



## Spitsbergen Encounter

Spitsbergen and the Svalbard archipelago offer a tremendous wildlife and bird life experience, as well as a fascinating lesson in glaciology.



YOUR  
ADVENTURE  
AWAITS

10 days/9 nights

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1: Embarkation Day in Longyearbyen

Your Spitsbergen adventure begins when you board your ship in Longyearbyen, the island's largest settlement. With almost 24 hours of daylight at this time of the year, we enjoy the views from the outer decks of the ship as we sail through Adventfjorden and into Isfjorden. Entering the vast expanse of the Greenland Sea, our ship heads south, hugging the main island of Spitsbergen.

#### Day 2: Bourbonhamna

We arrive at the southerly Bourbonhamna – well known for the beluga whales that transit the narrow sound. It is estimated there are approximately five to ten thousand belugas in the Svalbard population. We search for belugas from the ship and the zodiacs and plan our first shore excursion at Bourbonhamna. An old hunting cabin and other artefacts are points of interest during our hike to Ingebrigstenbukta. While wandering amongst these relics we hope to catch a glimpse of dozens of reindeer that inhabit the area.

#### Day 3: Lilliehøok Glacier

The Lilliehøok Glacier is an incredible sight. The face stretches almost seven kilometers across and has a height of around 80-meters. Viewed from the ship or on a zodiac cruise you come to appreciate the enormous scale of our surroundings. The area is home to numerous bird colonies and a variety of different species. As we cruise the dark waters, we are always on the lookout for bearded and ringed seals, both species known to frequent this fjord.

#### Day 4: Monaco Glacier, Liefdefjorden

No trip along the north coast of Spitsbergen would be complete without a visit to Monaco Glacier. A wide glacier face at the head of the fjord makes for spectacular kayaking and zodiac cruising. The coastal plain near the mouth of Liefdefjorden offers superb hiking and is often a great place to spot polar bears that come here to hunt for ringed seals or feed on birds' eggs.

#### Day 5: Phippsøya

#### Day 6-7: Hinlopen Strait

#### Day 8: Smeerenburg

Fuglesangenøya is home to a large dovekie colony. Nearby is the old whaling station of Smeerenburg, literally translated as 'Blubber Town'. As we hike the shoreline of the old station, we learn about the importance of whaling in the discovery and exploration of the Svalbard archipelago. The blubber ovens stand as a reminder to this harsh industry in an equally harsh environment.

#### Day 9: Prince Charles Island



We visit the walrus colony on Prince Charles Island and hope to see these odd looking animals ashore. It is an incredible sight. Approaching from downwind can often confirm that walrus are ashore – the smell of a walrus haul out is quite ‘unique’! Tonight we celebrate our journey with a special dinner attended by the ship’s Captain. It’s a great time to reflect on a wonderful voyage in this wild and remote place.

#### **Day 10: Disembarkation Day in Longyearbyen**

Arriving back into Longyearbyen this morning, we disembark after breakfast and say farewell to our expedition team and fellow passengers. A transfer into town is provided for those choosing to stay a few days. If you are departing today, we have a few hours this morning to explore the town, before transferring to the airport for your onward flight to Tromsø or Oslo.

### **Details**

#### **2020 Departures**

June: 28

\*Photography symposium (see Trip Notes for details)

We can offer shorter or longer Spitsbergen cruises on alternate dates, if this itinerary is not quite what you’re looking for. Please inquire for details.

#### **2010 Pricing from:**

US\$6,695 – triple share

US\$9,695 – twin, private

US\$11,195 – superior

US\$12,495 – Shackleton Suite

US\$14,595 – One Ocean Suite

Prices are listed in US\$, per person, based on two people sharing a twin cabin or suite, three people sharing a triple cabin. For single occupancy, per person twin rate on cabin X 1.5 or for suites X2. Rates are subject to change without notice by the cruise operator and may vary somewhat depending on the departure date. We will confirm the current price at the time of request.

