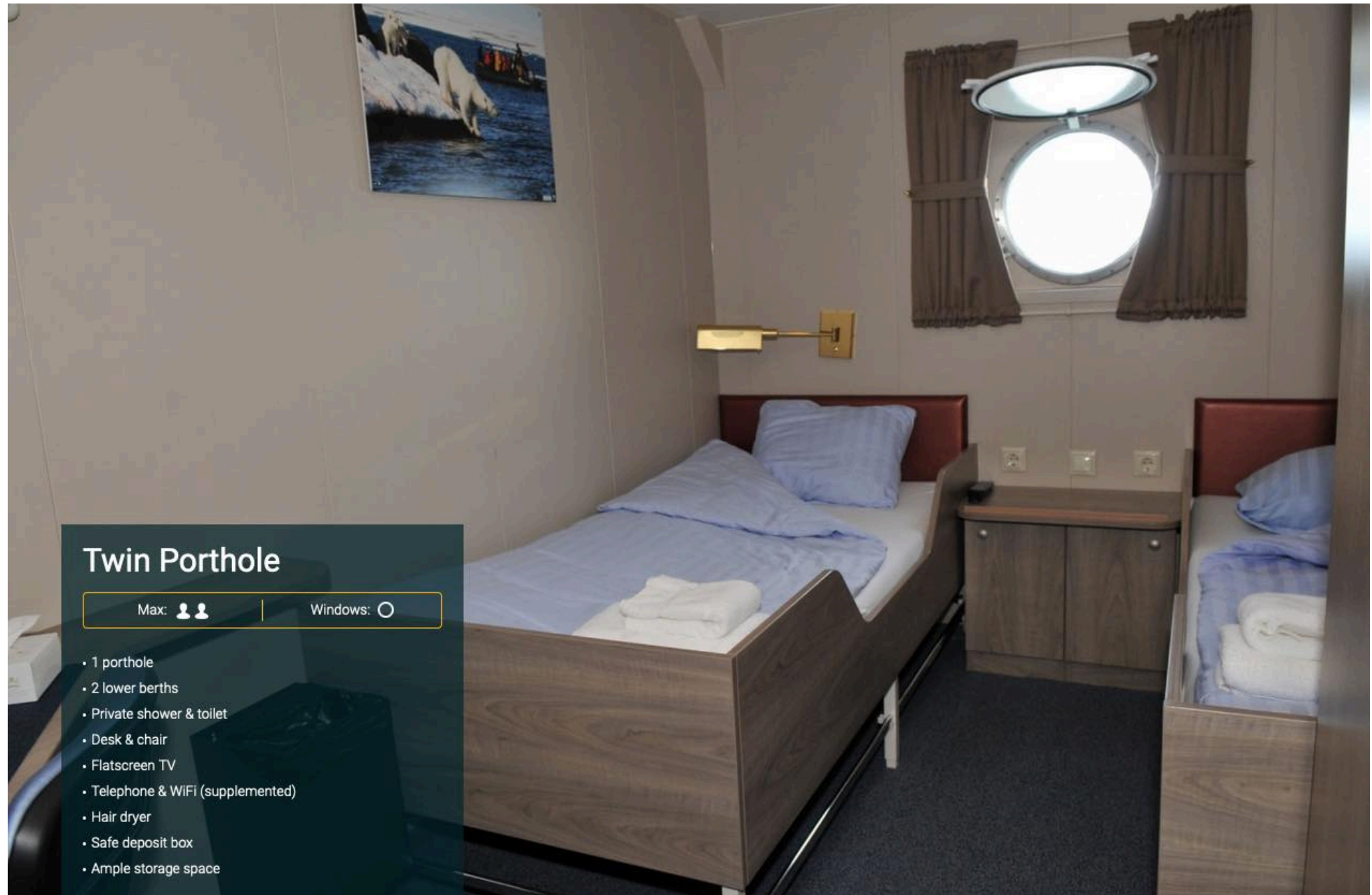
Quadruple Porthole

Max: 

Windows: 


- 1 porthole
- 2 upper & lower berths
- Private shower & toilet
- Desk & chair
- Flatscreen TV
- Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)
- Hair dryer
- Ample storage space
- Safe deposit box
- This cabin is suitable for families traveling with children, or passengers who do not require a twin or more luxurious cabin





