

SPITSBERGEN - SPITSBERGEN, NORTHEAST GREENLAND & AURORA BOREALIS | PLANCIUS



TRIP CODE

ACTSNGAB

DEPARTURE

18/08/2024

DURATION

14 Days

LOCATIONS

Arctic, Spitsbergen, Greenland & Iceland

INTRODUCTION

GET A USD\$1,000 DISCOUNT!*

A voyage starting in Longyearbyen (Spitsbergen) sailing into Raudfjord and to Moffen Island on the North coast of West Spitsbergen, then sailing along the Northeast coast of Greenland and ending in Akureyri (Iceland). Approaching Greenland we will attempt to sail through the sea ice into Foster Bugt, making our first landing at Myggebogten. Beyond the old hunters' hut (in the first half of last century Norwegian trappers hunted here for Polar Bear and Arctic Fox) there is an extensive tundra populated by Musk Oxen.



**Discount of USD\$1,000 is available to new bookings only, on selected departure dates only. Cabins subject to availability at the booking of booking. Discount cannot be combined with other promotions and/or discounts. Not redeemable for cash. Prices may be based on quad share. Please contact us for more details and availability. Offer valid until 30 Apr 2024 unless withdrawn prior.*

ITINERARY

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DAY 1: Embarkation in Longyearbyen

You touch down in Longyearbyen, the administrative center of Spitsbergen, the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago. Enjoy strolling around this former mining town, whose parish church and Svalbard Museum make for fascinating attractions. Though the countryside appears stark, more than a hundred species of plant have been recorded in it. In the early evening the ship sails out of Isfjorden, where you might spot the first minke whale of your voyage.



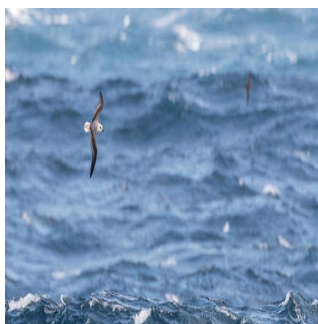
DAY 2: Route to Raudfjorden

Sailing to Raudfjorden, on the north coast of Spitsbergen, you take in an expansive fjord spilling with glaciers – and maybe even visited by ringed and bearded seals. The cliffs and shoreline of this fjord also support thriving seabird colonies, rich vegetation, and the possibility of polar bears.



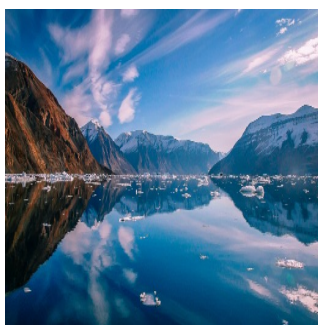
DAY 3: Onward to East Greenland- Days 3-4

The following days will be spent at sea. Take this time to enjoy on board experience, familiarise yourself with the crew and fellow passengers. You may eventually see the jagged edge of the east Greenland sea ice flashing into sight ahead, depending on the conditions. Keep watch for whales and migrating seabirds here.



DAY 5: Tundra, Mountains and Icebergs

As you approach Greenland, you may sail through the sea ice into Foster Bay and land at Myggebugtten. Beyond the old hunters' hut (where Norwegian trappers hunted for polar bear and Arctic fox in the first half of the 20th century), there is a sprawling tundra populated by musk oxen, with geese floating the small lakes. From here you sail through Kaiser Franz Josef Fjord, surrounded by towering mountains and bright interior icebergs. An alternate route is Sofia Sound, a narrower waterway.



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DAY 6: The Islands of Antarctic Sound

You arrive at Teufelschloss (Devil's Castle), a mountain with layered geology. On the other side of the fjord is Blomsterbugt and the intended landing site. In the afternoon you head into Antarctic Sound, where you find the islands of Ruth, Maria, and Ella. Maria is the most likely spot for a landing.



DAY 7: Alpefjord's Lofty Peaks

In the morning you enter Segelsällskapets Fjord, with the streaked slopes of the Berzelius Mountains bordering the north side. You land on the south shore, where ancient sedimentary formations lie right at your feet. A hike takes you near a small lake with good chances to see musk oxen, Arctic hares, and ptarmigans. In the afternoon the ship ventures into Alpefjord, aptly named for the spire-like peaks that thrust up around it. You may then embark on a Zodiac cruise around Gully Glacier, which once blocked access to the interior of these waters. Continuing deep into the fjord, you experience a definitive Greenland adventure.



DAY 8: Sights of Arctic Autumn

The first half of the day you spend in Antartichavn, an extensive valley where you can spot groups of musk oxen. At this time of year, the sparse vegetation is dressed in the fiery colors of autumn. The rest of the day will be spent at sea and at your own leisure.