#### **Trip Code:**

003903 - W20

### **INCLUDED**

- 10 day/9 night voyage as outlined
- Meals throughout the voyage
- Shore excursions and activities by Zodiac
- Lectures by naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff
- Free use of rubber boots and snow shoes
- AECO fees and governmental taxes
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme
- Comprehensive pre-departure material
- Transfers and baggage handling between the airport, hotels and ship only for those passengers on the group flight to/from Longyearbyen

### **NOT INCLUDED**

- Return airfare to/from Longyearbyen
- Fuel surcharge (if applicable)
- Gratuities to ship personnel, items of a personal nature
- Travel insurance (emergency evacuation coverage mandatory)

### **TOUR NOTES**



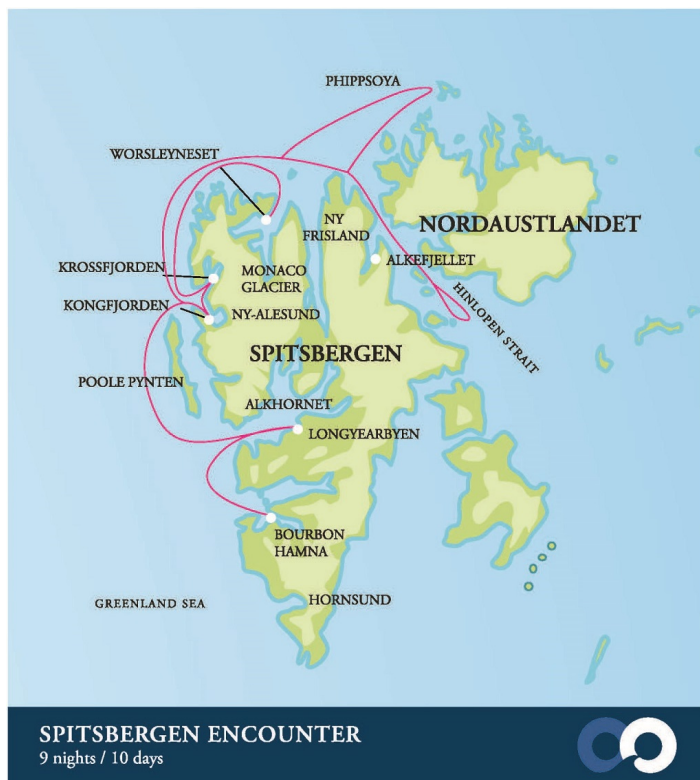
Daily ice conditions will determine the exact sailing plan.

**Photography Symposium, June 28, 2020:** On a photography symposium, you travel with a team of highly experienced photographers to improve your camera skills. Up to five professional photographer mentors with a variety of expertise offer 1 on 1 support and personal photographic critique. You will focus on ideal light conditions while having access to heightened opportunities on deck and on designated zodiacs for photographers. The program is designed for all skill levels and different camera types, no extra charges apply and participating in the photography symposium is optional. Regular programs operate through out the photography symposiums because the professional photographers are additional staff members.

**Important Reminder:** Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy— and excitement—of expedition travel. When traveling in extremely remote regions, your expedition staff must allow the sea, the ice and the weather to guide route and itinerary details. This itinerary is a tentative outline of what you'll experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed.

*Disclaimer: We do our utmost to ensure that information posted on our website is correct at the time of publication, however trip details are subject to change without notice by the suppliers and operators involved. We update the information as soon as possible when changes are advised to us, however, we cannot assume responsibility for such changes made by the suppliers and operators.*

## ROUTE MAP





The Great Canadian Travel Group  
Inc.

[greatcanadiantravel.com](http://greatcanadiantravel.com)  
TOLL FREE 1 800 661.3830

## Contact

### Winnipeg

164 Marion Street  
Winnipeg, MB, Canada  
R2H 0T4  
Phone: 204.949.0199  
Fax: 204.949.0188  
Toll Free: 800.661.3830

### Edmonton

(formerly Butte Travel Service)  
11733 95th St. NW  
Edmonton, AB, Canada  
T5G 1M1  
Phone: 780.477.3561  
Fax: 780.477.9871  
Toll Free: 800.661.8906



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