

THE ARCTIC - NORTHEAST GREENLAND SOLAR ECLIPSE | PLANCIUS



INTRODUCTION

Embark on an extraordinary journey through Svalbard and Greenland for the ultimate Arctic adventure. Encounter the mesmerizing solar eclipse and have the opportunity for extensive hikes away from our designated landing spots. Our itinerary guides us through prime locations to witness polar bears, Arctic foxes, diverse seal species, and a plethora of whales.

Solar Eclipse:
 Latitude 70.878 north, longitude 27.286 west
 (Åfjord in Scoresby Sund)


Duration of Eclipse: 2 hours, 1 minute
 Duration of Totality: 2 minutes, 17 seconds

Time (GMT minus 1 hour)
 Start of Eclipse 02.33 pm
 Start of Totality 03.33 pm
 Max. Eclipse 03.35 pm (Alt. 25.0)
 End of Totality 03.36 pm
 End of Eclipse 04.34 pm

If ice conditions prevent us from getting into Scoresby Sund, we will sail south along the ice edge and find another zone of totality along Blosseville Coast, for instance at latitude 68.630 north, longitude 26.509 west.

The primary goal of our solar eclipse voyages is to position our ships in the center of totality on Aug 12, 2026. This itinerary allows us to reach this goal when we have an average sea ice situation, as we've had in the past fourteen years. If this is not the case, we will adapt the itinerary and skip landing areas on our sailing from Longyearbyen to Åfjord. If we can't get into Scoresby Sund, we sail to Blosseville Coast, south of SÅkongens Bugt.

TRIP CODE
ACOWSEP
DEPARTURE
03/08/2026
DURATION
14 Days
LOCATIONS
Spitsbergen, Greenland, Iceland



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ITINERARY

DAY 1: Longyearbyen & Embarkation

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 we might spot the first minke whale of your voyage.



DAY 2: Sabine observatory & Raudfjorden

In 1823 the Irish scientist, soldier, and explorer Edward Sabine had an observatory on Indre Norskøya, in northwestern Svalbard. Using a pendulum to study gravity, he suggested a project to measure the meridians (lines of longitude through the poles) on Spitsbergen, the goal of which was to define the curvature of the Earth. We will try to get to Sabinehaugen, where he did his observations. Sailing next into Raudfjorden, on the north coast of Spitsbergen, we'll see in an expansive fjord spilling with glaciers - and maybe even visited by ringed seals, bearded seals, and polar bears. The cliffs and shoreline of this fjord also support thriving seabird colonies.



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

We may eventually see the jagged edge of East Greenland sea ice flashing into sight ahead, depending on the conditions. Keep watch for whales and migrating seabirds here.



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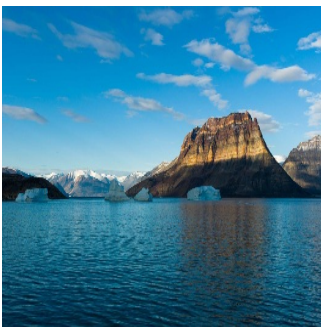
DAY 5: Myggebugten & Kaiser Franz Josef Fjord

As we approach Greenland, we may sail through the sea ice into Foster Bay and land at Myggebugten. 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 we’ll sail through Kaiser Franz Josef Fjord, surrounded by towering mountains and bright interior icebergs. For those who choose to attend, we will have our first long hike (6-7 hours) today. We’ll start at Myggbukta station and head into Badlanddal, then turn south to Fangsthytte near Kap Bennet. A Zodiac will sail ahead of the walking party and parallel to the coast to watch out for bears. We will then sail through Kaiser Franz Josef Fjord, surrounded by towering mountains and bright interior icebergs.



DAY 6: Islands of Antarctic Sound

We 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, we head into Antarctic Sound to find the islands of Ruth, Maria, and Ella. Maria is the most likely spot for a landing.



DAY 7: Segelsällskapets Fjord & Alpefjord

In the morning, we enter Segelsällskapets Fjord, with the streaked slopes of the Berzelius Mountains bordering the north side. We land on the south shore, where ancient sedimentary formations lie right at our 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. We 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, we’ll experience a definitive Greenland adventure.



