

The Arctic - North Spitsbergen Explorer | Hondius

Trip Code

ACOWHONS

Departure



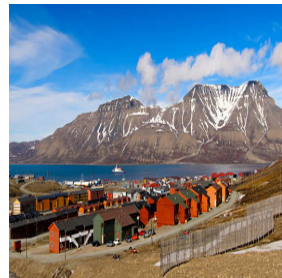
Introduction

The diversity of north Spitsbergen's aesthetically breathtaking landscapes, enormous expanses of sea ice, and numerous opportunities to see whales, polar bears, seagulls, walruses, and other species are the main highlights of this voyage. Savour the breathtaking scenery, daring landings, and walks along the shore.

Itinerary

DAY 1: Longyearbyen - Embarkation

Arriving in Longyearbyen, the hub of administration in Spitsbergen, the largest island in the Svalbard archipelago, marks the beginning of your journey. Explore the charming remnants of this former mining town, taking in the captivating sights of its parish church and the Svalbard Museum. Despite the seemingly barren landscape, over a hundred plant species have been documented in the area. As the day progresses into early evening, the ship departs from Isfjorden, providing the opportunity to catch a glimpse of the first minke whale of your expedition.



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13/06/2026 - 20/06/2026 or 01/06/2027 - 08/06/2027, 15/06/2027

Duration

8 Days

Embark on a captivating journey that

ventures into the heart of the pack ice and

explores the secluded coastlines of the

rugged northern region of Spitsbergen.

Potential destinations on our itinerary

include: Raudfjord: Explore the expansive

Raudfjord on the north coast of Spitsbergen,

where glaciers cascade and ringed and

bearded seals may make an appearance.

Thriving seabird colonies, rich vegetation,

and the chance to encounter polar bears

enhance the allure of this picturesque fjord.

Monaco Glacier: Weather permitting, we

may navigate into Liefdefjorden, offering a

view of the impressive 5-kilometer-long face

of Monaco Glacier. The waters in front of

the glacier are teeming with kittiwakes, and

polar bears often frequent the base of the

ice. In case of early season ice conditions,

an alternate route along the west coast of

Spitsbergen may be taken. Highlights of

Hinlopen: Venture into Hinlopen Strait, a

habitat for bearded seals, ringed seals, and

polar bears. The strait's entrance may

provide a chance to spot blue whales.

Zodiac cruises among the ice floes of

Lomfjordshalvøya lead to the bird cliffs of

Alkefjellet, home to thousands of Brünnich's

guillemots. A landing on Nordaustlandet

could unveil reindeer, pink-footed geese,

and walrus, with an alternate route

considered if ice conditions hinder entry

into Hinlopen. The Seven Islands: Journey to

the northernmost point, potentially reaching

80° north in the Seven Islands. This region

is inhabited by polar bears, offering an

opportunity for the ship to spend hours

amidst the pack ice before heading west

again. Sailing the Continental Shelf: While

retracing our route west, be on the lookout

for polar bears and elusive Greenland

(bowhead) whales. Approximately 40

nautical miles west of Spitsbergen, we

traverse the edge of the continental shelf,

where fin whales forage in the upwelling

zones along the Spitsbergen banks during

the summer. Near Kongsfjorden's mouth,

you may spot minke whales. Forlandsundet,

St. Johns Fjord, or Alkhornet: Depending on

circumstances, observe walrus in

Forlandsundet, sail into St. Johns Fjord, or

head south to the mouth of Isfjorden, where

a landing at Alkhornet awaits. These areas

host seabird colonies, Arctic foxes, and

grazing reindeer, creating a diverse and

captivating Arctic experience.



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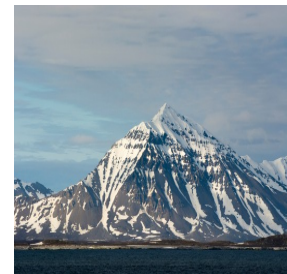
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Duration

24 Days Disembarkation

Locations

Every remarkable adventure reaches its conclusion. The vessel docks back in Svalbard Longyearbyen in the early morning, and convenient bus transportation to the airport will be arranged for your departure. Please note: Cruise itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, ice conditions and other factors.



Inclusions & Details

Accommodation

Cabin on board a ship

INCLUSIONS

All meals on board including snacks, coffee and tea.

Accommodation onboard the Hondius in booked cabin category

Onboard lecture program from Expeditions Team and Naturalists

All applicable shore excursions and Zodiac cruising (except paid adventure options with cost)

Use of rubber boots & snowshoes

Transfers and baggage handling between the airport, hotels and ship only for those passengers on the group flights to and from Longyearbyen.

All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme.

AECO fees and governmental taxes.

Comprehensive pre-departure material

Access to 1.5 GB of free internet connectivity per person, which resets every 24 hours.

Supplementary vouchers available to purchase on onboard. Subject to satellite coverage

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

International or internal flights unless specified

Airport transfers, taxes and excess baggage charges unless specified

Meals other than those specified in the pre-departure information

Pre and post land arrangements

Visa & passport fees (if applicable)

Travel insurance (compulsory)

Fuel surcharge may be applied to all bookings

Additional optional activities

Tobacco, alcoholic or beverages (other than coffee and tea)

Meals ashore

Personal expenses such as laundry & bar

Miscellaneous extras

Gratuities for the crew (guidelines will be provided)

Government arrival or departure taxes (if applicable)

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)

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Single Surcharge

Subject to availability upon request. No single supplement will apply if willing to share in selected cabins. Please contact us for more details.

Duration

8 Days

Prices are based on per person, and may be based on quad/triple/twin share.

Locations

Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.

Notes

Svalbard

Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.

Price Dependent upon

Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

Sustainability