



RV METEOR - M178 "HazELNUT"

Emden - Las Palmas, 21.11. - 19.12.2021

2nd Weekly Report (22.11. - 28.11.2021)

In the second week of the HazELNUT expedition, we travelled through several famous European sea areas, including the White Cliffs of Dover on Monday the 22.11. The weather conditions were perfect and strong tailwinds from the east meant that we were able to make good progress through the English Channel. After leaving the English Channel, we set a southwesterly course through the Bay of Biscay. On Thursday the 25.11., we passed the famous "end of the world" - Cape Finisterre. The tailwind followed us as we changed directions and enabled us to make very good time even when passing the Portuguese coast, and all crew and scientists have enjoyed the rising temperatures. We reached the Strait of Gibraltar on Friday evening (26.11.), and then entered the Mediterranean Sea that night.



Left: Sunset before the passage through the Strait of Gibraltar (Photo: Felix Gross) Right: Wind and waves increased due to the Mistral wind and a small tornado was observed from the ship on 28.11 (Photo: Alessandro Bonforte)

During the transit, the scientists continued to set up the laboratories, as well as discuss and prepare procedures for the research work. The geology team have already prepared and marked the core liners for sampling with the sediment gravity corer: a 10 m long steel barrel with a weighted top. The Hydroacoustics team, supported by the onboard scientific technical service, prepared a plan for the upcoming Sea Acceptance Test for the newly installed deep water multibeam EM122 echosounder transceiver. Our virtualization team also used the transit to create exciting 360° images of the ship, which will subsequently be processed as a virtual tour for the expedition HazELNUT and the research vessel METEOR. On Sunday (28.11.), the low-pressure system 'Andreas' made itself felt through stronger winds and higher waves, as well as some showers and lightning. We even saw a small tornado at a distance shortly before lunch to celebrate the 1st Advent.

Our cruise participants are also continuing to provide information about the cruise activities and exciting research questions on the Instagram account of the Center for Ocean and Society (@oceanandsociety).

All participants are well and send Adventurous Greetings home,

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