

Expedition Chilean Fjords

An Inexhaustible Source of Diversity

From Callao (Lima), Peru, to Ushuaia, Argentina

28 November – 16 December 2019



Written and photographed by Richard MacDonald

Thursday, 28 November 2019

depart Callao/Lima

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
12° 03.1' N	077° 08.7' W	1022	22	17	1	partly cloudy	0 NM
Sunrise: 05:33 hrs				Sunset: 18:19 hrs			



Today, we came together as a group. While a few of us were continuing on from the previous cruise, most were boarding *m/s HANSEATIC Inspiration* for the first time. As much as all of the ships in the Hapag-Lloyd fleet are wonderful in their own, unique ways, it was a pleasure to board a new ship.

Many of you were able to join a city tour of Lima today, seeing the beautiful city center, learning about its history and Peruvian culture.

Time aboard ship enabled us to settle into our rooms and learn our way between all key venues. A mandatory ship-wide safety drill familiarized us with procedures in the unlikely event of an emergency.

Sunset, dinner, and we were off on our eighteen-day adventure.



Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
13° 48.3' N	076° 15.7' W	1020	21	18	1	blue sky	133 NM
Sunrise: 05:27 hrs				Sunset: 18:19 hrs			

A day into our tour and what a way to begin! Nazca Lines from the air, *Isla Ballestas* by boat, and flamingos by kayak.

Anchored in *Bahía de Paracas*, or Paracas Bay, we went ashore via local boats. And then, we were off on our chosen excursions.

Some had the opportunity to fly over the famous Nazca Lines. Formed between 500 B.C.E. and 500 C.E., it is believed these geoglyphs were created by Nazca using simple tools and rudimentary surveying equipment. Most lines consist of a shallow trench 10-15 cm (4-6 in) deep dug through the reddish-brown iron oxide-coated pebbles, exposing the lighter-colored clay below. Hundreds of huge (the largest figures span 370 m, or 1,200 ft) curvilinear animal and human figures were created over an area of 50 km² (19 mi²). The area was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1994.



Nazca Lines, thought to be a pelican (via Wikipedia).

Others of us enjoyed a 30-minute boat ride to Islas Ballestas, sometimes referred to as the “Poor Man’s Galapagos.” En route, we stopped to view *El Candelabro*. There is much disagreement on the origins of this geoglyph that resembles the Nazca Lines, but the majority seem to agree on a much more recent origin.



Accessible only via boat, *Isla Ballestas* (*ballesta* is Spanish for “crossbow,” and these islands are so-named for the sea caves which give the islands a crossbow-like profile) are a group of islands once famous for the harvesting of guano, a by-product the millions of nesting Guanay Cormorant—our guide shared that in 1830, guano was up to 28 m (92 ft) deep! One hillside alone was stippled with tens of thousands of cormorants. Hundreds of Inca Terns and thousands of Blue-footed Booby were there, too, but it was the 28 Humboldt Penguins precariously perched that got everyone particularly excited. That, and the South American Sea Lion. We were a bit early in the season, so there were virtually no 350 kg (772 pound) bulls, but gravid females and the previous year’s young were in



abundance. We even saw a few make 2 m (7 ft) dives into the water while youngsters were making begging calls as they laboriously crawled out of the water. Meanwhile, the bottom of the intertidal zone was thick with a small species of mussel; above them were big, fleshy, black blobs of anemones; stone crabs were basking at the very top of the intertidal; and the occasional “sea spider,” or pycnogonid, a marine arthropod, could be picked out amongst the other marine invertebrates.

Kayaking is ever a treat, especially when it involves seeing Chilean Flamingos.



Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
17° 16.3' S	074° 44.4' W	1021	21	21	2	overcast	399 NM
Sunrise: 06:20 hrs				Sunset: 19:16 hrs			

Our first day at sea was full of activity: dispersing the gear we will need for the expedition—parkas and boots—and learning, with educational opportunities hosted by our team of experts.

Wolfgang, HaJo, Dietmar, and Richard welcomed all comers to the Ocean Academy, explaining the interactive workings, and leading a viewing session of intriguing items under the microscopes.

Later, HaJo offered a tour of geology in the Ocean Academy. Using rock samples and microscopes, he took us on an introductory tour of minerals.

And the Shore Excursions team gave presentations on the wide-ranging options for our consideration.

For anyone interesting in looking, there is always scoping the horizon for wildlife. And those that did may have been treated with some of the many Common Dolphins or the modest



assortment of pelagic seabirds, including Salvin’s Albatross and Sooty Shearwater. These tubenoses, with their own built-in salt regulatory system, can drink ocean water directly, then filter out the salt.

Our day was rounded out with the Captain’s reception.

Southern Giant-Petrel, clearly showing its “tube” nose.

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
21° 27.1' S	072° 04.1' W	1024	22	23	4	partly cloudy	691 NM
Sunrise: 06:58 hrs				Sunset: 20:13 hrs			

A second day at sea meant a day of intensive learning, with lectures by our team of experts spanning the gamut.

HaJo’s lecture, ‘Feldspar, quartz, and mica’ was a short introduction to mineral and rock science. Wolfgang gave a comprehensive introduction to seabirds. Dietmar’s presentation, ‘Paracas mummy bundles, Nazca sacred pictures, and ceramic art,’ was an introduction to southern Peru before the Incas. And Richard gave two talks: the first on marine mammal biology and identification, the other on biological and physical oceanography.

A daily feature of a day at sea is the Ocean Academy, and once again we had a geology session with HaJo.

Concurrently, Wolfgang and Richard led a bird-watching session on the back deck. Birds were few, but we did see:

- ✓ 1 Chilean Skua, that avian pirate who specializes in forcing other birds to disgorge their meals—that, or become the meal themselves;
- ✓ 2 Inca Tern, perhaps the most striking tern (we saw hundreds at *Isla Ballestas*);
- ✓ 7 Markham’s Storm-Petrels—storm-petrels are so-named for their seeming habit of “walking” on water; in reality, they are using their webbed feet to create tiny vortices, bringing up food from about eight cm (3 in) down;
- ✓ 1 Sooty Shearwater, one of the champion migrants, breeding in island burrows in the South Pacific and migrating to all of the seas of the world;
- ✓ 1 Peruvian Booby, who ghosted our ship for an hour; and
- ✓ 3 Barn Swallows that probably were wondering 1) where was the insect food they craved and 2) why was this small island below them moving.