Twin Porthole

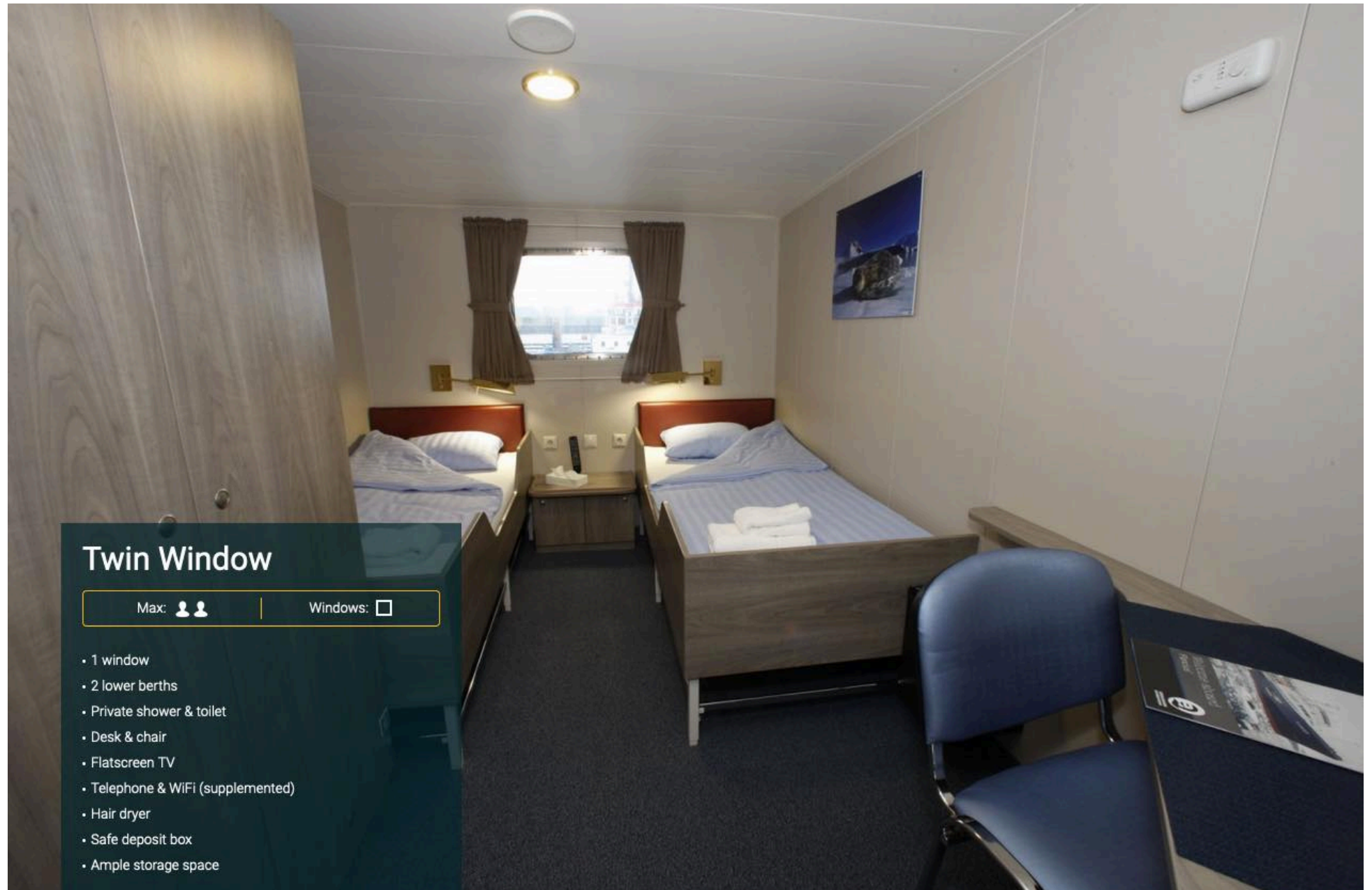
Max: 

Windows: 

- 1 porthole
- 2 lower berths
- Private shower & toilet
- Desk & chair
- Flatscreen TV
- Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)
- Hair dryer
- Safe deposit box
- Ample storage space



M/V PLACIUS - CABINS



Twin Window

Max: 