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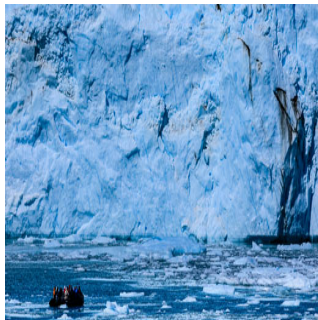
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DAY 9: Scoresbysund

Today you reach Scoresbysund, sailing along the glaciated Volquart Boons Kyst. You may also enjoy a Zodiac cruise past one of the glacier fronts, along with a visit to the basalt columns and ice formations of Vikingebugt. The afternoon goal is to visit Danmark Island, where you find the remains of an Inuit settlement abandoned around 200 years ago. The circular stone tent rings indicate the summer houses, while the winter houses can be seen closer to a small cape. The sites are well preserved, with easy identifiable entrances, bear-proof meat caches, and grave sites. In the evening, you continue sailing the berg-crowded fjords to the west.



DAY 10: Colors of The Cape

The goal is a Zodiac cruise near Rode Ø, one of the world's most cherished iceberg attractions: The austere blue-white of the icebergs sets sharp against the brooding red backdrop of the sediment slopes. The afternoon plan is to sail through the northern parts of Rode Fjord, with the chance to see musk oxen and warm autumnal foliage.



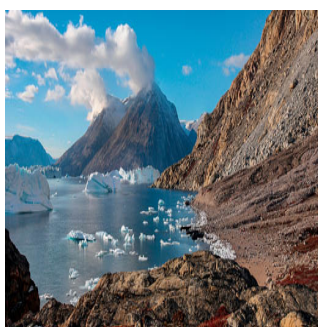
DAY 11: Enormous Bergs & Arctic Hares

In the morning you encounter colossal icebergs, some over 100 meters (328 feet) high and more than a kilometer (.62 mile) long. Most of them are grounded, as the fjord is only about 400 meters deep (1,312 feet). You then land near Sydkap, with fine views of Hall Bredning and a good shot of seeing Arctic hares.



DAY 12: Settlement at Scoresbysund

Today you make a tundra landing on Liverpool Land, in Hurry Inlet. The afternoon stop is Ittoqqortoormiit, the largest settlement in Scoresbysund at about five hundred inhabitants. At the post office you can buy stamps for your postcards, or just stroll around to see the sled dogs and drying skins of seals and musk oxen. In the afternoon you sail south, passing the picturesque landscapes of the Blossville Coast.



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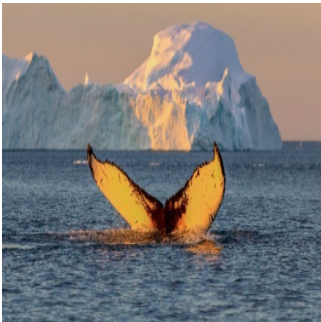
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DAY 13: Sea Life Under Northern Lights

The following day will be spent at sea. Take this time to reflect on the incredible experience you have had so far. Reflect on this incredibly transformative experience with your fellow passengers and newfound friends A sea day grants you the opportunity to spot whales and seabirds - and at night, the magical northern lights.



DAY 14: Disembark in Akureyri

Every adventure, no matter how grand, must eventually come to an end. You disembark in Akureyri, where on request you can transfer (T) by chartered bus (a six-hour drive that you must book in advance, at extra cost) to the Reykjavik city hall, taking home memories that will accompany you wherever your next adventure lies.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
Inclusions	<p>INCLUSIONS</p> <p>Cabin accommodation on board vessel All meals whilst on board Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition crew All scheduled landings and excursions by zodiac Landing fees Digital visual journal link after the voyage, including voyage log, gallery, species list, and more</p> <p>EXCLUSIONS</p> <p>International & Charter Flights Transfer supplement for bus shuttle between Akureyri (ship) and Radhus Reykjavikur / city hall in Vonarstraeti (6 hours) Meals not on board the ship All items of a personal nature Customary gratuities for staff/crew Any pre or post cruise accommodation Any pre or post cruise travel extensions Travel insurance</p>

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Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available on request for some cabin categories. Subject to availability. Contact us for more details.
Notes	<p><i>PLEASE NOTE:</i> The probability of sailing into Scoresbysund is high (based on our experiences from 1993 - 2019), but there is still a chance (about 10%) that ice will obstruct passage into the fjord system. All itineraries are for guidance only. Programs may vary depending on ice, weather, and wildlife conditions. Landings are subject to site availabilities, permissions, and environmental concerns per AECO regulations. Official sailing plans and landing slots are scheduled with AECO prior to the start of the season, but the expedition leader determines the final plan. Flexibility is paramount for expedition cruises. The average cruising speed of our vessel is 10.5 knots.</p> <p>Prices are based on per person, twin share* (unless otherwise stated for triple/quad cabins) Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions</p>
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

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SUSTAINABILITY