Sooty Shearwater

The day coming to a close, Nature treated us to a spectacular sunset.

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
25° 37.2' S	070° 49.1' W	1023	18	19	4	overcast	977 NM
Sunrise: 06:46 hrs				Sunset: 20:24 hrs			

If you happened to be awake between 01:30 and 03:00, you would have noticed we were at anchor. As we had entered Chilean waters the previous day, we had to clear customs at the first appropriate port; for us, that meant Antofagasta.

Otherwise, our morning was spent with a variety of learning opportunities. The Ocean Academy was being hosted by Dietmar, Wolfgang, and Richard; although the last two were performing dual duty outside looking for birds.

Although birds were sparse, we did pass one fishing vessel seemingly enveloped by a cloud of birds. This was exciting as among them was our first Wandering Albatross of our journey, a bird with a 3.5 m (11.5 ft) wingspan, the largest span of any extant species.

Concurrently, HaJo offered a lecture on the geology of South America.

Afterward, we had a recap, highlighting some of the things we have already seen, and a precap, explaining what today's visit to *Isla Pan de Azúcar* entails and what we hope to see this afternoon. This was followed by a mandatory Zodiac briefing so we can learn how to dress appropriately (specifically, with our inflatable life-vests and any rucksacks), getting in and out of the boat (remember the sailor's grip), and Zodiac etiquette so as to be safe.

Shortly after arriving at *Isla Pan de Azúcar*, we began our Zodiac tour. Parque National Pan de Azúcar, which translates to Sugar Loaf National Park, is an area consisting of numerous islands and mainland protected for a wealth of biodiversity. It is found along the Chilean coast, at the north end of the Atacama Desert. As such, although rainfall is minimal, the thick twilight coastal fog, or *camanchaca*, has driven the vegetation to evolve the ability to scavenge water from the air and then keep it, losing little to evaporation or through respiration. To ensure the ecological integrity of the park, only researchers and staff are allowed ashore; which is just as well as we had phenomenal wildlife viewing from the comfort of our inflated rubber boats.

Isla Pan de Azúcar is home to a variety of nesting seabirds, including Humboldt Penguins (Richard counted 12—up to 2,000 will nest), our first of our adventure—these are the second-furthest north nesting penguins.

We also had excellent looks at a good collection of South American Sea Lions. Other than a distant view of two males tucked in a back cobble beach, all of those we observed were females, many pregnant, and last year's young.

Back aboard, we enjoyed the pianist Mike Denker's dulcet melodies in the Observation Lounge and Martin Schwerdtner's lively dance music.



- Top to bottom:
- ✓ *Humboldt Penguin*
 - ✓ *Peruvian Pelican*
 - ✓ *South American Sea Lion*



Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
28° 58.7' S	071° 33.2' W	1021	15	15	<1	overcast	1,192 NM
Sunrise: 06:40 hrs				Sunset: 20:33 hrs			

Our morning was spent learning about South American geology from HaJo and birds from Richard. As riveting as these lectures were (and they always are, right?), the first of several highlights of the day came with our approach to *Isla de Chañaral*.

Hundreds, perhaps thousands, of seabirds were actively feeding in the productive waters surrounding the island. Easily half were Peruvian Diving-Petrels. These diminutive tubenoses—birds with the ability to drink saltwater directly, have it filtered by their salt gland, and a viscous salt excreted out the tube—were everywhere, popping up, trying to fly away, then giving up and crash-diving to escape the hulk that was our ship.

Like *Isla Pan de Azúcar*, *Isla de Chañaral* is part of a protected area, this one the Humboldt Penguin National Reserve. This island is one of three in the reserve, all important nesting grounds for these *Speniscus* penguins (80% of the world’s vulnerable Humboldt Penguin population). It is also home to rare, or endangered, species such as the Peruvian Diving-Petrel (100,000 pairs nest here) and the Marine Otter. There is also a variety of unique and threatened Chilean plant species.

At *Isla de Chañaral*, we boarded local boats to tour the island. Once again, we are prohibited from landing; but, as with our previous day’s adventure, our experience via boat was tremendous! Fur seal, sea lions, and otters, oh my!

The South American Sea Lions were putting on quite the show for us, with the enormous, 350 kg (770 pound) bulls, proud manes on full display, making clear the source of their name.

Cruising along, we were treated to a family of Marine Otters tucked into a shadowy recess, feeding on a fish nearly as large as any one of them. The Marine Otter, also known as the Chilean Otter, or more locally as *Chungungo*, is one of two sea otter species remaining in the world. They have two layers of fur: the longer guard hairs protect the shorter insulating fur. Its population once roamed from Peru south, around Cape Horn, and some distance up the Atlantic coast. Today, its range has been greatly restricted to regions of kelp forests of the Chilean coast.

Well into our tour, our boats peeled off from closely paralleling the shoreline and sped offshore a kilometer or more. At first, we wondered where we were heading, but—THAR SHE BLOWS—it became readily apparent: WHALES!

Fin Whales, to be exact. And many of them! There were multiple groups ranging in size from two to four, all adults, some 20 or more whales in all. Our guides took us quite close, so close, in fact, that we could smell the fishy piquance of their breath, better known to marine mammalogists as “snarge.”

Back aboard ship, the winds and seas picking up, we continued our journey south. During the remaining hours of daylight, we continued seeing whale spouts, some closer, some to the horizon.



*Young male
South American Sea Lion*

Marine Otter family



Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
32° 36.8' S	071° 39.6' W	1023	16	15	3	overcast	1,417 NM
Sunrise: 06:30 hrs				Sunset: 20:43 hrs			

With our Valparaíso arrival scheduled for the afternoon, that left the morning for learning. Wolfgang, HaJo, and Dietmar rose to the occasion, offering lectures on the family of seals, geology and art, and Incan culture, respectively.

