Sarah Auffret

Sarah was born and grew up in France, studied in England and Germany before making her way to the Polar Regions. Her passion for travelling also led her to Japan where she taught for five years. Realizing she preferred cold places with plenty of light, she spent the last 4 years between the summers of the High Arctic and the Antarctic Peninsula. She became a tour guide in Tromsø and the Lofoten (Norway) in 2011. She then had the chance to work for the Antarctic Heritage Trust at Port Lockroy, also known as the Penguin Post Office. She fell in love with the place and returned as Base Leader in 2014-15. Since she left base, Sarah has been leading Expedition trips to the Norwegian Arctic and the Antarctic Peninsula.

When she’s not in the Polar Regions, Sarah lives in the small Patagonian village of El Chaltén, Argentina.

Saskia Travert

Saskia grew up in Reunion Island, off the coast of Madagascar, and since her early age was surrounded by the ocean, mountains and volcanoes. Working in the airline industry for many years, she traveled intensively around the world in her spare time, visiting the six continents. On a search for more adventure, Saskia decided to move to South Africa and worked three years for private lodges inside the Kruger National Park until one day, when she was offered the chance to go to Antarctica. She couldn’t resist the opportunity to explore the seventh continent and has since then been regularly working as zodiac driver/logistics crew and Assistant Expedition Leader in the Arctic and Antarctic waters. Saskia has been lucky to circumnavigate the Arctic including reaching the North Pole and has nearly achieved the circumnavigation of the Antarctic while working on board Russian Icebreakers. She brings with her a lifelong passion for anything that has to do with fauna and flora, especially of the Tropics, the South African bush and the Polar Regions.
Brian Beitz

Brian is a Sea-kayak Guide, spending his summers leading multi-day trips to remote islands from North Vancouver Island, Canada. Growing up in Ontario, Canada, gave Brian access to 30,000 islands on Georgian Bay. Boating, kayaking, canoeing, ice fishing, snowmobiling were all second nature at an early age. Moving to British Columbia, Canada to study Adventure Tourism in the Rocky Mountains fuelled his love for the outdoors and his drive for adventure. Working on Baffin Island was his first experience in the expedition industry. Building base camps above the arctic circle on the floe edge to view Polar Bears, Narwhale, and many other species of wildlife. Becoming stranded due to tides affected by a super moon, the fast ice broke up and left the group on an ice floe for 36 hours. Being rescued by the Canadian Military opened his eyes to the adventure world. He enjoys spending winters in British Columbia’s rugged mountains snowboarding and split-boarding in the back country. Traveling whenever time allows, he enjoys scuba diving, hiking, and surfing. Brian is living the life of adventure and chasing his dreams.

Scott MacPhail

Scott is entering his 20th year into the Polar Regions. He has worked in most positions on the ship, but loves being out in the Zodiaks looking for all the wildlife and staring in awe at the scenery that surrounds the waters we travel in. Scott has seen it all and he never grows tired of it. Scott’s special interest is in the historical figures that ventured into this unknown part of the world. The hardships and trials these men faced are beyond our imagination, but by visiting Antarctica, you get a real feel for what these men experienced. Scott looks forward to sharing with you the amazing stories of Shackleton, Scott, Amundsen and others. When not visiting these pristine regions he likes to relax at his lake and cottage north of Toronto, and frustratingly work on his golf game. He looks forward to meeting all of you and sharing his knowledge of the most remarkable place on earth.
Julia Lindow  
**Geologist**

Born in Dresden, Germany, Julia grew up in the City of Potsdam. With a special taste for sand before she could walk, Julia decided to study Geology at the University of Potsdam, where she specialized on structure Geology and remote sensing. As part of her degree she spent a lot of time outdoors doing field work throughout Europe. Her diploma thesis whetted Julia’s appetite for the thermal histories of rocks and their potential to provide insights on landscape evolution. That, combined with the opportunity to work in Antarctica, brought her to Bremen, Germany, where Julia did a PhD on the tectonic and glacial history of the western Antarctic and ultimately fell in love with the unique scenery of the Polar Regions. Aside from being a Geologist, Julia spend years as a professional dancer, as part of a big team and also with her own little crew. She further enjoys her time travelling, power walking and tending her little terrace garden.

John Kernan  
**Biologist**

John Kernan has been working in the expedition cruise industry for the past 24 years as a lecturer, naturalist, Zodiac driver, and expedition leader. He has led trips to all seven continents and over one hundred countries, with a keen focus on the polar and tropical regions. Since 1991 he has traveled the high Arctic during the northern summer, splitting time equally between the North Pacific (Alaska and Siberia) and the North Atlantic (Svalbard and Greenland). During the austral summer months he makes his way deep south to Antarctica, where he recently completed his 150th trip to the great white continent.

