

Spitsbergen - Svalbard Explorer: Best of High Arctic Norway | Ocean Explorer

Trip Code
ACQEOSVN
Departure



Introduction

A taste of everything that Spitsbergen has to offer, starting with its main community, Longyearbyen, is offered by this intriguing excursion. On this exciting journey, we show you why the largest island in the Svalbard archipelago is referred to as the "wildlife capital of the Arctic."

This 11-day journey will have a major emphasis on searching for the region's plentiful animals, such as walrus, reindeer, and the most famous Arctic resident, the polar bear, in their natural habitat while taking in the bizarre experience of constant daylight. Join us on an engrossing journey to a far-off, unforgettable region as we explore the distinctive Arctic landscape, trek the wide and colourful tundra, and discover the history and geology of this lonely environment.

Itinerary

DAY 1: Arrival and Overnight in Helsinki

Your Arctic adventure begins in Helsinki, renowned for its extraordinary architecture and intriguing mix of eastern and western influences. If you arrive early, explore the many museums, galleries and restaurants, relax at a Finnish sauna or wander the vibrant Design District before retiring at your included hotel.



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Duration

11 Days

Locations

Following the group will transfer to the Svalbard & The Arctic airport and board our private charter flight to Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen's largest settlement, where you'll have some time to explore before embarkation. As your ship sets sail, enjoy your first view of the island's rugged, glacier-topped mountains rising majestically from icy waters.



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You'll cruise around this magical island on a constant search for wildlife. Your expedition will cover western Spitsbergen as well as

stunning fjords and outlying islands to the north. From polar flora to immense glaciers, the natural landscape here is just as varied as the wildlife. Each expedition presents new opportunities and different weather and ice, so there is no fixed itinerary;

however, some of the places we may visit include the 14th of July Glacier,

Smeerenburg, Alkefjellet and the Hinlopen Strait. The destinations visited will be

selected for optimum wildlife viewing with an appreciation of the history and geology of Spitsbergen. The island offers multiple opportunities for wildlife photography.

Spotting polar bears is more likely here than almost anywhere else, as the Svalbard archipelago is one of their preferred hunting areas. The towering cliffs of

Alkefjellet provide homes to thousands of Brünnich's guillemots (thick-billed murre).

Coming across a walrus haul-out is a moment you won't soon forget. These giant pinnipeds of the Arctic create quite a noisy scene as each walrus vies for a choice spot of coastline. If you're itching to experience a

more intimate view from the water, you can book the sea kayaking or paddling excursion adventure options. In Spitsbergen, there is no shortage of natural beauty. The tundra

can be surprisingly colourful in summer, with wildflowers bursting for a taste of sunshine. Each day, you'll see something

interesting, whether it is unique arctic wildlife a polar bear resting between hunts, or abandoned sites from centuries ago.



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The time to say goodbye has come. Your
adventure ends as it began, in the
frontier style settlement of Longyearbyen.

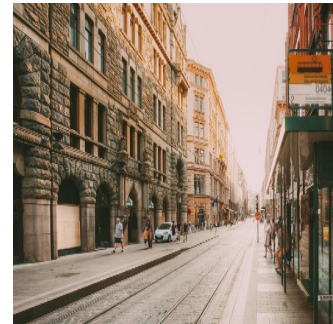
From here, we'll transfer you to the airport
for your return group charter flight to
Helsinki, included in the transfer package.

*Please note: Cruise itinerary is subject to
change depending on weather conditions,
ice conditions and other factors.



DAY 11: Depart Helsinki

After breakfast, you can make your way to
the airport for your onward flight home, or
stay to explore Finland's culturally-rich
capital on your own if you've made prior
arrangements.



Inclusions & Details

Accommodation Cabin on board ship & Hotel

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Locations
Svalbard & The Arctic

INCLUSIONS

Cabin accommodation on board ship
All meals, snacks, soft drinks and juices on board throughout your voyage.
Select beer and wine during dinner; and coffee, tea and cocoa available around the clock
All scheduled landings and excursions
Guiding and leadership by expert exploration team and crew
A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for landings and Zodiac cruising excursions
An Expedition parka (yours to keep)
A photographic journal documenting the expedition
Transfers between Longyearbyen town center and port on embarkation and disembarkation day

MANDATORY TRANSFER PACKAGE (INCLUDED)

One night's pre-expedition hotel night at Helsinki airport hotel, with breakfast
Charter flight from Helsinki to Longyearbyen
Arrival and departure transfers in Longyearbyen
Charter flight from Longyearbyen to Helsinki

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

International flights
Arrival transfer in Helsinki
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. Please [Contact Us](#) for more information.

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.

Notes

All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.

Includes charter flights from Helsinki to Longyearbyen and return back to Helsinki

Price Dependent upon

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.

Sustainability