Mid-afternoon, we made our arrival in Valparaíso. After clearing customs and immigration, we began our tour of the city. And what a city it is! Full of a rich history and cultural heritage—indigenous peoples long predating the 1536 arrival of Spanish explorers—a history that continues to this day. Walking the developed *cerros*, or hills, ringing Valparaíso Harbor, we learned a whole new appreciation for this UNESCO World Heritage Site, from the era of its rising importance as a major stop on the circum-South America trade route (alas, the Panama Canal put an end to that), British development (they even had a street with British-style homes, replete with gardens bordering the street), their survival of earthquakes and fires, the tumultuous 1970s and 80s, to the modern era where graffiti is a prized form of local street art.

After dinner, we were treated to a wonderful performance of Chilean entertainment by the folklore group *Raíces de me Chile*. With dance, music, and traditional costumes from various regions, including Easter Island and North and Central Chile.



Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
33° 02.2' S	071° 37.6' W	1024	19	15	2	Blue sky	1,443 NM
Sunrise: 06:30 hrs				Sunset: 20:43 hrs			

A full day in Valparaíso meant opportunity for a us to pick and choose from a variety of shore excursions.

The longest (at least, in terms of time) of those was a visit to the capital, Santiago de Chile, the economic, cultural, and academic heart of Chile, with visits to the Presidential palace, *Plaza de Armas*—the historic main square with its suite of magnificent architecture and important buildings.

Parque Nacional de la Compana (“Compana” means “bell” and derives from the mountain said to look rather like its namesake) is one of the few intact and untrammeled zones in central Chile. Some of our group explored this arid zone, with a climate quite akin to the Mediterranean, one that is home to many plants and animals. In fact, Charles Darwin himself visited the region, before it was a park, in 1834 to study the native fauna. While the birdlife we observed was limited to the endemic Chilean Mockingbird, there was a greater diversity of flora, especially cactuses and palms.

Still others of our group took a tour of Valparaíso and Viña del Mar, witnessing the panoply of colors that make up the cityscape, its colonial-era architecture, and Plaza Sotomayor with its monument to fallen heroes. This was followed by a visit to the seaside and garden city, Viña del Mar.

For those interested in the works of Pablo Neruda, there was a tour to walk in his footsteps, seeing sites that were an important part of the Nobel Prize-winning Chilean poet’s and diplomat’s life in Valparaíso.

A city walk of the city, using public transportation, and learning more about the history of this magical city, was an option for some.

And finally, there was a tour of the Kingston Winery. This new and modern vintner is part of Chile’s growing landscape growing specialties such as Pino Noir, Syrah, and Sauvignon Blanc.

In the late afternoon, we departed Valparaíso, looking forward to a day at sea and Ancud and Isla de Chiloe, 568 nautical miles distant.

Friday, 06 December 2019

at sea

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
36° 41.7' S	073° 27.5' W	1025	13	14	7	partly cloudy	1,688 NM
Sunrise: 06:31 hrs				Sunset: 21:09 hrs			

One of the many benefits of this trip is that we have plenty of days at sea. And, of course, days at sea mean plenty of opportunities to broaden our horizon.

We kicked off the morning with HaJo's lecture on geology and art (or is geology art?). Richard talked about hummingbirds, those winged gems of the Western Hemisphere. Consider our time at sea and the likelihood of whales, Wolfgang lectured about whales and the history of whaling. And our last presentation of the day was by Dietmar, who spoke on the culture and history of the Mapuche Indians, known as the most successful "riding warriors" in the world.

In the meantime, during the morning, we met our film crew, Caro and Kaspar, who are aboard filming our comings and goings, which will be used in future Hapag-Lloyd promotional videos.

This was followed by a recap of our port-o'-call to Valparaíso and Santiago, sharing some of the poetry of the likes of Pablo Neruda.

In the afternoon, the Ocean Academy was open for business with HaJo teaching about geology and Wolfgang and Richard leading a discussion of the microscopic world. After an hour of microscope work, Richard and Wolfgang then led a bird-watching foray on the back deck where we saw countless White-chinned Petrel, as well as a few Black-browed Albatross.

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
41° 34.9' S	073° 58.8' W	1028	13	14	5	partly cloudy	1,986 NM
Sunrise: 06:13 hrs				Sunset: 21:20 hrs			

This morning we learned about whales and whaling with Wolfgang’s presentation in German and Peru before the Incas with Dietmar.

In the afternoon, we arrived at our anchorage at Ancud, on *Isla de Chiloe*, where we had a full slate of shore excursions.

On the first excursion, some visited Castro, famous for its *palafitos*, houses built above the water on stilts. The inner city, with its boldly painted purple-and-orange cathedral, and the craft market at the port, were highlights. The tour continued onto Delcahue, a hub for fishing villages and many of the smaller islands, with insights into aspects of traditional life.

Visiting the Agui Fortress, the last bastion of the Spanish before the left Latin America, was the choice for many. This was then followed by a visit to Chile’s second-oldest lighthouse, which is still in operation and still inhabited.

Some others of us paid a visit to the Senda Darwin Conservation Center and Caulin Beach. The Conservation Center focuses on the research and preservation of Chiloe’s unique biodiversity. A visit to a local church, followed by an excursion to the beach rounded out the tour.

Our final shore excursion option had us visiting Ancud, northernmost town of Chiloe, where we learned some of the local history. This was followed by a boat trip to the small island of Punihuil. This is the only place where both Humboldt and Magellanic Penguins nest side-by-side. The boat tour was intriguing first for the manner in which they loaded us into the boats and second for the fact that the penguin nesting island was a mere 200 meters away.

The beach where we boarded the boats was at a very low angle. What with the tides and the open exposure to the sea, it was impractical to have a pier, wharf, or dock of any sort. So we were loaded into a wheeled cart that held a dozen of us at a time, then our hosts pushed the cart out to the boat—while they were adorned in chest-waders, we managed to keep our feet dry.

The penguin colony itself was a series of small islands, covered in tussock grass, where the penguins nest. Small groups of Magellanic Penguins were gathered on the north end of the island while equally small groups of Humboldt Penguins gathered on the south end.

Before we knew, it was time to return to the ship to look forward to another day.



Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
41° 29.05' S	072° 57.3' W	1026	13	18	2	overcast	2,081 NM
Sunrise: 06:30 hrs				Sunset: 20:43 hrs			

A city of nearly 250,000 souls, Puerto Montt serves as an entrance to Lake Llanquihue. It is a city with many facets: it is the main sea port at the lower end of Chile’s western continental land, it is the hub of one of the largest salmon-farming industries in the world, and it is the gateway to Chilean Patagonia, with an entire industry dedicated to supporting mountain adventure. The city has a wet ocean climate, receiving 1,613 mm (63.5 in) of rain annually.

For us, it was another day of numerous excellent shore excursion options.

Some set off early to see the Petrohué waterfalls at Parque Nacional de Vicente Pérez Rosales before continuing onto the Osorno Volcano. Saltos del Petrhhué is a chute-type waterfall in the upper reaches of the Petrohué River that cascades over basaltic lava, long since hardened after the last eruption of Osorno in 1869. Attentive visitors may have spotted a couple torrent Ducks mastering the rapids.

Osorno Volcano’s towering height (2,652 m or 8,700 ft), symmetrical shape, and glaciated summit have earned it the title of Chile’s most beautiful volcano. The road up ends at a mountain shelter at 1,240 m (4,068 ft), with grand views of surrounding peaks and Lake Llanquihue.



Hiking in Alerce Andino National Park was to commune with Nature in the largest extant Valdivian temperate rainforest. Four hours of hiking, birds singing all around (thanks to Wolfgang for putting names to some of those songs), was a wonderful change of pace for some.

And for the rest, a bus ride to Petrohué for a scenic boat tour of Lake Todos los Santos, the looming masses of volcanos Osorno and Puntiaquido reflecting their glacier-clad brightness upon us.

After visiting the Petrohué waterfalls, we made our way to Puerto Varas, the “City of Roses,” this lovely gem of a city on the shores of Lake Llanquihue. There, in the city square, the fusion Chilean folk quartet, Amerikantu, was playing beautiful music.

The day nearly done, we enjoyed watching the movie of the christening of m/s HANSEATIC Inspiration, followed by a discussion between Matthias Mayer and Captain Obrist.

Monday, 09 December 2019

at sea

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
45° 42.1' S	074° 13.3' W	1019	14	14	4	cloudy fog rain	2,362 NM
Sunrise: 06:12 hrs				Sunset: 21:50 hrs			

In a voyage of firsts (for many of us)—first time across the Equator; first time to Peru and Chile; first time to hike up a volcano—this day saw our first rain of the trip. Considering we are in the region of temperate rain forests with some of the highest total amounts of precipitation anywhere in the world, the only real surprise may be that we had to wait this long for rain. Fortunately, it was a day at sea, with us sailing south offshore of Reserva Nacional las Guaitecas, on the Peninsula of Taita, and then through Golfo de Peñas.

On the education docket were lectures by:

- ✓ Wolfgang, speaking about Patagonia, “fire land,” Cape Horn, and the rich natural world at the end of the Earth.
- ✓ Richard with his favorite topic, birds; specifically, cormorants, the bird we love to hate.
- ✓ And HiJo with a discussion of the “Ring of Fire” of the South Pacific.

Tuesday, 10 December 2019

Puerto Edén & Pio XI Glacier

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
49° 09.4' S	076° 24.1' W	1015	12	14	2	blue sky	2,630 NM
Sunrise: 05:47 hrs				Sunset: 21:54 hrs			

You know it will be a good day when you awake on a ship, look out your window to see calm seas with dolphins porpoising (why don't we call it dolphining?), and land is slowly closing in. In this latter case, land was closing in as we approached *Angostura Inglesa*, or English Narrows, in the early morning hours. The beauty of the region was not to be surpassed.

And then we arrived in Puerto Edén.

One TripAdvisor review described this community in the most dismal of terms. It was the kind of review you learn to read exactly the opposite of everything that was written. This tiny community has only 60 or so souls, a mix or the last of the indigenous Kaweqar and Chilean fishing families. Everyone we met had a friendly greeting. This remote outpost has no roads, limited services, even more limited utilities, and yet, they have carved out an idyllic life for themselves in a landscape that is absolutely stunning. Our experience in Puerto Edén was made all the more pleasurable for the bluebird skies and mild temperature.

Continuing our southward voyage, we enjoyed the fjord-like Patagonian landscape, embraced by saline waterways nestled amidst towering and snow-capped peaks. The beautiful weather continued for several hours and many of us enjoyed the time on deck (by the look of the red faces, a few of us enjoyed the sunlight a bit too much).

By mid-afternoon, we arrived at Brüggen Glacier, also known as Pio XI Glacier. "Brüggen" comes from German geologist Juan Brüggen Messtorff; "Pio" comes from Pope Pius XI. At 1,265 km² (489mi²), this is the largest outflow of the Southern Patagonian Ice Field; it is also the longest glacier in the Southern Hemisphere, outside of Antarctica. Unlike most glaciers worldwide, this one has been advancing since 1945.

With the ship using thrusters to maintain its position in Eyre Fjord, we were able to experience the glacier close-up with a Zodiac tour. Somehow, the experience of being near a glacier is incomplete without all of the weather: winds, cold, and intermittent spitting rain. Whatever the weather, beholding the magnificence of a glacier is magical. For us, the face of this 4 km (2.5 mi) wide glacier is an open exhibit on the power of the mighty glacier: the royal blue ice is a testament to the great pressures under which layer upon layer of snow is compacted over hundreds and thousands of years, obvious layering within the ice is occasionally sharply delineated by volcanic events where a layer of ash was laid down, and boulders and other terrestrial debris are a testament to geologic processes such as glacial plucking.

The evening saw us navigate our way out the fjord, steep-walled mountains to our port and starboard, a low ceiling enveloping the taller peaks while adding texture to the sky. And

in the Observation Lounge, pianist Mike Denker closed out his set with a moving rendition of Pachelbel's Canon.



