NATURAL HABITAT ADVENTURES AND WORLD WILDLIFE FUND ONBOARD THE M / V OCEAN NOVA

The Antarctic Chronicle

An Expedition to the Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctica TUESDAY, THE 3^{RD} OF FEBRUARY 2009

THE SOUTH ORKNEY ISLANDS

"Penguins are beautiful, interesting and funny. They are a pleasure to watch even though they do smell and their voices are not melodious."

George Gaylord Simpson, Penguins Past and Present, Here and There

- ± 0430 We approach the **South Orkney Islands** from the north and will sail through Washington Straight, between **Powell Island** and the main **Coronation Island**
- 0630 Early-bird coffee, tea and pastries are served in the panorama lounge
- 0730 Breakfast is served
- 0900 We hope to go ashore and visit *BAS Signy Base* on Signy Island. This is a huge privilege and not many people have been to this very active scientific British Antarctic Survey (BAS) base. There are three main drives in terms of scientific work: long term penguin monitoring programme, freshwater biology and researching the seabird breeding populations in the area. **Iceberg bay** is one of the areas where giant icebergs from the Antarctic peninsula run aground, and may stay there, slowly eroding away year after year. The scenery is spectacular, and to be allowed on shore to visit this active base is a true highlight. We will be splitting the group for this landing, so please stand by for announcements.

One of the station's scientists or the base commander will be giving a presentation before we take the zodiacs in to the water.

1230 Lunch is served in the dining room

PM **EXPEDITION AFTERNOON.**

We may have time this afternoon to explore another part of the South Orkney Islands. This is time and weather dependant, so please stand by for announcements

- ± 1700 We will be leaving the South Orkneys and heading to Antarctica
- 1830 Please join the staff for a recap, as we set sail for Antarctica...

- 1900 Dinner is served, please enjoy.
- 2030 The *M/v Ocean Nova cinema* presents *The Bucket List* with Jack Nicholson and Morgan Freeman