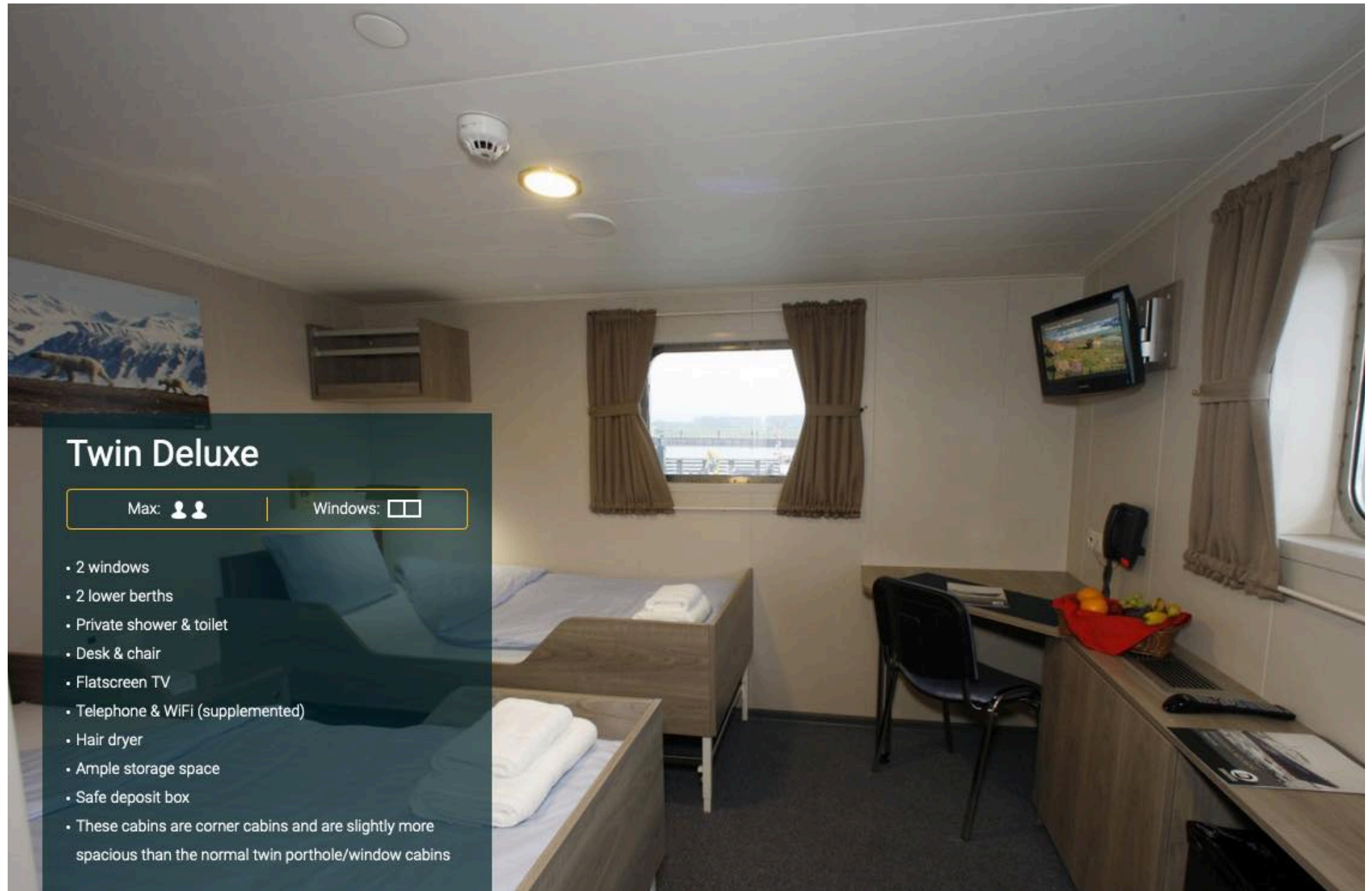
Windows:

- 1 window
- 2 lower berths
- Private shower & toilet
- Desk & chair
- Flatscreen TV
- Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)
- Hair dryer
- Safe deposit box
- Ample storage space