Wednesday, 11 December 2019

Kirke Narrows / Puerto Natales

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
52° 05.2' S	073° 51.8' W	1013	9	12	4	overcast	2,829 NM
Sunrise: 05:26 hrs				Sunset: 22:00 hrs			

Today we sailed through the fjord-like Patagonian archipelago, a landscape filled with metamorphic mountains rising steeply from the sea; islands, false leads, channels narrow and wide; and strong tidal currents. The beauty of the landscape had us on the deck throughout the day, first in the morning, and then again mid-afternoon as we passed Kirke Narrows.

Lunch was outdoors on the Pool Deck where we had a Pölser Party (pölser is a traditional Polish meat, similar in shape and texture to an American hotdog, but oh-so-much better, especially when adorned with fried onions, relish, mustard, and the chef's own aioli). And nothing washes down a pölser like a good beer!

During lulls in the scenery—not that there can truly be lulls in such a charismatic landscape; more like when the canals widened and the walls surrounding us were less precipitous)—HaJo gave his glacier lecture, first in German, then in English.

Later in the evening, but before sunset, we arrived at our Puerto Natales berth. This convenient dockage, with its proximity to town, coupled with the fact that we will be there for more than 24 hours, meant opportunity to stretch our legs with a leisurely walk into town.



Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
51° 43.8' S	072° 31.0' W	1018	12	13	5	partly cloudy	2,884 NM
Sunrise: 05:25 hrs				Sunset: 22:01 hrs			

Puerto Natales can only mean one thing: *Parque Nacional Torres del Paine*, or Torres del Paine National Park! All tours filled the day, affording us breath-taking views of the three namesake needle-like granitic spires rising to 2,850 m (9,350 ft). Our outings ranged from scenic drives to a vigorous 23 km (14 mi) hike around the back of the spires.

Driving through Torres del Paine National Park, our attention was torn between dramatic landscapes and charismatic megafauna. The pampas, the native grasslands of Patagonia, were a veritable sea of grass, waves rippling in the Beaufort force 5 winds. Meanwhile, the dramatic mountains were wreathed in ephemeral cloud cover, giving us intermittent glimpses of their full majesty.

And then we saw a shadow in the sky, a wingspan so vast, it could only be an Andean Condor! The normal five-minute process of disembarking a tour bus seemed to have been done in under two minutes (good work, everyone!). And as swift as we saw the bird, it floated away, primary flight feathers, those wingtip feathers, imperceptibly moving to steer the raptor with the 3 m (10 ft) span on its mysterious flight path.

Continuing down the road toward our destination near Torres del Paine, we were frequently distracted by condors and Guanacos, the wild and endemic llama cousin of Patagonia.

Throughout the day, the scenery would be so amazing that we thought it could not get any better. And then it would! Over and over again! The distant peaks towering above, permanent snow fields draped in low-lying hollows, the distant Gray Glacier looming, both feeding the Lake Nordenskjöld, Lake Pehoé, and all of the other impossibly blue lakes, separated by rivers and cataracts. *Salto Chico Río Paine*, the River Paine Waterfalls, situated along the path to Lago Nordenskjöld, vying for our attention, a posse of Guanaco posing nearby ever-so-cooperatively.

Meanwhile, below, recent rains had nurtured the landscape into meadows of wildflowers, Avellano, Maiden’s Slipper, Porcelain Orchid, White Clover, Bog Aster, Wild-blue Pea, and Yellow Orchid, among them.

During the ride back to Puerto Natales, we relived the glory of the day in our mind’s eye, some likely projecting it on the backs of eyelids.



Friday, 13 December 2019

Kirke Narrows

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
52° 21.3' S	073° 41.6' W	1006	11	12	4	overcast	2,971 NM
Sunrise: 05:25 hrs				Sunset: 22:06 hrs			

Shortly after midnight, we bid Puerto Natales a fond farewell, slowly retracing our route toward Kirke Narrows. Shortly after sunrise, we were ready to pass, but the flooding current was not suitable, so we stood on station for an hour until the tide slackened and our pilot deemed conditions ideal for passage of the short and narrow constriction.

Once again, our day was filled with opportunity to take in the unparalleled scenery. Spending time at a suitable vantage was often rewarded with glimpses of Common Dolphin or South American Sea Lions. Early on, visitors to the Observation Deck were rewarded with a close encounter with the caracara kind.

Caracaras (ours was a Chimango Caracara), are falcon-like raptors. On land, they often gather in flocks, hunting, scavenging for food, behaving for all intents and purposes like the crows of North America and Europe.

Meanwhile, the ship seemed to be a magnet for Chilean Skuas. These pirates of the sea, who chase other birds to steal their meals, are big and bold. Numerous times they were observed circling our ship—hopefully not looking to us as their next meal.

As usual for our “at sea” days, there was a variety of programming, including a South American Indians lecture by Dietmar, a RECAP/PRECAP from our experts, and a continuation of our beginning bird-watching program on the back deck.

Mid-afternoon, we left the world of Chilean fjords and entered the Strait of Magellan, setting us on the homeward stretch of our two-week adventure.

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
53° 07.5' S	070° 51.8' W	1005	9	11	4	overcast	3,181 NM
Sunrise: 05:11 hrs				Sunset: 22:05 hrs			

With an early arrival in Punta Arenas, we had the day to explore. And our explorations took many forms. Some partook of the free shuttle for the 5 km (3 mi) ride into the city for a self-guided walking adventure. Others joined one (or more) of the many shore excursions, including:

- ✓ Taking in the city, which, thanks to its position on the Magellan Channel, is a hub for cargo ships. This tour included a visit to the Nao Victoria Museum with its impressive replica of the ship on which Ferdinand Magellan sailed the world, along with taking in impressive scenic vistas and learning some of the history of the city.
- ✓ A boat trip to the Isla Magdalena penguin colony with its 150,000 (!) nesting Magellanic Penguins. And who knew that the cute, diminutive, little Magellan Diving-Petrel could be so fascinating (well, who knew besides Wolfgang and Richard)? Isla Magdalena, under conservation protection since 1982, will long be associated with the lighthouse we visited.
- ✓ Hiking in the Magallanes National Reserve (created in 1932) was for the more hardy among us, affording opportunities to see some of the unique flora and fauna, and presenting opportunities for magnificent scenic vistas.
- ✓ And, of course, no trip to Punta Arenas is complete without taking in the Andean Condors, these magnificent birds with the 3.5 m (11.5 ft) wingspan. All the travel literature talks about this unique condor colony with up to 50 birds—we saw 77!



