

POLAR IMMERSION IN SVALBARD



INTRODUCTION

Discover the unrivaled beauty of the far north on this incredible 11 day expedition to around Svalbard. Starting your journey in Longyearbyen, you will your unforgettable adventure as you cruise to the heart of the Svalbard archipelago. You will first sail toward Knogsfjorden and to the Nordvest-Spitsbergen National Park where incredible Arctic vistas await - deep blue fjords, snow-capped peaks and immense glaciers dot this landscape, the remains of old whaling stations and trapper's cabins also can be found. You will attempt to reach Kvitoya, the 'white-island' which is entirely covered by the ice cap and harbours a large population of walrus which dominate the island. The final leg of your expedition will see you discover the Soraust-Svalbard Nature Reserve. The second largest protected area in Norway, this area is frequently home to the Svalbard Reindeer and Arctic foxes which you may have the opportunity to see.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Fly Paris to Longyearbyen

Your expedition package begins with a charter flight from Paris to Longyearbyen. The flight duration is approximately 4 and a half hours. (We highly recommend you arrive in Paris the day before this flight.) Longyearbyen is the capital of the Norwegian Svalbard archipelago, located on Svalbard's main island, and is the northernmost territorial capital on the planet. With winter temperatures dropping to below 40°C, the landscapes of this mining town are simply breathtaking. The glaciers, the mountains stretching as far as the eye can see and the untouched nature, make you feel like you're in completely unexplored territory.



TRIP CODE
ACPOPIM
DEPARTURE
28/06/2022
DURATION
11 Days
LOCATIONS
Svalbard


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DAY 2: Nordvest-Spitsbergen National Park

Like the other protected areas of Svalbard, the Nordvest-Spitsbergen National Park was established in the early 1970s to protect this exceptional environment against the growing interest of the mining industry. Nunataks, glaciers, islands and large bays, arctic tundra scattered with moss and lichen in shades of silver and gold... This region will fascinate you with its landscapes and with the numerous vestiges that bear witness to the history of the men – whale hunters and those involved in the first expeditions to the North Pole – who found themselves on these shores from the start of the 17th century. In this pristine environment, you will be able to observe arctic terns or seals on the rocks that emerge at low tide.



DAY 3: Nordaust-Svalbard - Day 3 to 6

The Nordaust-Svalbard Nature Reserve has been protecting the northernmost and coldest part of the archipelago, Nordaustlandet (North East Land), since 1973. This vast polar desert covered by two ice caps is the second largest island in the Svalbard archipelago. Protected by the Gulf Stream, the fjords and cliffs in the west and north are home to large colonies of birds and walruses. The landscapes in the colder east and south are dominated by imposing glaciers that calve majestic icebergs in the vast Hinlopen Strait. Large colonies of thick-billed murres have taken up residence on the sheer cliffs. You may even get the chance to see a bear or an Arctic fox roaming in the vicinity.



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DAY 7: Hinlopen Strait

Sailing in the Hinlopen Strait, in the heart of the Arctic Ocean, between the Norwegian islands of Spitsbergen and Nordaustlandet promises an unforgettable experience. This territory of the Nordaust-Svalbard Nature Reserve offers breathtaking panoramas, with magnificent basalt formations and the ice cap stretching as far as the eye can see, diving into the sea. The shore line cut by the fjords moving inland composes a magical landscape in which icebergs float here and there, the result of the calving of the surrounding glaciers. This place, today a popular spot to observe the seabirds nesting in the enormous cliffs, polar bears and walruses, was once intrinsically linked to the history of the whalers who frequented the region from the 17th century. Indeed, it was one of them, Thijmen Jacobsz Hinlopen, then director of a Dutch whaling company, who gave the strait its name. Later on, Russian trappers, European explorers, scientists and even mountaineers roamed this region, as hostile as it is sublime.



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DAY 8: Soraust-Svalbard - Day 8 to 9

The Sørøst-Svalbard Nature Reserve is the second largest protected area in Norway. Established in 1973, this nature conservation area stretching over more than 21,000 km2 will offer you stunning panoramas including coastal landscapes, rocky islets, mountain plateaux, vast tundra plains, and ice floes. With a little luck, you will be able to observe a wide variety of seabirds, given the site is listed as an Important Bird Area, as well as cetaceans, Svalbard reindeer, or even Arctic foxes. Among other things, Edgeoya Island is renowned for providing shelter to a number of polar bears during the breeding season.



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DAY 10: Hornsund

Nestling between millennial glaciers and carved mountains, and considered to be “the crown of Arctic Norway”, Spitsbergen is a place that never sees the night. Your ship will take you closer to this fascinating archipelago and, more particularly, the Hornsund fjord. Considered to be Svalbard’s southernmost fjord, it is especially reputed to be its most stunning: at the end of its vast bay, 8 great glaciers slowly make their way down to the sea before giving way to the many icebergs elegantly drifting along its cold and mysterious waters.



DAY 11: Disembark in Longyearbyen

Your expedition voyage will come to an end in Longyearbyen, where you will disembark in the early morning. Take this time to reflect on your incredible voyage and the extraordinary memories you have made with your fellow passengers and crew. Your cruise package includes a return charter flight to Paris. The flight duration is approximately 4 and a half hours. We highly recommend you spend the night in Paris after this flight.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Cabin on board ship

Inclusions

Cabin accommodation on board vessel
All meals whilst on board
Charter flight Paris/Longyearbyen + Transfers + Longyearbyen/Paris
Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition crew
All scheduled landings and excursions by zodiac
Landing fees
Pre and post cruise and ferry transfers
EXCLUSIONS
Accommodation in Paris
International Flights
All items of a personal nature
Customary gratuities for staff/crew
Any pre or post cruise travel extensions
Travel insurance

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)

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Single Surcharge	Available on request. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	Please note this itinerary may be subject to weather, ice and sea conditions.
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, seasonality and availability

SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore whilst remaining culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)

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