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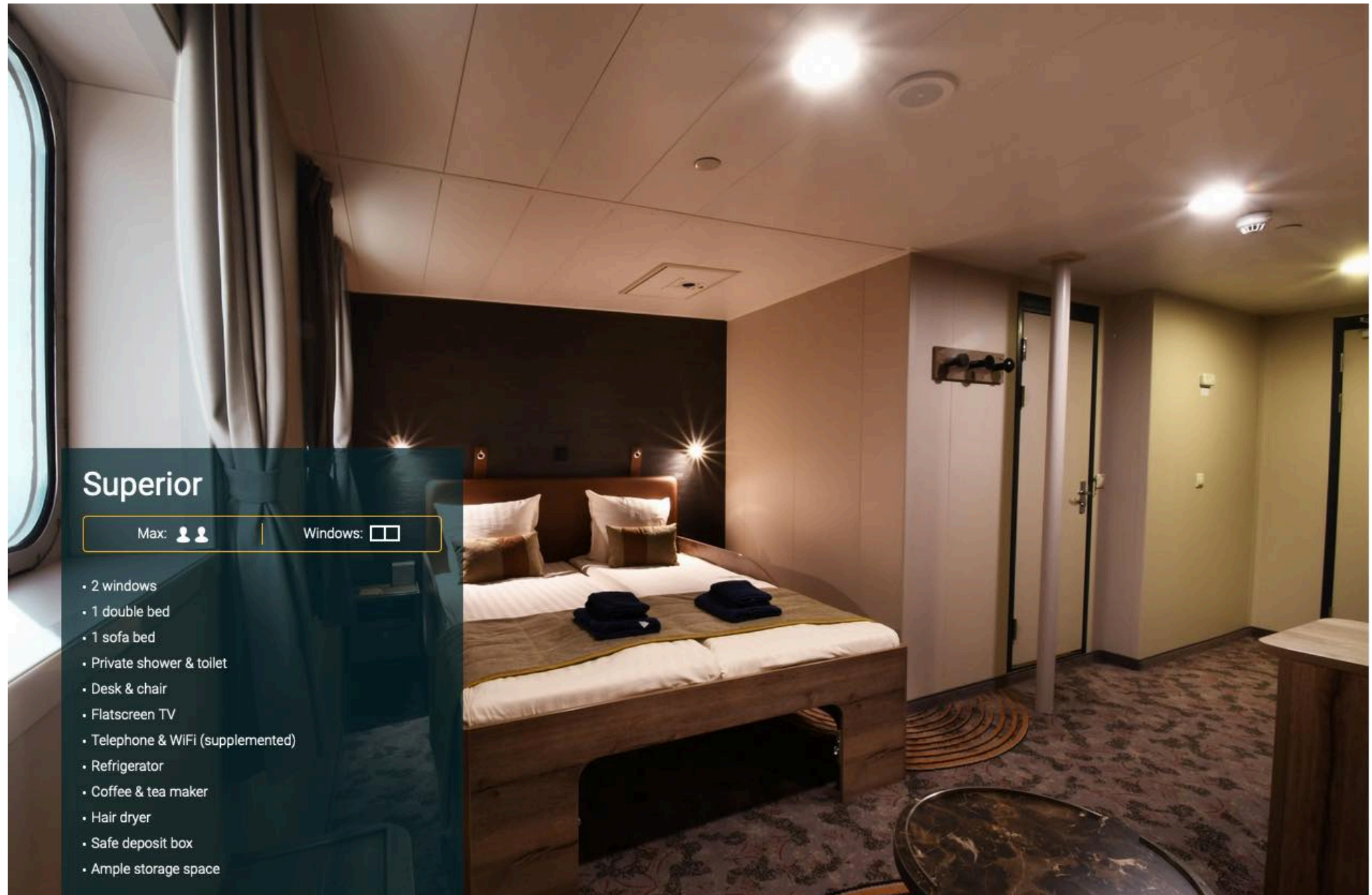
Twin Deluxe

Max: 

Windows: 


- 2 windows
- 2 lower berths
- Private shower & toilet
- Desk & chair
- Flatscreen TV
- Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)
- Hair dryer
- Ample storage space
- Safe deposit box
- These cabins are corner cabins and are slightly more spacious than the normal twin porthole/window cabins





Superior

Max: 

Windows: 

- 2 windows
- 1 double bed
- 1 sofa bed
- Private shower & toilet
- Desk & chair
- Flatscreen TV
- Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)
- Refrigerator
- Coffee & tea maker
- Hair dryer
- Safe deposit box
- Ample storage space



M/V PLANCIUS - USEFUL INFORMATION

Perfect for any expedition

M/v "Plancius" accommodates 108 passengers with private toilet and shower in 4 quadruple porthole cabins, 9 twin porthole cabins, 25 twin cabins with window and 2 twin deluxe cabins, all (ca. 12,5 square meters) and 10 twin superior cabins (ca. 21 square meters). All cabins offer lower berths (one queen-size bed in the superior cabins and two single beds in the twin cabins), except for the 4 quadruple cabins (for 4 persons in 2x upper and lower beds).

Plancius: a vessel with comfort and character

Please be aware that a small number of cabins may have a partially obstructed view due to the design requirements of the ship. The best view is always on the outer deck or the bridge. The vessel offers a restaurant/lecture room on deck 3 and a spacious observation lounge (with bar) on deck 5 with large windows, offering full panorama view. M/v "Plancius" has large open deck spaces (with full walk-around possibilities on deck 4), giving excellent opportunities to enjoy the scenery and wildlife. She is furthermore equipped with 10 Mark V zodiacs, including 40 HP 4-stroke outboard engines and 2 gangways on the starboard side, guaranteeing a swift zodiac operation. M/v "Plancius" is comfortable and nicely decorated, but is not a luxury vessel. Our voyages in the Arctic and Antarctic regions are primarily defined by an exploratory educational travel programme, spending as much time ashore as possible. Plancius fully meets our demands to achieve this. The vessel is equipped with a diesel-electric propulsion system which reduces the noise and vibration of the vessel considerably. The 3 diesel engines generate 1.230 horse-power each, giving the vessel a speed of 10 - 12 knots. The vessel is ice-strengthened and was specially built for oceanographic voyages. M/v "Plancius" is manned by an international crew of 37 (18 nautical crew and 19 hotel crew), 8 expedition staff (1 expedition leader, 1 assistant expedition leader and 6 guides/lecturers), and 1 doctor.

