



OCEANWIDE
EXPEDITIONS

Plancius Dive Log 18th to 25th September 2018. Scoresby Sund, Greenland Arctic.

Divers: Faith Ortins, Cleridy Lennert, Gregory Cody, Lorne Sprackman, Michael Williams, Judy Ormandy, Gregg Pearce, Margaret Lundberg, Thomas Nordland, Roman Streed, Andrew Deitsch, Adam Beard, Carmen Toanchina, Richard Salas, Pamela Kay Hollich, Kevin Mead, Betty Orr, Dan Orr.

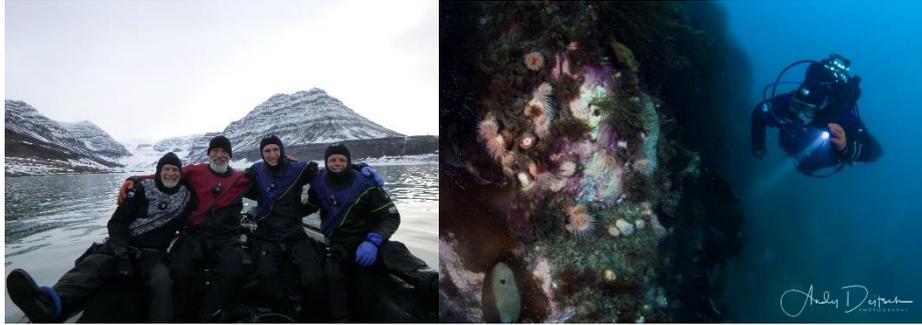
Dive Team: Leader- Henrik Enckell, Dive Guides - Catherine Buckland, Will Gilbertson, Michael Green.



After enjoying all the natural wonders of Iceland, we met the ship in Akureyri on Tuesday the 18th September to begin the next stage of our expedition towards Greenland. The crossing was an adventure with a force 10-11 blowing and a severe swell, but we used the time to complete briefings for the dive operations and get as much of our gear ready as we could. As soon as we arrived in sheltered fjord system of Scoresby Sund we started the dive program.

Dive One 20th September 2018 Helganaes, Scoresby Sund 070N 21.7 25 02.7W

We completed our check dive in this small bay near Viking bay, to ensure our weights and equipment were in good order. Once this was complete we made a dive in this interesting site. Despite very silty, murky water on the surface due to the nearby glaciers, the visibility was good once below this layer and the water reminded us we were diving in the polar seas being 2-3 degrees Celsius. We saw nudibranch and brittle stars on a gently shelving seabed. Soon it was time to return to the ship for charging of cylinders, whilst admiring the above water scenery including the interesting basalt columns rising from the sea to form majestic pillars.



Dive Two 21st September 2018 Røde Ø Island Scoresby Sund, 070 26.811N 26 16.446W

Our first dive of the day was on ice. The structure reminded us of a large cathedral with pillars of ice plunging into deep. The water was definitely arctic being 1 degree by the ice. It was also our first experience of the changes in buoyancy that come from being near the melting freshwater ice. The visibility was excellent and allowed us to really see all the strange textures and patterns on the berg. On the surface the red coloured mountains contrasted with the white and blue ice.



Dive Three 21st September 2018 Hare Fjord Scoresby Sund. 070 28.4N 28 05.5W

In the afternoon we did were lucky enough to find another stunning piece of ice suitable for diving on in this attractive fjord. The visibility was again fantastic and we saw many shrimps moving around on the ice as well as various planktonic life in the water column. Now we were experienced around ice we could enjoy ourselves playing in this strange but beautiful environment. Once back at the ship we enjoyed a wonderful BBQ on the back deck of the Plancius, watching our dive site disappear into the sunset.





Dive Four 22nd September 2018 Jyttehavn, Scoresby Sund 71 05.100N 25 41.938W

We woke up today to the incredible scenery of the Bear Islands and Jyttehavn. We went across the fjord a short way to dive a steep wall on a headland jutting out in the ice filled fjord. When we arrived on the site the visibility looked promising again and the dive didn't disappoint with fantastic topography and varied life including some fish, shrimp and huge slow growing anemones. The life obviously took advantage of the current in the exposed place to flourish. Too soon forty minutes had passed and we had to surface. We continued to enjoy this spectacular spot from the zodiacs as we returned to the ship to warm up.



Dive Five 22nd September 2018 Ingmikertikajik, Scoresby Sund 071 17.8N 25 02.2W

In the afternoon, whilst the other passengers landed on the island of Ingmikertikajik, we set off across the channel near a point called Sydkap to dive a small wall/rocky slope. Before starting the dive, we carefully clambered from the zodiacs onto a small flat piece of ice floating in the fjord for a team photo. What a location for a group shot! Once back in the zodiacs we kitted up and rolled in for the dive on this pretty spot with various macro life hiding amongst the rocks.



Dive Six 23rd September 2018 Hurry Fjord, Scoresby Sund. 070.29.6N 22 24.2W

Despite being a little sleepy from the wake-up call to watch the northern lights the night before, we got ourselves geared up for our last dive of the trip. The topography in this area is gentler than some of our other locations, so the bottom was more of a flat rocky/muddy seabed but there was still some interesting life to be found in amongst the kelp. We also found once again great visibility – a good way to finish off a week with really great conditions for diving in this harsh and unpredictable environment. Once back on the ship we packed away our gear to prepare for a well-earned afternoon off from diving as we explored the remote Inuit town of Ittoqqortoormiit.

Thank you for diving with the team and with Oceanwide Expeditions. We look forward to seeing you in the Polar Regions again very soon.