Our day was capped with a farewell from the crew, singing a variety of songs and sea shanties. Wolfgang Bittman’s rendition of “What do you do with a drunken sailor” was wonderful. And the Crew Choir’s rendition of a Philippine song was magical.

As always with Hapag-Lloyd expeditions, there was the raffle of a nautical chart, adorned with the original artwork of the crew. The winner of the raffle donated the chart back to the ship for an auction, raising an astounding 5,000 euros!

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
54° 42.9' S	069° 58.0' W	1005	8	9	2	overcast	3,403 NM
Sunrise: 06:12 hrs				Sunset: 21:50 hrs			

Our last full day aboard the marvelous m/s *HANSEATIC Inspiration*, we reflected on our journey. We have sailed from Callao, south, making calls at Paracas and Isla Pan de Azúcar, all in Peru, and Isla Chañaral, Valparaíso, Isla de Chiloe, Puerto Montt, Puerto Edén, Puerto Natales, Punta Arenas, all in Chile, explored Torres del Paine National Park, and made scenic tours of Pio XI Glacier and Garibaldi Glacier. We had many days at sea where we learned from our team of experts. We cruised the Chilean fjords, the Patagonian archipelago, and the Magellan Channel.

Today, between boats of packing and learning the art of navigation from Richard, we took in Garibaldi Glacier, located in Chile’s Alberto de Agostini National Park, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. This is a region where the world’s longest mountain range meets the sea. Despite the fact that Garibaldi Glacier is retreating, this mammoth wall of sapphire and teal ice is regarded as one of Chile’s most beautiful.

This evening, we finally arrived at our last port, Ushuaia, Argentina, where some walked into town and then we spent our last night aboard ship.



Monday, 16 December 2019

Ushuaia

Position at midday		Pressure (hPa)	Temperature (° C)		Wind (Beaufort)	Weather weather	Distance travelled
Latitude	Longitude		Air	Water			
							3,494 NM
Sunrise: 04:49 hrs				Sunset: 22:07 hrs			

Today was disembarkation day. We wish you safe travels and hope to see you again on another Hapag-Lloyd cruise. Thank you for the wonderful opportunity to serve you and share in the joys of exploration and discovery.

Fauna & Flora List

In recent decades, taxonomy has been in a state of flux. Still, following an accepted hierarchical ordering is useful for the purpose of maintaining a checklist. To that end, the order of marine mammals follows the widely accepted work of D.W. Rice (1998) *Marine Mammals of the World: Systematics and Distribution*, Special Publication No. 4, Society for Marine Mammalogy. The ordering of birds follows that set out by James Clements and updated by Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. Botanical taxonomy is less precise, if not significantly more abundant than the other taxa, so for this list, we opted for the simplest: an alphabetical listing of some of the more notable plants identified. All other animal taxa have been lumped together, also in alphabetical order. (Please accept the author's apologies for any omissions; they were not intentional.)

Marine Mammals: (6 species)

- Common Dolphin, *Delphinus delphis* (several pods observed beginning 01 December)
- Humpback Whale, *Megaptera novaeangliae* (at least 3 observed)
- Fin Whale, *Balaenoptera physalus* (at least 10 observed)
- Marine Otter, *Lutria feline* (at least 7 observed)
- South American Fur Seal, *Arctocephalus australis*
- South American Sea Lion, *Otaia byronia*

Terrestrial Mammals: (2 species)

- Big Hairy Armadillo, *Chaetophractus villosus*
- Guanaco, *Lama guanicoe*

Birds: (153 species)

- Lesser Rhea, *Rhea pennata*
- Black-necked Swan, *Cygnus melancoryphus*
- Coscoroba Swan, *Coscoroba coscoroba*
- Upland Goose, *Chloephaga picta*
- Kelp Goose, *Chloephaga hybrida*
- Ashy-headed Goose, *Chloephaga poliocephala*
- Flightless Steamer-Duck, *Tachyeres pteneres*
- Crested Duck, *Lophonetta specularioides*
- Spectacled Duck, *Speculanas specularis*
- Red Shoveler, *Spatula platalea*
- Chiloe Wigeon, *Mareca sibliatrix*
- Mallard, *Anas platyrhynchos*
- White-cheeked Pintail, *Anas bahamensis*
- Yellow-billed Pintail, *Anas georgica*
- Yellow-billed Teal, *Anas flavirostris*
- Rosy-billed Pochard, *Netta peposaca*
- Andean Duck, *Oxyura ferruginea*
- Lake Duck, *Oxyura vittata*
- Chilean Flamingo, *Phoenicopterus chilensis*
- White-tufted Grebe, *Rollandia rolland*
- Great Grebe, *Podiceps major*