Age and Nationality

Passengers on a typical voyage range from their 30s to their 80s - with a majority usually from 45 - 65. Our expeditions attract independent-minded travellers from around the world. They are characterised by a strong interest in exploring remote regions. The camaraderie and spirit that develops aboard is an important part of the expedition experience. Many departures have several nationalities on board.

Dress code

In keeping with our expeditions atmosphere, dress on board is informal. Bring casual and comfortable clothing for all activities. Keep in mind that much of the spectacular scenery can be appreciated from deck, which can be slippery. Bring sturdy shoes with no-slip soles and make sure the parka is never far away in case of the call "Whales!" comes over the loudspeaker and you have to dash outside. Wear layers since it is comfortably warm aboard the ship - and often cold on deck.

Currency & payment

Refreshments from the bar and souvenirs will be charged to your cabin. The day before departure you can settle your bill with the Hotel Manager and pay by credit card (Visa or MasterCard) or cash (Euro or Dollar). We do not accept cheques of any kind. The prices and standard currency on board our vessels is the Euro. Other currencies may be accepted at the discretion of the hotel manager at prevailing rates.

Electric current

The electrical supply aboard the ship is 220v, 60Hz. Electrical outlets are standard European with two thick round pins. You may need a 220v/110v converter.



Gratuities

The customary gratuity to the ship's service personnel is made as a blanket contribution at the end of the voyage which is divided among the crew. Tipping is a very personal matter and the amount you wish to give is at your discretion. As a generally accepted guideline, we suggest US\$8 to US\$10 per person per day. It is better for the crew, if you can give them cash US Dollar.

Non-smoking policy

On board our vessels we have a non-smoking policy. It is prohibited to smoke inside the ship. You can smoke in the designated smoking areas. Please respect the wishes of non-smokers.

Your physical condition

You must be in good general health and you should be able to walk several hours per day. The expedition is ship-based and physically not very demanding. Although we spend as much time as possible ashore, you are welcome to remain aboard the ship if you like. To join most excursions, you must be able to get up and down the steep gangway from the ship to the water level to board the Zodiacs. Staff will assist you in and out of the boats. This will become progressively easier with practice. Ashore it can be slippery and rocky. You are travelling in remote areas without access to sophisticated medical facilities, so you must not join this expedition if you have a life-threatening condition, or need daily medical treatment.



M/V PLANGIUS - FACILITIES

LECTURE THEATRE



BAR LOUNGE



DINING





YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 1

21st MARCH 2024

JOIN SHIP

END OF THE WORLD, START OF THE JOURNEY SOUTH

Your voyage begins where the world drops off. Ushuaia, Argentina, reputed to be the southernmost city on the planet, is located on the far southern tip of South America. Starting in the afternoon, you embark from this small resort town on Tierra del Fuego, nicknamed “The End of the World,” and sail the mountain-fringed Beagle Channel for the remainder of the evening.

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 **Meals Included:** Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

M/V PLACIUS



The ice-strengthened vessel Placius is an ideal vessel for polar expedition cruises in the Arctic and Antarctic and offers mid-range comfort.

[CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE](#)



Photos for guidance only & not necessarily the room booked



YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 2

22nd MARCH 2024

AT SEA

PATH OF THE POLAR EXPLORERS - CROSSING THE DRAKE PASSAGE

Over the next two days on the Drake Passage, you enjoy some of the same experiences encountered by the great polar explorers who first charted these regions: cool salt breezes, rolling seas, maybe even a fin whale spouting up sea spray. After passing the Antarctic Convergence – Antarctica’s natural boundary, formed when north-flowing cold waters collide with warmer sub-Antarctic seas – you are in the circum-Antarctic upwelling zone.

