

Safety & Sustainability



*Ocean Diamond:
Quark's Carbon Neutral ship*

Quark's Sustainability Commitment

As the leader in Polar adventures, Quark Expeditions is committed to trailblazing sustainable practices and supporting charitable organizations related to the remote and vulnerable environments in which we operate.

COLLEAGUES

We will raise awareness, inspire ownership, and encourage participation company wide in sustainability

CUSTOMERS

Our customers will regard Quark Expeditions as the leader in sustainable practices in the Polar regions

CARBON

We will set the standard for tour operators in the Polar regions through transparent reporting of practices and promotion of carbon reduction strategies

DESTINATIONS

Our partners and stakeholders will regard Quark Expeditions as the leader in sustainable Polar regions expedition travel

Health & Safety:

Staff Training

- Quark's expedition team maintains the highest industry safety accreditations including STCW, IAATO and AECO
- All of Quark's expedition team members are certified in CPR and life-saving skills
- Hotel operations staff are trained in Norovirus and outbreak control, water quality and legionella, food and safety management, pest control, as well as diet, allergies and other health restrictions
- There are always two doctors on-board each ship, one of whom is directly hired by Quark for their international, wilderness and expedition medical experience to deal exclusively with passenger health issues

Safety Standards

- Quark is the only expedition cruise company awarded British Standard BS 8848, externally recognizing and accrediting Quark's health and safety program on an annual basis.
- Quark has a documented Safety Management System which sets out Quark's policy, procedures and standards for all Quark vessels and all Expedition Operations
- Quark has established and maintains a comprehensive incident management plan
- Quark has created standard operating procedures for all expedition activities (zodiac operations, adventure options, wildlife interaction, landing sites, etc.)
- Quark has an unrivalled staff to passenger ratio of 1 to 9.5

Equipment

- All of Quark's vessels are inspected annually by independent third party marine consultants to ensure continued compliance with Quark's standards
- Quark only operates vessels that exceed our requirement for a safe return capability
- All of Quark's ships are ice-rated and always have at least one experienced ice navigator onboard
- All vessels have a minimum of two independent and remotely operated searchlights
- Quark only has enclosed or partially enclosed lifeboats and our lifeboat and life-raft capacity always exceeds SOLAS requirements such that there is always at least 25% additional capacity than the number of people onboard
- Quark provides immersion suites to all passengers and staff on-board



Environmental Consciousness

- Quark conforms to all international waste disposal regulations and policies
- We serve only sustainable seafood
- We use eco-friendly and biodegradable laundry chemicals and cabin amenities
- Every passenger receives a reusable water bottle
- Quark uses only recycled, acid-free paper onboard and limits paper use
- Quark's ships burn low-emission marine gas oil (MGO)
- Quark distributes IAATO and AECO safety guidelines to all passengers



Giving Back to the Polar Communities

Quark has been a proud ambassador of the Polar Regions since 1991. Together with our passengers and staff, Quark's onboard auctions have raised an average of \$150,000 each season for charities dedicated to sustainability and conservation in the places we visit. During the 2013.14 season, Quark will continue to support the following charities:

- Penguin Lifelines
- Underwater Bait Setter (formerly Save the Albatross)
- Polar Bears International
- Clean Up Svalbard



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For more information about
Quark Expeditions'® sustainability practices

please contact Courtenay.Oswin@QuarkExpeditions.com
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