



Q u i x o t e   E x p e d i t i o n s

## APPLICATION FOR GUEST SCIENTIST PROGRAM 2020-2021 Antarctic Season

Quixote Expeditions strives to support science during each of its trips. We often travel to interesting, hard to get to places that can be expensive and challenging for scientists to get to on their own. We can offer free room and board onboard one of Quixote Expedition's vessels for the duration of the trip. Travel to and from the vessel is at the cost of the scientist, as is mandatory evacuation insurance. **In addition permits, where applicable, are the responsibility of the scientist.** Observations often require less permitting (if any at all) than sample collecting and restrictions depend on the country.

In return we ask that the Guest Scientist involve our guests where possible and that the Guest Scientists help out on the vessel with tasks that include setting up breakfast, helping with the anchor, cleaning around the vessel, etc. We also ask that the scientist give 2 or 3 presentations throughout the trip on their research and at the end of the trip to write a short overview of their research while onboard for posting on our website. **This is not a vacation and the scientist is not a passenger who will be catered to and he or she will be considered as part of the expedition staff.** This is a small vessel we have given up a crew bunk to bring a scientist and all hands are required to make it work.

Please go to our website <http://www.quixote-expeditions.com/trips/> to find out more about our itineraries. If you have questions about any of the trips, please do not hesitate to contact us at [info@quixote-expeditions.com](mailto:info@quixote-expeditions.com).

Our season this year starts in early December 2019 and will end early March 2020. We will select 1 or 2 Guest Scientists who will be invited for 15-30 days periods during these dates. Please indicate if you have any preference in timings on the application below.

In order to be considered to participate, please fill out this application form below – read this document in its entirety. In addition, please attach a CV and send together with the application form to [info@quixote-expeditions.com](mailto:info@quixote-expeditions.com). All applicants selected for the final round may also have to give a skype or facetime presentation of their current research. Please note that if you are selected, you will be required to fill out a medical questionnaire that must be signed by a doctor prior to joining the vessel. At the end of this application there is a list of **tips and tricks** that make a good applicant. Please read to help refine your application.

**DUE BY APRIL 18, 2020**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_



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Languages spoken? Please list below.

Do you have any preference for dates during the season? If so why?

Through which country will you apply for your Antarctica Permit (if required)? And what organization in that country authorizes the permit?

What publications could result from the proposed research?

Please explain any field work or other experience that you have had where you were in the field or away from communication, home, family, friends, etc for an extended period of time.

### **References and Support**

Please list two people who can be contacted as references and who can also vouch for your proposed project.

#### **Reference #1**

Name:

Relation to Applicant:

Email:

Phone number:

#### **Reference #2**

Name:

Relation to Applicant:

Email:

Phone number:

In a separate attachment, please give a summary of the science you would like to carry out while onboard. Please include what type of equipment you would need to bring, what are the goals, what are expected or hoped for outcomes. Also please include how passenger might be able to help with this research.



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**What is the role of the Guest scientist and what is required onboard:**

The Guest scientist is onboard in order to further his or her research via data collection in the Antarctic. It is hoped that guests can participate somehow in the research, although it is understandable that some parts they may be not able to do - because of expertise, permit requirements, etc. The guest scientist should be pro-active in coordinating with the crew for his or her data collection – checking when is an ok time, staying up-to-date on the plans, and having equipment ready when its time. The Guest scientist is responsible for making the data collection happen – not the crew. Being pro-active is required.

The vessel is a small working vessel and everyone including passengers chip in to help. The Guest scientist, while not a crew member, will be asked to help. This can and will include help with tidying up the boat, help setting up breakfast, help preparing the zodiac, help with the anchor, help with dishes, etc. **The scientist is not a passenger!**

Being on board a small vessel, we have limited communications and the conditions can be challenging – mentally and physically – there can be up to 12 people in a fairly small space, for a long period of time. It also means that **you must not bring your home issues onboard** – credit card payments, buying a home, personal problems – again the communication is limited and there is nothing that can be done from Antarctica and trying to fix issues in Antarctica is hard and can affect the whole trip if it becomes a large issue. We ask that the guest scientist fully understand that they will be **AWAY FROM FAMILY, FRIENDS, EMAIL, NEWS, SIGNIFICANT PERSONAL SPACE**, for up to a month while onboard.

Please sign below that you have read the above and understand the conditions for coming onboard.

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Name, signature, and date



### Tips on a what make a good applicant

- **Tried techniques.** Antarctica is NOT the place to try something new. Our experience is that the most successful projects use methods and equipment that have been tested elsewhere.
- **Science.** Many people have interesting proposals for writing projects, art projects, journalism. They are all wonderful, but this is a science program
- **Clear publication outcomes.** We get many applicants who have spent time on whale watching tour boats and as Marine Mammal Observers offshore and have some amazing experience with whale watching and using hydrophones. We are looking for someone who is a researcher and who needs to go to Antarctica to further their research. While we appreciate the wealth of knowledge many of the whale watchers have, if you are not part of a clear research program and with clear publication and research outcomes, your chances will be much lower of being selected
- **Focus.** We get many applicants who want to do everything and sample everything. Our recommendation is to focus your project. Figure out what you really want to do. Don't try to do everything. Researchers who spend years in Antarctica don't do everything, they focus on a few core research questions.
- **Do your homework.** We once got a request to send an applicant a list of potential animals to see in Antarctica! Please do your research and look at where we go and explain where you want to do your research. Also explain how you will carry out the research on the limitations of a small vessel. At the same time, please do ask questions prior to the application if you need *specifics* clarified. Having clarified specifics does make a better application