Not only does the marine life change, the avian life changes too. Wandering albatrosses, grey-headed albatrosses, black-browed albatrosses, light-mantled sooty albatrosses, cape pigeons, southern fulmars, Wilson’s storm petrels, blue petrels, and Antarctic petrels are a few of the birds you might see.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

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ANTARCTICA SCENERY



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YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 3

23rd MARCH 2024

AT SEA

CONTINUE ACROSS THE DRAKE PASSAGE

THE DRAKE PASSAGE Sailing south from the entrance of the Strait of Magellan, Spanish navigator Francisco de Hoces discovered this passage in 1525, making him the first European to pass through it. For this reason, it appears as Mar de Hoces in most Spanish and Spanish American maps and sources.

The passage received its English name from the 16th-century privateer Francis Drake during his circumnavigation. After passing through the Strait of Magellan with Marigold, Elizabeth, and his flagship Golden Hind, Drake entered the Pacific Ocean and was blown far south in a tempest. Marigold was lost, and Elizabeth abandoned the fleet. Only Drake's Golden Hind entered the passage. This incident demonstrated to the English that there was open water south of South America.

The first recorded voyage through the passage was that of Eendracht, captained by the Dutch navigator Jacob Le Maire in 1616, naming Cape Horn in the process.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

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YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 4

24th MARCH 2024

ANTARCTICA

A WELCOME ARRIVAL TO THE ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

Options for Antarctic Peninsula activities are many, and no less great during the late summer. Humpback whales are prolific in this region, gorging themselves on krill before their migration north. The penguin chicks are also fledging, stirring up activity on the beaches while sleek leopard seals lie in wait, poised to attack the less fortunate ones. Sites for your Antarctic adventures may include:

Livingston Island – Here you find a wide variety of gentoo and chinstrap penguins on Hannah Point, as well as southern giant petrels and elephant seals hauling out onto the beach.

Deception Island – Actually a subducted crater, this island opens into the sea and creates a natural harbour for the ship. An abandoned whaling station, and multiple bird species – cape petrels, kelp gulls, brown and south polar skuas, and Antarctic terns – can be seen here. Wilson's storm petrels and black-bellied storm petrels also nest in the ruins of the whaling station in Whalers Bay.

Cuverville Island – A small precipitous island nestled between the mountains of the Antarctic Peninsula and Rongé Island, Cuverville houses a large colony of gentoo penguins and breeding pairs of brown skuas.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

M/V PLACIUS



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ANTARCTICA CRUISING



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YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 5

25th MARCH 2024

ANTARCTICA

CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THE ANTARCTIC PENINSULAR

Other sights we might see during this time are:

Neko Harbour – An epic landscape of mammoth glaciers and endless wind-carved snow, Neko Harbour offers opportunities for a Zodiac cruise and landing that afford the closest views of the surrounding alpine peaks. You might also be able to set foot on the continent here.

Paradise Bay – You could take a Zodiac cruise in these sprawling, ice-flecked waters, where you have a good chance of seeing humpback and minke whales.

Pléneau & Petermann Islands – If the ice allows it, you may sail through the Lemaire Channel in search of Adélie penguins and blue-eyed shags. There's also a good chance you'll encounter humpback and minke whales as well as leopard seals.

Crystal Sound – Your journey takes you south along the Argentine Islands to this ice-packed body of water, and from here across the Polar Circle in the morning.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

M/V PLANCIUS



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YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 6 - 9

26th - 29th MARCH 2024

ANTARCTICA

CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THE ANTARCTIC PENINSULAR

Other sights we might see during this time are:

Detaille Island – You may make a landing at an abandoned British research station here, taking in the island's lofty mountains and imposing glaciers.

Fish Islands – Further north you encounter one of the southernmost Adélie penguin and blue-eyed shag colonies in the Antarctic Peninsula.

Melchior Islands – These islands offer a beautiful landscape rich with icebergs. Leopard seals, crabeater seals, and whales are found here, and there are excellent opportunities for kayaking and diving.

Conditions on the Drake Passage determine the exact time of departure.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

OVERNIGHT

M/V PLACIUS



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YOUR DETAILED DAY BY DAY ITINERARY

DAY 10

30th MARCH 2024

AT SEA

HEAD BACK ACROSS THE DRAKE PASSAGE TO USHUAIA

Your return voyage across the Drake Passage is far from lonely. While crossing the Drake, you're again greeted by the vast array of seabirds remembered from the passage south. But they seem a little more familiar to you now, and you to them.

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.