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DAY 8: Antarctic Havn

The first half of the day we will spend in Antarctic Havn, an extensive valley where you can spot groups of musk oxen. At this time of year, the sparse vegetation is wearing the fiery colors of autumn.



DAY 9: Scoresby Sund

Today we reach Scoresby Sund, sailing along the glaciated Volquart Boons Kyst. We 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. In the afternoon, we plan to sail along the east coast of Milne Land among a multitude of giant icebergs. If we can also land at Charcot Havn, we will make a walk to Charcot Glacier before continuing to Bjørneøer.



DAY 10: Total Solar Eclipse

We will have a Zodiac cruise near Sorte Ø in the morning, surrounded by icebergs. Their austere blue-white contrasts sharply with the sediment slopes nearby. At midday we will position the ship in the center of the moon shadow in Øfjord. In the afternoon, we watch the solar eclipse either from the ship or one of the nearby shores.



DAY 11: Sydkap & Satakajik

In the morning, we will encounter colossal icebergs, some over 100 meters (330 feet) high and more than a kilometer (.6 miles) long. We'll then land near Sydkap, with fine views of Hall Bredning and Arctic hares. Today's long hike goes from Sydkap to Satakajik, showing us the remains of Thule winter houses built with whale vertebrae. In the evening, we sail into Øfjord.



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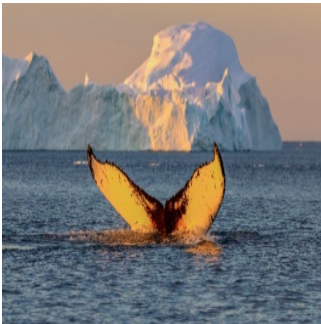
DAY 12: Ittoqqortoormiit

Today we make a tundra landing on Liverpool Land, in Hurry Inlet. The afternoon stop is Ittoqqortoormiit, the largest settlement in Scoresby Sund at about four 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, we sail south, passing the picturesque landscapes of the Blossville Coast.



DAY 13: At Sea

A sea day grants us the opportunity to spot whales and seabirds – and at night, the magical northern lights.



DAY 14: Disembark in Akureyri

Even the greatest adventures eventually come to an end. We disembark in Akureyri, where on request you can transfer by chartered bus (six-hour drive that must be booked in advance) to the bus stop at Harpa Concert Hall at Austurbakki, Reykjavík.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
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Inclusions	<p>Inclusions</p> <p>Voyage aboard the indicated vessel in the cabin category of your choice.</p> <p>All meals throughout the voyage aboard the ship including snacks, coffee and tea.</p> <p>All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac.</p> <p>Program of lectures by noted naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff.</p> <p>Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes</p> <p>All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme.</p> <p>Comprehensive pre-departure material</p> <p>AECO fees and governmental taxes.</p> <p>Transfers and baggage handling between the airport, hotels and ship only for those passengers on the group flights to Longyearbyen.</p> <p>Exclusions</p> <p>Any airfare, whether on scheduled or charter flights.</p> <p>Pre and post land arrangements.</p> <p>Passport and visa expenses.</p> <p>Government arrival and departure taxes.</p> <p>Meals ashore.</p> <p>Travel insurance.</p> <p>Excess baggage charges and all items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar, beverage charges and telecommunication charges.</p> <p>Transfer supplement for bus shuttle between Akureyri (ship) and bus stop Harpa Concert Hall and Conference Centre at Austurbakki, Reykjavik (6 hours).</p> <p>The customary gratuity at the end of the voyages for stewards and other service personnel aboard (guidelines will be provided).</p>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request. Please contact us for more details. No single supplement will apply if willing to share in selected cabins.

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Notes	<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> <p>PLEASE NOTE: The probability of sailing into Scoresby Sund is high based on recent experience, 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>Price Dependent upon</p> <p>Departure Date, Fuel Surcharges, Cabin Category, Currency Fluctuations, Seasonality & Availability.</p>

SUSTAINABILITY

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