



## Three Arctic Islands: Spitsbergen, Greenland and Iceland

Named one of National Geographic Traveler's 50 Tours of a Lifetime this award-winning expedition cruise takes you to Scorsbysund, on the northeast coast of Greenland, Iceland, and high above the Arctic Circle in Spitsbergen, Norway. Iconic arctic animals such as the polar bear, musk ox, reindeer, and walrus are commonly seen.



YOUR  
ADVENTURE  
AWAITS

15 days/14 nights

### ITINERARY

#### Day 1: Arrive in Oslo, Norway

Your Arctic adventure begins in Oslo, where you may arrive at any time during Day 1 of your itinerary. Upon arriving in this splendid capital city, known for its green spaces and museums, you will check into your included airport hotel.

#### Day 2: Embarkation Day in Longyearbyen

After breakfast, the group will transfer to the airport and board our private charter flight to Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen's largest settlement. As you embark this afternoon, you'll enjoy great views of the mountainous landscape that serves as a backdrop for this seaside town.

No other Arctic adventure takes in such varied destinations ranging from active volcanoes to massive glaciers. If you want to experience the Arctic in all of its beauty, then you must venture to these three Arctic islands.

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

#### Days 3 - 6: Spitsbergen, Norway

Exploring Spitsbergen, the largest of the Norwegian-ruled Svalbard islands, rewards you with abundant wildlife and austere beauty. Here you'll visit spectacular glacier-fronts and steep walled fjords with walrus, polar bears and Spitsbergen reindeer among your possible wildlife sightings. Birders will be thrilled to see Arctic terns, skuas, long-tailed ducks, kittiwakes and ivory gulls.

#### Days 7 & 8: Greenland Sea

While sailing south through the historic Greenland Sea, you'll learn about the wildlife and history of Greenland, your next stop. On deck you'll learn to identify seabirds on the wing. Take in a lecture, share your photos, sip an icy cocktail in the bar or watch a movie; there are many things to do during your time at sea.

#### Days 9 - 12: East Greenland

During your tour of Greenland's remote eastern coast, you'll enjoy Zodiac cruises and shore visits to several remote locations. Visit the remains of ancient Thule settlements, and keep an eye out for grazing musk ox; 40% of the world's population live here. Finally, you will sail through spectacular Scoresbysund, the birthplace of many icebergs and, some say, the most beautiful fjord system in the world.

#### Day 13 & 14: Denmark Strait

At sea, the Denmark Strait is your southward pathway east towards Iceland. Your Expedition Team will keep you informed and entertained with presentations about the history of exploration in the Arctic and the seabirds that you'll



inevitably see soaring above your ship.

#### **Day 15: Disembark Akureyri – fly to Reykjavik**

You'll disembark in Reykjavik, Iceland's capital, at the end of your journey. If you have booked post-expedition accommodation, we provide a transfer to a central downtown location. Optional touring in Iceland is available on a customized basis. We're happy to discuss your plans with you to design a perfect program.

This expedition program operates in reverse, beginning in Reykjavik on August 24th and ends in Oslo September 07th, 2020. The same areas will be visited on the reverse itinerary, weather conditions permitting.

#### **Optional add-on tours: Sea Kayaking**

Every sweep of the paddle as your craft glides through the pristine polar waters creates an incredible soundtrack: the jostle of glacial ice, the lapping of waves against the rocky shore, the perpetual drip from your paddle, the call of seabirds, and the occasional splash as wildlife break the surface of the water.

Our Paddle Excursion Program provides sit-on-top, two-person, inflatable kayaks that provide guests with an intimate, water-level experience in unforgettable locations in both the Arctic and Antarctica. These stable, rugged and comfortable crafts are an ideal way to see the polar regions from a different perspective. On-ship, you'll be provided with instruction and equipment including dry suits, personal flotation devices (PFDs), and waterproof gloves. Experienced guides will lead you safely throughout the paddling excursion. Your group will always be escorted by a safety driver in another kayak who will stay close by to provide additional support.

Excursions last a minimum of one hour and are offered to participants once per voyage. Each group includes 10 paddlers, 1 guide and 1 one safety Zodiac driver. The wind, weather and water conditions determine the timing and location of Paddling Excursions.

The Paddle Excursion was created for guests with little or no paddling experience, or for those who want a single paddle experience to add variety to their expedition. Participants must be fit enough to enter and exit the kayak from the Zodiac, and to maneuver with your paddle.

## Details

#### **Trip Code:**

002151 - W20

## INCLUDED

- Accommodations in chosen cabin category with daily housekeeping
- Luggage handling aboard the ship
- All breakfasts, lunches, dinners and snacks on board
- Coffee, tea and hot chocolate around the clock
- Zodiac transfers and cruising as outlined in the itinerary
- Guided Arctic Hiking
- Polar Plunge - from onshore or from the ship, depending on the optimal location chosen
- Daily leadership and presentations from the Expedition Team and special guests
- Waterproof expedition boots on loan for shore excursions
- Expedition parka, yours to keep
- Greenland cruise-passenger tax, port charges and service charges throughout the voyage
- Emergency evacuation insurance to a maximum benefit of US\$100,000 per person
- Photo journal documenting the expedition

## NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare to Oslo/from Reykjavik
- Government arrival and departure taxes
- Mandatory Oslo Stay & Transportation package (price listed separately)
- Meals ashore unless specified in itinerary
- Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising and other gear not mentioned in inclusions
- Excess baggage fees on flights
- Passport and visa fees, vaccinations as required
- Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance—strongly recommended
- Laundry, bar, beverage and other personal charges unless specified
- Phone and Internet charges
- Voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for shipboard staff and crew
- Optional kayaking activities



- Extra nights of hotel accommodation in Oslo or Reykjavik

## TOUR NOTES

*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



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