OVERNIGHT

M/V PLACIUS



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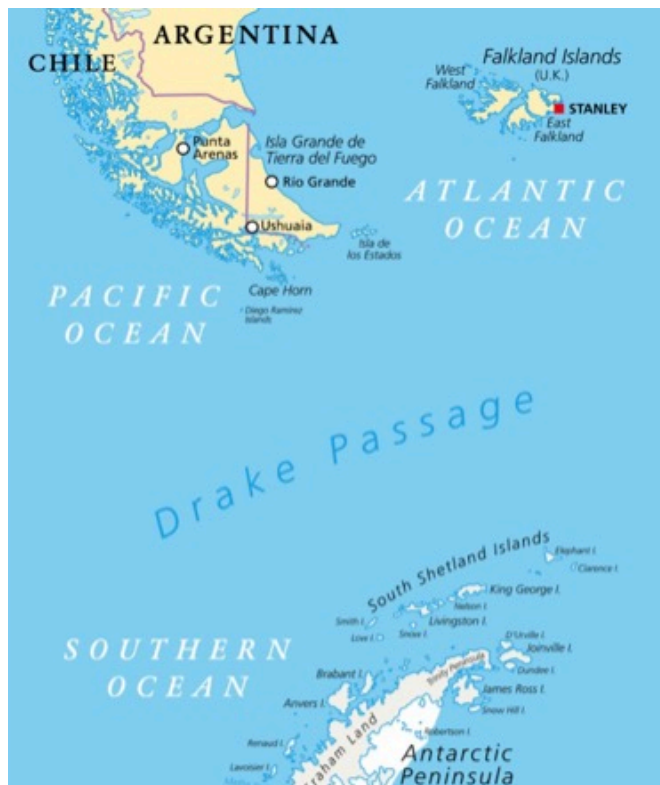
DAY 11

31st MARCH 2024

 **AT SEA**

LAST DAY ON THE DRAKE BEFORE ARRIVAL IN ARGENTINA TOMORROW

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.



OVERNIGHT

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DAY 12

1st APRIL 2024

USHUAIA

ARRIVAL BACK IN ARGENTINA

Every adventure, no matter how grand, must eventually come to an end. It's now time to disembark in Ushuaia, but with memories that will accompany you wherever your next adventure lies.

On arrival a transfer to your hotel with the rest of the day free to get used to dry land again!

 **Meals Included:** Breakfast.



LATC Founder Chris

"Antarctica is without doubt the most amazing trip I have made anywhere in the world and totally unique from every aspect and I will be going back to see more of the frozen continent on a regular basis. It is both a privilege and a responsibility to be able to send our clients."



antarctica
flora & fauna
INFOGRAPHIC

ANIMALS:

hourglass dolphin, weddell seal, crabeater seal, leopard seal, ross seal

SEA LIFE:

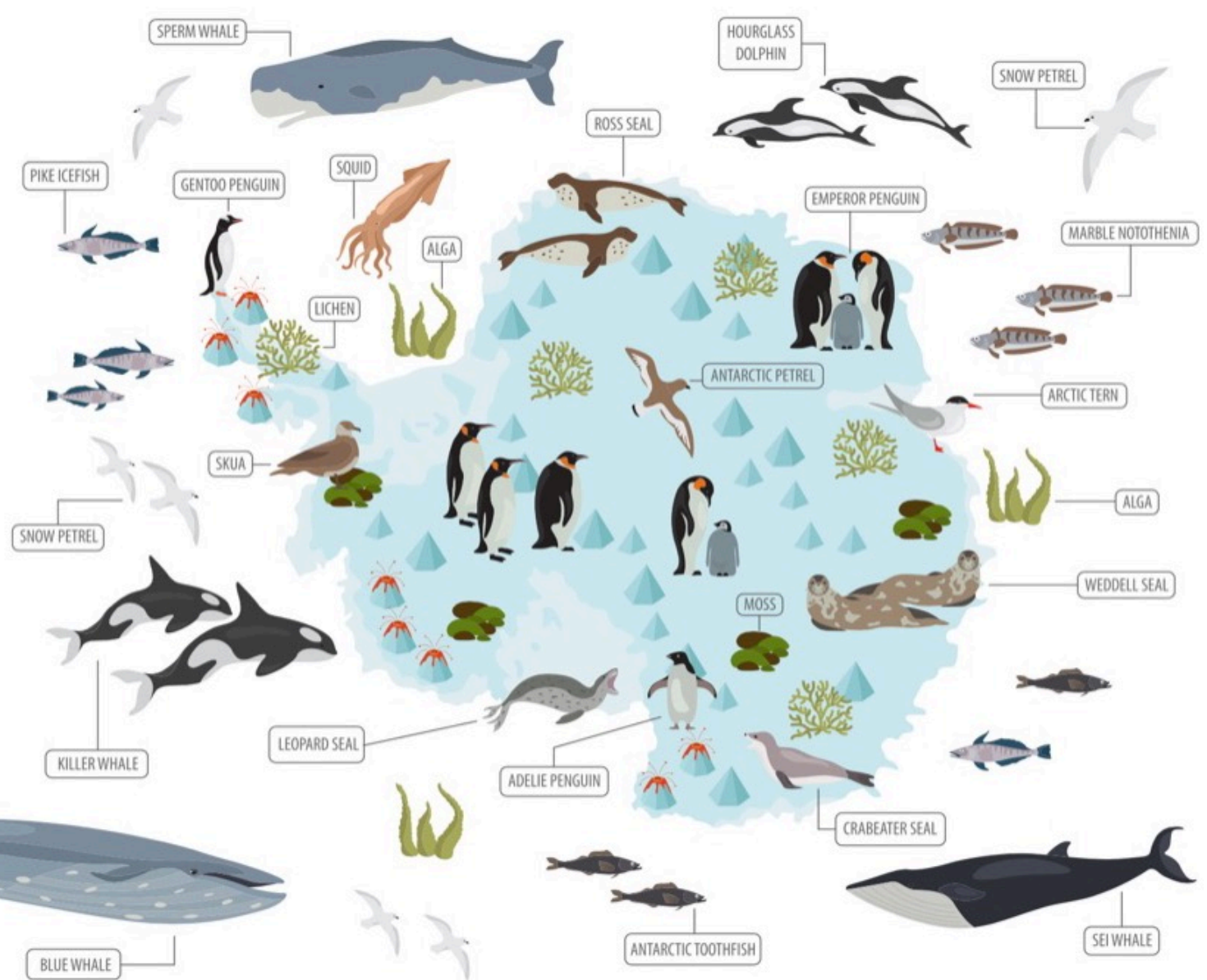
sperm whale, blue whale, killer whale, squid, sei whale, marble notothenia, antarctic toothfish, pike icefish