He graduated from Humboldt State University in 1989 with a BS double major in Marine Biology and Zoology. He focused graduate work on in vertebrates of the Pacific Northwest while working as a docent at the California Academy of Science’s Steinhart Aquarium in San Francisco. While traveling with the organization as a guide and lecturer he found his natural calling as an expedition staff member. In his spare time he enjoys birding, botany, astronomy, invertebrate zoology, photography, writing, backpacking, scuba diving, and skiing. He currently makes his home in the San Francisco Bay Area.
Susan Adie
Expedition Operations Manager

Having grown up in the mountains and lakes of upstate New York, Susan developed a passion for the environment around her. As a graduate of Cornell University, she worked with both state and national governments to facilitate environmental education in the area of resource management and Endangered Species re-introduction programs. During this time, one of her most proud accomplishments was the development of a weekly radio program for Cornell University that focused on ornithology, that later went national.

30 years ago, Susan had her first opportunity to go to sea as an educator. First traveling to Alaska she went to sea as a naturalist / lecture which eventually lead to her becoming Expedition Leader for more than 140 expeditions in Antarctica. She has lectured and lead expeditions in other wilderness areas around the world in remote tropical locations such as the Amazon, Galapagos, South Pacific Central and South America and Polar Regions such as Svalbard, Siberia, Canadian Arctic, Greenland, Franz Josef Land including full circumnavigations of Antarctica.

For 30 years while traveling the world on expedition ships Susan also ran a business that brought environmental education programs into schools in the USA. Her inspirational presentations would be heard by over 15,000 middle school children annually. In addition her company Northwind Nature Education Opportunities developed training materials and workshops for teachers. Her efforts gained her recognition by the National Wildlife Federation that honored her as Outdoor Educator of the Year.

She joined the G Adventures Team three years ago as Expedition Operations Manager and Expedition Leader. In her office role she designs and implements the itineraries for the M/S Expedition; hires, trains and manages the expedition staff; manages all documentation for permits for the ship to travel into the worlds remote destinations.

Dany Urriza
Camping & Kayak Guide

Dany is American Canoe Association certified open water instructor. His kayaking passion took him to Class V whitewaters expeditions to Africa, All over America, and Europe.

He has been living with his family the last 15 years in Ushuaia where he worked as a sea kayaker guide leading trips and expeditions in Tierra del Fuego. He has also been doing sea kayak expeditions to Cape Horn, Darwin mountain Range and the Chilean Fijords. Recently he has moved to Bariloche (north Patagonia), with his family but he travels very often Tierra del Fuego.
Sam Gagnon

Born and raised in Québec city, Sam has always been passionate about photography and outdoor adventure. In his early twenties he moved to Whistler BC where he combined his passions and got involved in different projects with the local action sport film community. He then embarked as a videographer on cruise ships for a major cruise line and circled the globe for a couple of years. From there he went from quantity to quality and moved to expedition shipping where he has gone from videographer to expedition guide, naturalist, zodiac maintenance, logistic, camping master among other things. In the real world Sam specializes in selling, customizing and installing navigation systems and renewable energies equipments for sailboats and yachts. Otherwise he can be found cruising his sailboat the s/v Monsieur Tranquille up and down the St-Lawrence River.

Andrew Ousley

Andrew Ousley is a singer/songwriter based in his hometown of New York City, where he packs out legendary venues like Rockwood and The Bitter End with his band The Poor Man’s Orchestra, as well as playing solo acoustic concerts that range from tear-jerking to foot-stomping. His originals run the stylistic gamut, and his large repertoire of covers veers from old school soul to classic rock to today’s Top 40.

Ever the adventurer, Andrew has lived in France, Finland and Australia and traveled to more than 20 countries. He speaks French (yes, he’s happy to play “Michelle”) and reads Latin (no he doesn’t perform in Latin), and in addition to making music he pursues such varied interests as owning his own music PR/marketing company (www.unison.media), running a Burger Club tech startup (www.brgrclub.com), presenting a classical music series in a crypt in Harlem (www.deathofclassical.com) and being a top fundraiser for Multiple Sclerosis research.
Jeff Beitz

For the past 35 years, Jeff has worked in the marine and tourism industry in Canada and the USA. His experience varies from fleet management for his own Marina, as well as working with various recreational manufactures and resorts. Jeff also worked extensively with Television production companies sharing his knowledge of environmental concerns affecting the Great lakes in Ontario Canada as well as other reality shows in his area. Jeff has done extensive travel to Canada’s Hudson Bay’s Moosonee and as well toured most of the communities on Baffin Island working with Inuit and businesses in both the marine and snowmobile industry observing climate, terrain and identifying specific needs, providing useful information back to manufactures to better adapt product offerings. In his spare time, Jeff enjoys competitive sailing, hiking, and just generally being out and breathing in Nature. Jeff has been part of the G Expedition team since 2010 in Antarctica.

