

The Arctic - East Greenland & Mighty Sermilik Fjords | M/S Balto

Trip Code
ACPQBEGS
Departure



Introduction

Explore the wilderness of East Greenland and discover a hidden gem - the Sermilik fjord, an untouched area that is full of stunning hiking opportunities. You will be greeted by calving glaciers, icebergs of various shapes and sizes and towering mountains as you navigate the crystal-clear coastal waters. This area is a feeding ground for humpback and fin whales and your expedition crew will keep a close look out for these majestic gentle giants of the sea. Gain insights into the Inuit culture and learn more about their traditional practices, cultural heritage and way of life. From late August you may also have the chance to spot the Northern lights, which can light up the night skies.

Cruise onboard the small and nimble ship, M/S Balto which takes up to just 12 guests, meaning that you will enjoy an intimate and unique experience on this Arctic expedition cruise, which will be the experience of a lifetime.

Itinerary

DAY 1: Arrive Reykjavik, Iceland

We arrive individually to Reykjavik and check in to our hotel (included in the flight and hotel package described below).



DAY 2: Fly to Kulusuk & Embarkation

Explore the lovely city of Reykjavik on your own. In the afternoon we transfer to Keflavik and our flight to Kulusuk, and the airport built by the US Air Force in 1956. Kulusuk means "the village with the mountain that looks like the breast of a bird" in the Greenlandic, referring to the Isikajia Mountain located directly behind the airport. In the evening we board our expedition ship and begin our great exploration.





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Duration

10 Days

Locations

Arctic, Greenland



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We are heading on an expedition cruise and our exact route will be decided by weather and ice. Some areas can be filled with ice and are not always reachable. Please note that the places mentioned below are just examples of places we can visit on this true expedition cruise. We visit the town of Tasiilaq. With just under 2000 inhabitants, it is the largest settlement in East Greenland. It is home to an older and different Inuit culture, where shamanism and native culture is much more vibrant than in other parts of Greenland. During our expedition here, we will learn more of local myths and legends, as the one about tupilaqs. In Greenlandic Inuit religion, a tupilaq was an avenging monster fabricated by a practitioner of witchcraft or shamanism by using various objects such as animal bone, skin, hair, or sinew. Tasiilaq is also known for its art scene, where local artists create prints, sculptures and textiles mostly portraying the animals, landscapes and traditional stories of the area. We venture into the serenity of the Ammassalik fjord system and the small settlement of Kuummiut. This is a relatively unknown pearl of east Greenland, nestled within the Ammassalik Island group. The surrounding fjords - lined by tall mountain tops offer perfect hiking opportunities, with hidden waterfalls and spectacular views. Kuummiut has a rich Inuit heritage, and we hope to get the opportunity to learn about the traditional practices. Further up north is the Ilkateq fjord, where we might make a landing at the abandoned military base from World War II, Blueie East Two. It played an important role in serving as a refuelling and maintenance stop for aircrafts travelling between north America and Europe. Today it is no longer in operation, but some remnants still exist, such as abandoned fuel drums, buildings and vehicles. Further east are two impressive glaciers: Karale and Knud Rasmussen. Sailing in this area, we are likely to hear and see the thunderous calving of these two very active glaciers. We continue into the mighty Sermilik fjord. It stretches over 90 kilometres and cuts through a rugged landscape of towering glaciers and jagged peaks, and we find ourselves amongst a myriad of icebergs of all shapes and sizes. Most of them originating from the impressive Helheim glacier at the deep end of the fjord, which produces some of the largest icebergs in all of Greenland. The beauty around us is stunning! On the southern shores of Sermilik fjord is the tiny village of Tiilerilaaq. The wooden houses are beautifully situated on a hill, with the grand Sermilik fjord in the background. The local Inuit culture and the traditional hunting and fishing activities play a significant role in the way of life here. Before we wave goodbye, we head out on a nice hike to overview the surrounding landscapes and the many icebergs! If the ice allows, we enter Johan Peterson fjord. On the northern side of the entrance of the fjord is Qeertartivatsiaq Island, where we find Inuit ruins on the southern shore of the island. At the head of the fjord are some outlet glaciers from the inland ice coming straight down to the sea. This is one of few places you can catch sight of the actual inland ice, although please know that it is often blocked by beautiful icebergs. We are continuously looking for Arctic foxes, seals and different species of whale.



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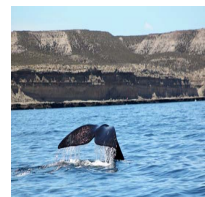
Arctic, Greenland

DAY 9: We disembark in Kulusuk & Fly to Kulusuk. We have one last tour before it is time for the airport and the flight to Keflavik. Once in Iceland, we check into our hotel for a good night's sleep. (Included in flight and hotel package).



DAY 10: Homeward bound

Today we bid our farewells and return home or onwards for new adventures. Please note: Our exact route will depend on ice, weather conditions and wildlife. The places mentioned are just examples of some of the sites this region of Greenland has to offer. We always strive to maximize your experience. Please remember that flexibility is the key to a successful expedition!



Inclusions & Details

Accommodation

Cabin Onboard a Ship, 2 nights at hotel in Iceland.

INCLUSIONS

Flights from Keflavik (Iceland) to Kulusuk (Greenland) roundtrip

Group transfers to/from airport and hotel.

Two hotel nights in Iceland, one night prior to the expedition and one night after 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.

Passenger taxes and harbour/landing fees

Advertised price includes mandatory charter flight and hotel package (2025 Price: USD\$2,250 per person and 2026 Price: USD\$2,490 per person - subject to change)

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

Flights to/from Iceland

Group transfers to/from hotel and 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.

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)

Single Surcharge

Available upon request. A supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Single Cabins are available. Please [contact us](#) for more information.

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Price Dependent upon

Sustainability

Prices are based on per person, and vary from single to various twin/double 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.

Please note this itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions*

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