



"AROUND NORTH AMERICA" EXPEDITION ORGANIZATION OF THE ARRIVAL SEMINAR in Tromsø, May 16 and 17, 2009



*Onboard the "Southern Star",
January 24, 2009*

Dear all,

The expedition is following its due course and field investigation is ongoing. At the time I am writing these lines, we are moored in the middle of a reef off Honduras, on our way to the island of Roatan.

We have sailed 14 977 nautical miles since our departure and have passed the eight month-mark of the expedition. It is time to think about the return and the reunion that, since the beginning, we have been planning on for the arrival home of the expedition.

To this day, 90 partner crew members have contributed to the success of this ambitious navigation project and I would be very happy to have you all by my side on the day of our arrival in Tromsø.



For those of you who will be joining us for the last few legs of our journey, you will need to make up your mind before boarding Southern Star – we need to know rather quickly how many of us we'll be in Tromsø. Knut Vibe, himself a partner crew member of the expedition, is overseeing the organization of the arrival seminar. The program is in the planning stages. A photo exhibit, a show of videos, a conference on the sum total of the expedition, a panel of scientists who will react to our field observations, etc. – all these and more are under consideration.

Time, anyhow, will just fly by: let's not forget that the two-day seminar coincides with the Norwegian national holiday celebrations.

The schedule of the airlines that serve Tromsø is forcing us to change the date of arrival of the expedition to May 16 (instead of May 17). This will not prevent us from celebrating on May 17 as well! The expedition will thus have lasted exactly one year.

The seminar will take place May 16 and 17, 2009

(arrival in Tromsø in the evening of May 15 - departure in the morning of May 18)

Arrival of "Southern Star" in Tromsø planned for May 16, around 10 a.m.

The Reykjavik / Tromsø leg of the expedition moves up by one day in order to respect time at sea and will take place from May 2 to May 16, 2009.

FLIGHTS :

Everyone has to book his or her own flight on www.flysas.com/fr/fr (this way is the cheapest!).

The recommended schedule (least expensive, but there are other possibilities on the same days):

- Departure: CDG Paris, May 15 at 2:05 p.m. (14h05) arrives in Tromsø at 9:35 p.m. (21h35) (with a change in Oslo)
- Return: Tromsø, May 18 at 10:15 a.m. arrives at CDG Paris at 7:20 p.m. (19h20) (change in Oslo)
- or, alternately, return from Tromsø, May 17 at 2:00 p.m. (14h00) arrives at CDG Paris at 7:20 p.m. (19h20), but it would really be too bad to miss out on Norway's national holiday celebrations!

- Price return: € 413,75 (that's the price today, and it might change!)

- Those who are coming from other airports can use the same SAS web site to book their flight, if SAS serves these airports, or go through www.ebookers.com, but it's a little more expensive.

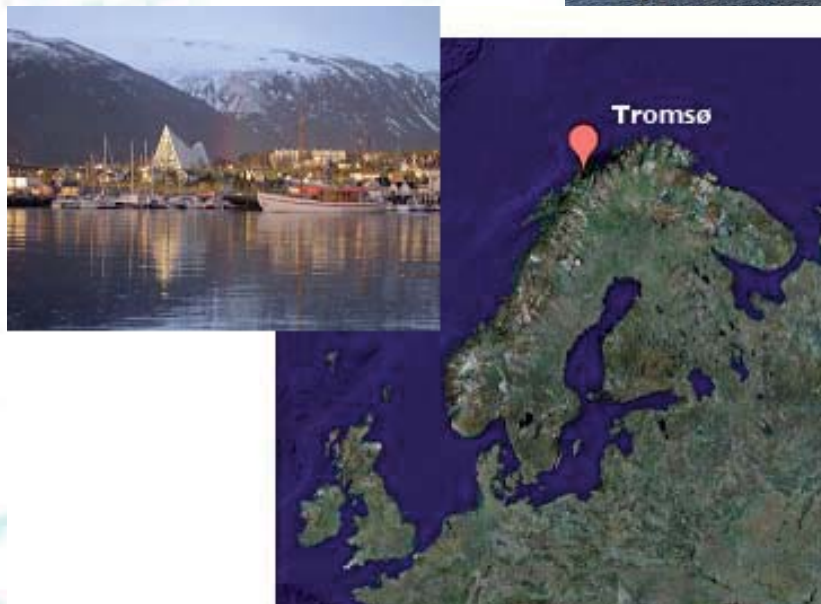
ACCOMODATION :

Hotel room (Rica Ishavshotel at Tromsø)

- Single room + breakfast: NKR 1095/day
- Double occupancy + breakfast: NKR 1295/day

Participation to the costs of the Rica conference venue for May 16 (including lunch, coffee breaks, refreshments): NKR 465/person.

Evening meal: in town, where there's everything from pizzerias to luxury restaurants.



For the package hotel/conference/evening meal, allow about €200/day/person.

Norway is expensive and far away!
(This price could be revised if you come numerous)

The important thing is to be in Tromsø, all together, to celebrate the return home of the expedition and to send out a strong message in favour of the environment. Some of you may wish to stay a little longer to visit the area, others might even plan to go out camping or to rent a camping car, or simply come by plane for two days only, alone or with the family.

For an optimal organization of the event, it is crucial that we should know now the total number of those planning to attend as well the number of participants who will be staying at the Rica Hotel, where “Southern Star” will be moored.

Please send your reply to Roger Pitras before February 7, 2009.

**Tél : 05 56 58 50 42
E-mail : info@69nord.com**

A good story :

Marcelo Adano, Director of the Maritime Museum of Acapulco, who was in charge of our Mexican stopover, sent us two days ago the email message copied below. For those who do not read Spanish, our passage in Acapulco has motivated local ecologists to make a proposal to the federal government of the state of Guerrero so as to act in favor of the environment in a concerted manner. In the matter of sensibilization, we've hit the bull's eye.

Olivier, queridos amigos todos :

Los investigadores de la UEPI (donde hicimos la Mesa Redonda), motivados por su visita - según me lo dijeron ellos mismos - decidieron actuar y están armando la propuesta del Plan para el Cambio Climático en Guerrero que será presentado al Gobierno Federal para llevarlo a cabo. Ahora, en un primer paso, están convocando a instituciones y organizaciones sociales para que se incorporen al proyecto, formando así la base social que garantice la realización de las acciones que se vayan a emprender.

Amigos míos, estamos muy contentos y queremos compartir esta alegría con Uds. También queremos decirles que esto es obra suya y que esperamos que lo difundan como un logro trascendental de la expedición «Around North América».

Gracias por todo lo que nos han dado que, como pueden ver, quedó sembrado profundamente entre nosotros.

Marcelo Adano

**Sincerely wishing to see you all on May 16 in Tromsø,
Big hug to all ,**

Olivier

Follow «Southern Star» day by day: <http://www.69nord.com/english/expe/logbook.html>