Terence “Scobie” Pye

Scobie is a research scientist with a Master of Science degree from the University of Tasmania, Australia. Over the past 43 years, much of his life has been spent in southern latitudes working with the British Antarctic Survey (BAS), the Australian Antarctic Division and the University of Tasmania. Scobie has spent four winters and seven summers on the sub-Antarctic island of South Georgia, two summers on the floating ice station of Halley Bay in the Weddell Sea and two winters and nine summers on Australia's Macquarie Island. Scobie's main scientific interests are focused on the conservation and management of the sub-Antarctic islands, the impact of introduced mammals on these fragile ecosystems, sustainable tourism in the Antarctic and the history of the region. In 1978 Scobie was awarded the Fuchs Medal for outstanding service to the British Antarctic Survey. Scobie not only enjoys meeting and talking to people about his passion for the Antarctic but he also feels a kinship for the northern Polar Regions. Scobie brings years of professional experience in the logistical support and safety of polar operations in Antarctica to M/S Expedition.
Phil Hunter

Phil grew up on Catalina Island, off of California’s coast, and started work as a kayak guide at the ripe old age of 14. A lifelong affinity for the sea translated well into a BSc in Marine Biology at UC Santa Barbara. When he is not on the ship, Phil likes to go back to the sunshine and “warm” water in his time off the ship – and especially likes California’s Channel Islands National Park.
Phil’s professional life has been a jumble of lots of things – moving from carpet cleaning, to haunted house construction, to freshwater biology. The constant, however, has been guiding. His work has taken him all over the world, including beautiful places like Southeast Alaska, Norway’s fjords, Colombia’s coffee region, and the Sea of Cortez. This is Phil’s fourth season aboard the G Expedition, and third in Antarctica, he is very excited to share it with you!

Diego Punta Fernandez

Diego is an active birder, naturalist guide and professional photographer. He grew up in Buenos Aires, and as an enthusiastic member of Aves Argentina (BirdLife in Argentina), he spends many days in assorted trips in search of birds, all over Argentina and other destinations. After traveling through Latin America, North America and Europe, getting to know each diverse culture and landscape, he finally chose Patagonia as the place to develop his interests in constant touch with nature.
Naturalist Guide, Licensed Trekking Guide and certified First Responder, Diego worked for more than four years as a resident staff of Los Glaciares National Park, Patagonia. He has developed and participated in many conservation projects in Santa Cruz Province and in local schools and communities. He teaches bird watching courses all along South Patagonia and does volunteer work for the NGO ‘Ambiente Sur’ that seeks to protect the environment and educate the new generations on a sustainable way of life in southern Patagonia. Diego also runs his publishing company 49Southphoto, publishes several guides for flora and fauna of Patagonia and Antarctica (www.49southphoto.com).
Since 1998, Diego is based in El Chaltén, at the foot of Mt. Fitz Roy and leads trekking, birding, and photographic trips along Patagonia, Antarctica and the Arctic.
Jacqueline Deely

Originally from the United Kingdom, Jacqueline Deely has resided in the USA for most of her adult life and now makes northern California her home. A member of the North American Nature Photography Association, she primarily uses her work to showcase the beauty of wildlife and draw attention to conservation issues. With a background in the travel industry, her love of exploring drives her to roam the globe in pursuit of nature’s wonders. Jacqueline is thrilled to join the G Adventures team and looks forward to sharing her knowledge and expertise.

Dr. Peter Ganly

Peter grew up in London and received his medical education from Cambridge and Oxford and his PhD from Cambridge. He then specialised in Haematology which is concerned with diagnosing and treating patients who have blood disorders. During this time he fell in love with a New Zealander (and with New Zealand) and now lives in Christchurch and is a Haematologist at the Public Hospital there. His clinical interests are in malignant haematological diseases, stem cell transplantation and infectious disease, and his laboratory interests are molecular biology and leukaemia genetics. But life as a Physician and Pathologist is varied, and Peter has retained his interests in all the other matters concerning people who are ill, outside these rarefied fields, and looks forward to keeping you in good health, should you need his attentions. Christchurch was the stepping off point for many of the Antarctic expeditions in the heroic age and remains the support base for NZ and US today. On this journey with you, Peter looks forward to seeing something of what has drawn people there. The only preparation he has undertaken is low level mountaineering and excessive road cycling. And he’s revised his expedition medicine too.