

THE ARCTIC - SVALBARD ODYSSEY | GREG MORTIMER



INTRODUCTION

BOOK AND SAVE: Up to 10% off* & receive an Air Credit of AUD\$3750 per person!**

On this 12 day adventure, enjoy the best of Svalbard, a world of endless daylight where polar bear sightings quicken your pulse, guillemot cries echo from sea cliffs and beluga whales rise from the sea. As you cruise aboard the Greg Mortimer, explore tundra adorned with wildflowers and look out for arctic foxes, the long summer days giving us plenty of daylight for kayaking, hiking, or discovering historic camps of explorers and hunters. We'll have opportunities to look for the famed Northern Lights as well, often seen in the Svalbard region.

As we travel, we'll push through pack ice to find walrus and bearded seals, or simply enjoy breathtakingly beautiful Norwegian fjords. The epic mountain ranges, unique wildlife, and Arctic wilderness of Spitsbergen are yours to discover on this fascinating expedition.

**Save up to 10% on selected departures and cabins. Discounts are subject to availability and are available until 30 Jun 24 unless withdrawn prior. Discounts are not combinable with any other promotions except back-to-back voyage or loyalty discounts. Discounts and pricing are subject to change and may be withdrawn or varied at any time. Price based on triple share cabin.*

***Air Credit of AUD\$3,750 per person only valid on new bookings and must be booked by 30 June 2024, unless sold out prior. Promotion is subject to availability at the time of booking and capacity controlled. Offer can be withdrawn at any time and not redeemable for cash. Offers vary per departure and voyage. Air credit will be applied to booking as a discounted amount. Not combinable with solo offers. Please contact us for more details and to check current availability.*

TRIP CODE
ACAESXL
DEPARTURE
19/06/2024, 11/08/2024
DURATION
12 Days
LOCATIONS
Spitsbergen


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PLEASE NOTE: Pricing is subject to change and availability at the time of booking. Contact us for more information.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrival and Overnight in Longyearbyen

Welcome to Svalbard! Having found your own way to Longyearbyen, you will be met by a representative at the airport and transferred to our group hotel. Upon arrival, kindly remind hotel check-in staff to provide you with Aurora Expeditions cabin tags for your luggage. Make sure to clearly label the tags with your name and ship cabin number for the next day. This evening, you will meet your fellow expeditioners at a Welcome Reception and pre-embarkation briefing while enjoying a light refreshment. NOTE: Sometimes our ship is unable to dock in Longyearbyen port due to space and capacity. In these instances, we reach the ship by Zodiac. Please ensure that you keep your wet-weather gear in your hand luggage to use in the Zodiacs, if the situation arises. Please ensure your cabin luggage tag is completed clearly showing your cabin number and name. Our crew will deliver your luggage directly to your cabin.



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DAY 2: Embarkation from Longyearbyen

This morning, your luggage will be collected from your hotel and transferred directly to the port for sanitisation, clearance and delivered to your cabin ahead of your arrival on board. Please ensure that your luggage is fitted with cabin tags clearly labelled with your name and cabin number. Any valuables or personal items should be kept on you throughout the day. Enjoy breakfast in the hotel. After completing our final, mandatory pre-embarkation health screening and COVID (rapid antigen) testing, enjoy a sightseeing excursion of Longyearbyen before transferring to the pier for embarkation in the late afternoon. Settle into your cabin before attending important safety briefings and enjoy the thrill of departure as we ‘throw the lines’ and set sail. This evening, get to know your fellow expeditioners and our friendly Expedition Team and crew at the Captain’s Welcome Dinner to celebrate the start of a thrilling adventure. Sail out of the beautiful Isfjorden, escorted by gliding fulmars and perhaps the occasional puffin. Find a spot in one of the observation areas to watch seabirds, including graceful ivory gulls, kittiwakes and guillemots. They rise and fall skilfully, using the air currents created by the ship to gain momentum.



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DAY 3: Svalbard Archipelago - Day 3 to 11

Svalbard offers Arctic wilderness at its best. Our experienced expedition team, who have made countless journeys to this area, will use their expertise to design our day-to-day itinerary, choosing the best options based on the prevailing weather, sea-ice conditions and wildlife encounters. Phenomenal fjords, magnificent mountains ranges and a polar desert rich in fossils set the stage for heroic tales of early exploration. See walrus hauled-out on sea ice or on beaches. On land, stretch our legs on walks across tundra coming out in brightly-coloured wildflowers. We visit towering cliffs noisy with nesting guillemots and puffins, and scree slopes that hold Svalbard’s largest little auk colonies. Most memorable are encounters with the majestic polar bear on pack ice. Your expedition team is just as keen as you to find them— they will be on constant watch to spot these inspiring creatures. If you have chosen an optional activity such as kayaking, you’ll have the option to enjoy the activity when conditions allow. For those who are enthusiastic to participate in a polar plunge, as soon as conditions are suitable, you’ll hear the announcement to prepare for an exhilarating plunge, a memory you’ll savour for years to come.



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DAY 12: Disembarkation In Longyearbyen

During the early morning we cruise back into Longyearbyen. Farewell your expedition team before further enjoying explorations of fascinating Longyearbyen to learn the town’s history, its geology, flora, fauna and the modern community that call the place home. Visit Svalbard Museum and Galleri Svalbard, Office of the Governor, Svalbard Church, Nybyen (new town), some of the town’s mines including Santa Claus Mine, and make a quick photo stop at the famous beware of polar bear street sign. Afterwards, transfer to the airport to continue your journey. At the conclusion of the voyage, we do not recommend booking flights departing prior to 12.00 pm on the day of disembarkation in case there are delays. Important note: In the spirit of expedition travel, we encourage exploration and adventure offering flexibility in challenging environments. This itinerary is only a guide and is subject to change due to weather, sea, pack-ice and other conditions beyond our control.



INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
Inclusions	<p>Inclusions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer from airport to hotel on Day 1 • Welcome Reception/pre-embarkation briefing on Day 1 • One night’s hotel accommodation in Longyearbyen including breakfast on Day 1 • Mandatory pre-embarkation health screening and COVID test on Day 2 • Group sightseeing tour of Longyearbyen prior to embarkation on Day 2 • Group transfer from ship to airport in Longyearbyen on Day 12 • On-board accommodation during voyage including daily cabin service • All meals, snacks, tea and coffee during voyage • Beer, house wine and soft drinks with dinner • All shore excursions • Educational lectures and guiding services from expedition team • Complimentary access to onboard expedition doctor and medical clinic (initial consult) • A 3-in-1 waterproof polar expedition jacket • Complimentary use of muck boots during the voyage • Comprehensive pre-departure information • Port surcharges, permits and landing fees • Gratuities for ship crew <p>Exclusions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International or domestic flights, unless specified in the itinerary • Transfers not mentioned in the itinerary • Airport arrival or departure taxes • Passport, visa, and vaccination charges • Travel insurance or emergency evacuation charges • Hotels and meals not included in itinerary • Optional excursions not included in the itinerary • Optional activity surcharges • All items of a personal nature including but not limited to: alcoholic beverages and soft drinks (outside of dinner service), laundry services, personal clothing, medical expenses, Wi-Fi, email or phone charges
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, contact us for more details.

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Notes	<p>Prices are based on per person, twin share* (unless otherwise stated for triple/quad cabins)</p> <p>Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.</p> <p>Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions</p>
Price Dependent upon	<p>Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.</p>

SUSTAINABILITY

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