BIRDS:

emperor penguin, adelic penguin, gentoo penguin, antarctic petrel, snow petrel, skua, arctic tern

PLANTS:

lichen, moss, alga



TRIP CODE: PLA32-24: ANTARCTIC, POLAR CIRCLE & WHALE WATCHING - START & FINISH DATES

Starts Ushuaia 21st March 2024 and Finishes Ushuaia 1st April 2024 - Guided in: English

CABIN	EURO	GBP**	USD**
4 berth Quadruple Porthole - price per berth	€6,650	£5,985	US\$7,315
3 berth Triple Porthole - price per berth	€8,150	£7,335	US\$8,965
Twin Porthole - price per berth	€8,150	£7,335	US\$8,965
Twin Porthole - single occupancy	€13,855	£12,470	US\$15,241
Twin Window - price per berth	€8,600	£7,740	US\$9,460
Twin Window - single occupancy	€14,620	£13,158	US\$16,082
Twin Deluxe - price per berth	€9,100	£8,190	US\$10,010
Twin Deluxe - single occupancy	€15,470	£13,923	US\$17,017
Superior - price per person (only double bed)	€9,650	£8,685	US\$10,615
Superior - single occupancy	€16,405	£14,765	US\$18,046
OPTIONAL Diving*	€600	£540	US\$660

NOTE: If you book a berth as a single person in a shared cabin the other occupants of the cabin will be of the same gender.

** **GBP and USD prices** are for guidance only and final price will be based on the exchange rate at time of booking.

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***Additional activities:** Diving is an optional activity. Experience with cold-water diving and dry-suit dives (at least 30) is a must!



INCLUSIONS & EXCLUSIONS FOR THIS ITINERARY

■ ANTARCTIC CRUISE:

✓ 11 night / 12 Day Antarctic Cruise on the M/V Plancius - Cabin TBC.

Cruise Includes:

- ✓ Voyage aboard the indicated vessel as indicated in the itinerary.
- ✓ All meals throughout the voyage aboard the ship including snacks, coffee and tea.
- ✓ All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac.
- ✓ Program of lectures by noted naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff.
- ✓ Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes.
- ✓ Luggage transfer from pick-up point to the vessel on the day of embarkation, in Ushuaia.
- ✓ Pre-scheduled group transfer from the vessel to the airport in Ushuaia (directly after disembarkation).
- ✓ All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme.
- ✓ Comprehensive pre-departure material.

Cruise Excludes:

- ✓ Any airfare, whether on scheduled or charter flights
- ✓ Pre- and post- land arrangements.
- ✓ Passport and visa expenses.
- ✓ Government arrival and departure taxes.
- ✓ Meals ashore.
- ✓ Baggage, cancellation and personal insurance (which is strongly recommended).
- ✓ Excess baggage charges and all items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar, beverage charges and telecommunication charges.
- ✓ The customary gratuity at the end of the voyages for stewards and other service personnel aboard (guidelines will be provided).

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