

SPITSBERGEN - LOFOTEN, BEAR ISLAND & SVALBARD | MS QUEST



INTRODUCTION

Come along on a once-in-a-lifetime adventure voyage from the breathtaking Lofoten Islands to the frozen world of Svalbard! Before heading for the fabled Bear Island, we visit Lofoten, which is renowned for its charming little fishing boats and stunningly magnificent fjords, aboard the cosy 50-passenger ship MS Quest and our robust Zodiacs. One of the greatest seabird populations in the North Atlantic is found on this little-visited island in the centre of the Barents Sea. Our next stop is the remote wildness of Svalbard, where we are greeted by snow-capped mountain tops, a mystical midnight sun, and glistening ice formations. We look for polar bears, walrus, seals, Arctic foxes, and other famous wildlife as we explore and take in the Arctic winter landscape. For everyone who wants to see various regions of stunning Norway, this is the ideal trip!

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Bodø

The guides and crew greet us when we arrive in Bodø and board our ship, M/S Quest, in the afternoon. Following our departure, we go in the direction of the breathtaking Lofoten Islands.



TRIP CODE

ACPQLBS

DEPARTURE

03/05/2025

DURATION

11 Days

LOCATIONS

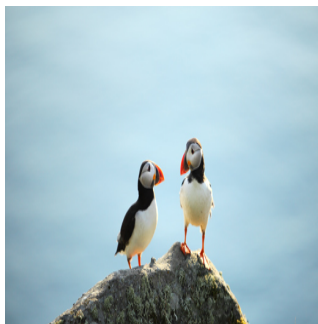
Norway, Svalbard & The Arctic



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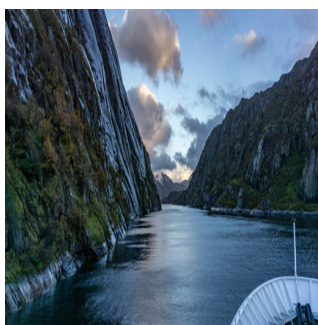
DAY 2: Vedøya - Reine

Following breakfast, we take our first trip in our robust Zodiacs around the breathtaking Vedøya, where we may be able to spot seabirds like the recognisable puffin that nest there. We might occasionally see sea eagles here as well. We continue our voyage along the southern side of the enormous group of rocky islands that rise majestically from the sea and are commonly referred to as the Lofoten Wall. We disembark and stroll around the sleepy fishing community of Reine, which overlooks Kirkefjorden. Reine has been named the most beautiful place in Norway because of its distinctive wooden buildings that are surrounded by striking mountain peaks. We also take our Zodiacs out here to investigate the area.



DAY 3: Trollfjorden

Following the Lofoten Wall, we continue our journey into Trollfjorden, which is just as magical as its name implies. After a little while, we set sail towards Bear Island. After only a few hours at sea, we arrive at popular spots along the continental shelf for whale watching. We are always watching from the deck, and we have the opportunity to view whales during our voyage.



DAY 4: Barents Sea

At sea, we keep moving northward towards greater latitudes. We are introduced to Bear Island's fascinating history during engaging talks aboard. Of course, we continue to look for whales!



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DAY 5: Bear Island

We visit this intriguing rocky island in the middle of the Barents Sea with solid zodiacs. Due to its isolated location, only a small number of ships are able to visit it annually. We discover one of the biggest seabird colonies in the North Atlantic on the 400-meter sheer cliffs. Tens of thousands of Brünnich's guillemots, as well as glaucous gulls, kittiwakes, razorbills, and puffins, nest here. We will try to land on this infrequently visited island if the winds and weather cooperate. After that, we proceed into the Arctic seas. One of the most breathtaking wilderness regions in the world, the Svalbard archipelago, is visible by the next day after we spend the night at sea.



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DAY 6: Svalbard - Days 6 to 10

Visitors may experience Svalbard's amazing purity, lovely pastel colours, and breath-taking views in May. The fjord ice is thick, the mountain summits are covered with snow, and the rays of the midnight light fall over shimmering ice forms. The Arctic is experiencing spring, and it is a moving experience to watch Svalbard come to life. Although we naturally watch for polar bears, walrus, and other emblematic species in this Arctic archipelago, we are most grateful for the enchanted surroundings. The weather and ice conditions will determine our precise schedule in the next few days, as it is still early in the season. In some of Svalbard's most stunning fjords, we explore the captivating winter scenery with our zodiacs, landing wherever we can. We will only know how far north we may go at this time of year because drift ice is frequently present in the huge Storfjorden, which lies between Edgeøya and Spitsbergen. Isbukta is located on Spitsbergen's southern tip. In this breathtaking bay, we are treated to breathtaking views of the powerful glacier front of Vasil'evbreen and snow-capped high peaks. Additionally, bearded seals, skuas, and ivory gulls frequent the bay. Magnificent Hornsund is made up of a number of stunning fjords on Spitsbergen's southwest coast, where glaciers calve icebergs with a mystical blue tint. Tens of thousands of little auks nest on the mountain slopes of Bellsund's picturesque Vårsolbukta. We disembark and trek across the tundra to the bird cliff, where we can get up close and personal with the endearing birds who circle us. The characteristic bird cliff Alkhornet is a pointed rock several hundred meters high that is located at the entrance to Isfjorden. We come ashore here to take in the snow-covered tundra and the fauna, which includes tens of thousands of kittiwakes, barnacle geese, Brünnich's guillemots, glaucous gulls, and snow buntings. Several Arctic foxes have their dens in the cracks surrounding the bird cliff, and if we're lucky, we might spot these adorable little creatures frantically looking for food.



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DAY 11: Longyearbyen

We disembark in Longyearbyen, Svalbard's principal settlement, early in the morning and set out for home.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation Cabin On Board Ship

INCLUSIONS

Cabin accommodation on board ship.
 All meals, tea, and coffee on board throughout your voyage.
 All scheduled landings and excursions.
 Guiding and leadership by expert exploration team and crew.

EXCLUSIONS

Flight to Bodø and from Longyearbyen.
 Group transfers to/from ship.
 Any other pre or post land arrangements not mentioned above.
 Passport and visa expenses.
 Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above.
 Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance—strongly recommended.
 Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising, or any other gear not mentioned.
 Voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for shipboard staff and crew.
 Meals ashore unless otherwise specified.
 Excess-baggage fees on international and domestic flights.
 Laundry, bar and other personal charges unless specified.
 Optional Adventure Activities.

Inclusions

Difficulty Rating 2 (Light Adventure)



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Single Surcharge	Available upon request. A supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	<p>Prices are based on per person, and vary from single, triple, and twin cabins. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.</p> <p>Please note this 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.

SUSTAINABILITY

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