- Silvery Crebe, *Podiceps occipitalis*
- Rock Pigeon, *Columba livia*
- Chilean Pigeon, *Patagioenas araucana*
- Picui Ground Dove, *Columbina picui*
- Croaking Ground Dove, *Columbina cruziana*
- West Peruvian Dove, *Zenaida Meloda*
- Eared Dove, *Zenaida auriculata*
- Chimney Swift, *Chaetura pelagica*
- Green-backed Firecrown, *Sephanoides sephanoides*
- Peruvian Sheartail, *Thaumastura cora*
- Amazilia Hummingbird, *Amazillia amazilia*
- Plumbeous Rail, *Pardirallus sanguinolentus*
- Red-gartered Coot, *Fulica armillata*
- White-winged Coot, *Fulica leucoptera*
- American Oystercatcher, *Haematopus palliatus*
- Blackish Oystercatcher, *Haematopus ater*
- Magellanic Oystercatcher, *Haematopus leucopodus*
- Black-bellied Plover, *Pluvialis squatarola*
- Southern Lapwing, *Vanellus chilensis*
- Snowy Plover, *Charadrius nivosus*
- Semipalmated Plover, *Charadrius pusilla*
- Killdeer, *Charadrius vociferus*
- Whimbrel, *Numenius phaeopus*
- Ruddy Turnstone, *Arenaria interpres*
- Surfbird, *Calidris virgata*
- Baird's Sandpiper, *Calidris bairdii*
- Least Sandpiper, *Calidris pusilla*
- Semipalmated Sandpiper, *Calidris pusilla*
- Red Phalarope, *Phalaropus fulicarius*
- Spotted Sandpiper, *Actitis macularius*
- Chilean Skua, *Stercorarius chilensis*
- Andean Gull, *Chroicocephalus serranus*
- Brown-hooded Gull, *Chroicocephalus maculipennis*
- Gray-hooded Gull, *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus*
- Gray Gull, *Leucophaeus pipixcan*
- Franklin's Gull, *Leucophaeus pipixcan*
- Belcher's Gull, *Larus belcheri*
- Kelp Gull, *Larus dominicanus*
- Peruvian Tern, *Sternula lorata*
- Inca Tern, *Larosterna inca*
- South American Tern, *Sterna hirundinacea*
- Royal Tern, *Thalasseus maximus*
- Sandwich Tern, *Thalasseus sandvicensis*
- Elegant Tern, *Thalasseus elegans*
- Black Skimmer, *Rynchops niger*
- Humboldt Penguin, *Spheniscus humboldti*
- Magellanic Penguin, *Spheniscus magellanicus*
- Salvin's Albatross, *Thalassarche salvini*
- Black-browed Albatross, *Thalassarche melanophris*
- Wandering Albatross, *Diomedea exulans*
- Wilson's Storm-Petrel, *Oceanites oceanicus*
- Elliot's Storm-Petrel, *Oceanites gracilis*
- Markham's Storm-Petrel, *Oceanodroma markhami*
- Southern Giant-Petrel, *Macronectes giganteus*
- Northern Giant-Petrel, *Macronectes halli*
- Southern Fulmar, *Fulmarus glacialis*
- Masatierra Petrel, *Pterodroma defilippiana*
- Slender-billed Prion, *Pachyptila belcheri*
- White-chinned Petrel, *Procellaria aequinoctialis*
- Westland Petrel, *Procellaria westlandica*
- Pink-footed Shearwater, *Ardenna creatopus*
- Sooty Shearwater, *Ardenna grisea*
- Peruvian Diving-Petrel, *Pelecanoides garnotii*

- Magellanic Diving-Petrel, *Pelecanoides magellani*
- Peruvian Booby, *Sula variegata*
- Red-legged Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax gaimardi*
- Neotropic Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax brasilianus*
- Magellanic Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax magellanicus*
- Guanay Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax bougainvillii*
- Imperial Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax atriceps*
- Peruvian Pelican, *Pelecanus thagus*
- Great Egret, *Ardea alba*
- Snowy Egret, *Egretta thula*
- Black-crowned Night-Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax*
- Black-faced Ibis, *Theristicus melanopis*
- Andean Condor, *Vultur gryphus*
- Black Vulture, *Coragyps atratus*
- Turkey Vulture, *Cathartes aura*
- Osprey, *Pandion haliaetus*
- Cinereous Harrier, *Circus cinereous*
- Bicolored Hawk, *Accipiter bicolor*
- Harris's Hawk, *Parabuteo unicinctus*
- Variable Hawk, *Geranoaetus polyosoma*
- Black-chested Buzzard-Eagle, *Geranoaetus melanoleucus*
- Broad-winged Hawk, *Buteo platypterus*
- Rufous-tailed Hawk, *Buteo ventralis*
- Green Kingfisher, *Chloroceryle americana*
- Southern Caracara, *Caracara plancus*
- Chimango Caracara, *Milvago chimango*
- American Kestrel, *Falco sparverius*
- Peregrine Falcon, *Falco peregrinus*
- Black-throated Huet-Huet, *Pteroptochos tarnii*
- Chucao Tapaculo, *Scelochilus rubecula*
- Magellanic Tapaculo, *Scytalopus magellanicus*
- Common Miner, *Geositta cunicularia*
- Buff-winged Cinclodes, *Conclodes fuscus*
- Blackish Cinclodes, *Cinclodes antarcticus*
- Gray-flanked Cinclodes, *Cinclodes oustaleti*
- Dark-bellied Cinclodes, *Cinclodes patagonicus*
- Seaside Cinclodes, *Cinclodes nigrofumosus*
- Thorn-tailed Rayadito, *Aphrystura spinicauda*
- Plain-mantled Tit-Spinetail, *Leptasthenura aegithaloides*
- Austral Canastero, *Asthenes anthoides*
- Cordilleran Canastero, *Asthenes modesta*
- Rufous-tailed Plantcutter, *Phytotoma rara*
- Tufted Tit-Tyrant, *Anairetes parulus*
- White-crested Elaenia, *Elaenia albiceps*
- Austral Negrito, *Lesoonia rufa*
- Dark-faced Ground-Tyrant, *Musciaaaxicola maclovianus*
- White-browed Ground-Tyrant, *Musciaaaxicola albilora*
- Great Shrike-Tyrant, *Agiornis lividus*
- Blue-and-white Swallow, *Pygochelidon cyanoleuca*
- Chilean Swallow, *Tachycineta leucopyga*
- Barn Swallow, *PHirundo rustica*
- House Wren, *Troglodytes aedon*
- Sedge Wren, *Cistothorus platensis*
- Chilean Mockingbird, *Mimus thenca*
- Long-tailed Mockingbird, *Mimus longicaudatus*
- Austral Thrush, *Turdus flacklandii*
- House Sparrow, *Passer domesticus*
- Black-chinned Siskin, *Spinus barbatus*
- Rufous-collared Sparrow, *Zonotrichia capensis*
- Peruvian Meadowlark, *Leistes bellicosus*
- Long-tailed Meadowlark, *Leistes loyca*
- Shiny Cowbird, *Molothrus bonariensis*

- Scrub Blackbird, *Dives waczewiczi*
- Austral Blackbird, *Curaeus curaesus*
- Yellow-winged Blackbird, *Agelasticus thillus*
- Gray-hooded Sierra-Finch, *Phrygilus gayi*

- Patagonian Sierra-Finch, *Phrygilus patagonicus*
- Mourning Sierra-Finch, *Rhopospina fruticeti*
- Bananaquit, *Coereba flaveola*

Reptiles: (1 species)

- Mountain Lizard, *Liolaemus monticola*

Marine Invertebrates: (13 species)

- anemone, unidentified sp.
- Barnacle, *Megabalanus psittacus*
- Chilean Blue Mussel, *Mytilus chilensis*
- Chilean Stone Crab, *Cancer edwardsii*
- Chilean King Crab, *Lithodes antarctica*
- Giant Mussel, *Choromytilus chorus*
- Magnificent Chiton, *Chiton magnificus*
- mussel, *Mytilus* sp. Or *Aulacomya* sp.
- Peruvian Scallop, *Argopecten purpuratus*
- sea star, unidentified sp.
- stone crab, *Cancer* sp.
- fiddler crab, unidentified sp.
- hermit crab, unidentified sp.

