



IAATO Observer Checklist for Provisional Members

Dockside Yacht Observation – Part 2

Thank you for voluntarily agreeing to participate in the IAATO Observer Checklist for Yachts. As a participant in the cruise, your participation in this survey is greatly appreciated by IAATO.

When answering the questions, you can use yes, no, or unsure but please include explanations. The checklist has been designed as a useful tool to ensure that obligations set forth by IAATO and the Antarctic Treaty System are met by your skipper and crew.

Please email your completed evaluation to IAATO within three weeks of finishing your cruise, so that the company being observed can make improvements while their Antarctic season is still in progress. If possible, please provide the company with a draft copy of this report.

Please submit by email to: operations@iaato.org

Any additional documents or appendices can be sent to:

By Fax: +1 401 841 9704

By Post: IAATO
50 South County Commons Way
Unit E-5B
South Kingstown, RI, 02879
USA

Voyage Dates
(embarkation and disembarkation): _____

Participants Name _____

Date of Report _____

Name of Vessel _____

Name of Tour Operator/Organizer _____

Voyage sub-chartered to (if applicable) _____

Name of Skipper _____

1. Vessel Operation

A. Safety and Contingency Planning

- Did the Skipper conduct a comprehensive briefing on safety issues, including the mandatory liferaft safety drill, with all participants in attendance, and translated for non-English speaking participants? Were you also briefed on precautionary measures to prevent accidents during particularly difficult weather conditions?

- Did any drills occur while you were onboard? If so what drills?

- Were you informed prior to the voyage what types of clothing would be sufficient? Were participants and crew's attention drawn to the necessity for suitable clothing in conditions that can be severe and inhospitable?



- Were safety briefings and reminders repeated periodically throughout the voyage?

B. Sewage and Waste Management

- Were crew and participants advised about the importance of sewage and waste minimization? Were you instructed how to dispose of various types of waste (ie food, general garbage, sewage, etc)? please explain.

- Was food waste retained onboard until north of the convergence? If so, please describe how. If not, how was food waste dealt with and were poultry products separated out from other food garbage?

- If you know, at what point on the return passage was galley wastes discharged overboard?

2. IAATO Standards and Regulations

A. General Conduct

- Were you aware that the operator is a member of IAATO? Did the operator support the basic mission of IAATO – which is to advocate, promote and practice safe and environmentally responsible private-sector travel to the Antarctic?

- Did the expedition appear to be well organized and conducted with no obvious violations of IAATO requirements? Were the activities generally conducted with a high degree of professionalism?

B. Participants and Crew Briefings

- Was the IAATO Safety and Conservation Briefing (PowerPoint and Animation presentation) given prior to landing participants in Antarctica? If not, were you given a general explanation of Antarctica, the treaty, and general conduct ashore? Please describe the briefing given prior to landing in Antarctica?



- Were copies of **General Guidelines for Visitors in Antarctica** (Recommendation XVIII-1 (1994 Visitor Guidelines) or the **ATCM Resolution 3** (2011) distributed to participants with this briefing or prior to arriving in Antarctica?

- Were copies of the guidelines provided to non-English speaking participants in one of the following additional languages? (Spanish, French, Italian, Dutch, German, Russian, Mandarin Chinese, Japanese)

C. Coordination of other vessels

- Did the skipper and crew appear to coordinate movements with other vessels in a polite and appropriate fashion? By what means of communication was this carried out?

D. Pre-landing Action and Landing

- Did the skipper and crew observe the 'rest period' for wildlife (usually from 2200-0400 hrs)?

- Did the crew explain to you guidelines for distances for watching wildlife? Were these implemented?

- Did a member of the crew or skipper join the participants ashore on a regular basis?

- Did the Skipper or crew conduct a briefing or announcement prior to landing to explain the peculiarities of the site being visited, the expected conditions, possible boundaries, behavior around wildlife, and any other relevant safety and environmental issues? Were these followed once ashore?

E. Management Approach

- Were you aware that there are Antarctic Treaty and IAATO Site Guidelines for sites? If so, were you aware of the crew consulting and following these guidelines when planning the landings? Did all the crew responsible for activities ashore demonstrate a good working knowledge of the ATCM Site Guidelines?



- At all sites did the skipper and crew make use of the method of 'zoning' or clearly explain access to various areas, including Closed Areas, Guided Walking Areas and Free Roaming Areas at sites with ATCM Site Guidelines?

- In general, were the participants managed ashore to ensure compliance with management plans, environmental conditions and safety practices if necessary? Was there a particularly effective way to manage the participants ashore organized by the crew? If so, please describe.

F. Biosecurity Measures

- How were IAATO's Boot and Clothing Decontamination Guidelines implemented? Were you informed prior to the trip to clean your clothes? Was there a briefing and a clothing check organized so that all precautions were taken to avoid the translocation of seeds and other organisms to and within Antarctica? Please describe the methods, protocols and equipment used to accomplish appropriate biosecurity?

- Did participants clean their backpacks, camera bags, tripods and clothing (particularly Velcro attachments and pockets) to avoid the possible translocation of diseases?

- After each shore landing was there a boot cleaning? How was this done?

- Was there a thorough cleaning of all gear - full boot and clothing decontamination incl. vacuuming - done between distinct regions if you changed regions during the trip (e.g. South Georgia and Antarctica)?

- If you know, was Virkon used as disinfecting solution for boots?, If not, do you know what alternative was used?



G. Activities Ashore and aboard

- Did the crew provide educational information for the participants? How was educational material provided? Books? Lectures? Movies? Other means?

H. Safety Ashore

- During the briefings ashore, was attention also paid to safety aspects and possible hazards? Please give some examples.

- In general, would you say that participants were well supervised by the crew at all times?

- Was there emergency equipment available in the Zodiacs or other landing craft, as well as ashore? If so, please include a list of the contents, how stored and landed.

- Were all crewmembers equipped with VHF radios, and capable of contact at all times?

- After each landing, did the crew ensure that all participants had returned to the ship or land-based facility? How were passengers accounted for?

I. Landing Craft Operations

- Were instructions given to the participants on how to use small boats or other landing craft safely?

- Were all participants required to wear a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) when in the landing crafts?



Was the crew driving the landing craft qualified, and respectful of wildlife? From your observations were IAATO Marine Wildlife Watching Guidelines observed?

Did the crew explain and understand the importance of not letting visits ashore interfere with Antarctic scientific work?

In general, would you say that landing craft operations were organized safely and efficiently at all times?

K. Other Activities

Were there other types of activities conducted, such as helicopter flights, kayaking, scuba diving, mountaineering or camping? If so, please describe.

J. Compliance with Standard Procedures for Station Visits

Were Antarctic Research Stations visited?

Were these organized safely and efficiently at all times? Please give a short description.

If you were aware, did the crew notify (VHF, email, etc) a station if a previously scheduled visit to a research station was to be cancelled?



3. Other Observations and Recommendations

Please elaborate on any other comments or recommendations pursuant to the operations being observed.

Thank you for your time and attention and we hope you had an enjoyable trip.