Marine Fish: (1 species)

- flyingfish, *Exocoetus* sp.

Insects: (3 species)

- bees, unidentified spp.
- beetle, unidentified spp.
- dragonfly, 2 unidentified spp.

Insects — Butterflies: (7 species)

- Aristolochia Swallowtail, *Paillo negro*
- Common Chilean Satyr, *Cosmosatyrus chilensis*
- Four-eyed Lady, *Vanessa carye*
- Gold-winged Skipper, *Argopteron* spp.
- Little Yellow Terias, *Terias deva*
- Monarch Butterfly, *Danaus erippus*
- Yramea Fritillary, *Yramea cytheris*

Flora: (45 species)

Marine algae and plants

- Bull Kelp, *Durvillaea antarctica*
- Corallina, *Corallina officianalis*
- Giant Kelp, *Macrocystis pyrifera*
- Pelillo, *Gracilaria* sp.
- Sea Lettuce, *Ulva rigida*

Ferns, Flowers, Grasses & Herbs

- Almond Flower, *Luzuriago marginata*
- Andean Fern, *Polystichum andinum*
- Anemone, *Anemone multifido*
- Avellano, *Gevuina avallana*
- Common Sorrel, *Rumox acetosella*
- Foxtail Grass, *Hordeum comosum*
- Lycopodium, *Lycopodium magellanicum*
- Maiden's Slipper, *Calceolaria uniflora*
- Marsh Lady's Slipper, *Calceolaria biflora*
- Porcelain (or Mosaic) Orchid, *Chloraea magellanica*
- Shoreline Purselane, *Sesuvium portulacastrum*
- Sundew, *Drosera uniflora*
- Viviparous Poa, *Poa alopecurus*
- White Clover, *Trifolium repens*
- Wild Daisy (or Bog Aster), *Symphotrichum vahli*
- Wild-blue Pea, *Lathyrus magellanicus*
- Yellow Orchid, *Gavilea kingii*
- Yellow Orchid, *Gavilea leitea*

Trees & Shrubs

- Alerce, or Patagonian Cypress, *Fitzroya cupressoides*
- Antarctic Deciduous Beech (or Ñire, or Ñirre), *Nothofagus antarctica*
- Box-leaf Barberry, *Berberis microphylla*
- Candelabra Cactus, *Browningia candelaris*
- Cardón (cactus), *Echinopsis atacamensis*
- Chagual, *Puya chilensis*
- Chilean Palm, *Jubaea chilensis*
- Coihue, or Dombey's Beech, *Nothofagus dombeyi*
- Espino, *Acacia caven*
- Evergreen Beech, *Nothofagus betuloides*
- Gevuina, *Gevuina avellana*
- Guaytecus Cypress, *Pilgerodendron uviferum*
- High Deciduous Beech (or Lenga), *Nothofagus pumilio*
- Notro, or Chilean Firetree, *Embothrium coccineum*
- Olivillo, *Aextoxicon punctatum*
- Peppertree Pimiento, *Schinus molle*
- Quisco (cactus), *Echinopsis chiloensis*
- Tamarugo, *Prosopis tamarugo*
- Tepú, *Metrosideros stipularis*
- Ulmo, *Eucryphia cordifolia*
- Willow, *Salix fragilis*
- Winter's Bark, *Driays winteri*

Our Route

From 14–28 November, we had a wonderful voyage from Barbados, through the Panama Canal, down the west coast of South America to Callao (Lima), Peru. This summary and map, coupled with the preceding logbook entries, chronicles our two-week adventure.

28 November	Depart Callao (Lima), Peru
29 November	Paracas, Peru
30 November	at sea
01 December	at sea
02 December	Antofagasta & Isla Pan de Azúcar, Peru
03 December	Isla Chañaral, Chile
04 December	Valparaíso, Chile
05 December	Valparaíso, Chile
06 December	at sea
07 December	Ancud / Isla de Chiloe, Chile
08 December	Puerto Montt, Chile
09 December	at sea
10 December	Puerto Edén & Pio XI Glacier, Chile
11 December	Kirk Narrows, Chile
12 December	Puerto Natales, Chile
13 December	Puerto Natales & Kirk Narrows, Chile
14 December	Punta Arenas, Chile
15 December	Garibaldi Glacier, Chile
16 December	Disembark Ushuaia, Argentina



Acknowledgements

My sincere thanks to the crew of m/s *HANSEATIC Inspiration* for allowing me to join their team on this South American adventure. More importantly, a sincere thank-you to Captain Roman Obrist for being the consummate mariner, guiding us on our journey and enabling us to make all our landings and ports-o-call. And equally importantly, thank you to the entire crew for their professionalism and courtesy, which is second to none. They have greatly helped in making our journey so truly memorable.

This logbook would not have been possible without the support of my fellow lecturers, who shared their experiences, anecdotes, and knowledge.

Thank you to the Zodiac and Shore Party crews for making our transit between the ship and the wide array of landing sites safe and comfortable.

Finally, my heartfelt thanks to all of the passenger who made this adventure so enjoyable. I arrived on board a stranger; I return to my modest Maine home in northeaster-most United States far richer for the new friends I made and the adventures we have shared. I wish you fair winds and smooth seas! Bon voyage!

Richard MacDonald
m/s *HANSEATIC Inspiration*
16 December 2019



