

The Arctic - Greenland to Newfoundland | Ocean Explorer

Trip Code
ACQEVHGN
Departure



Introduction

Our 14-day Greenland to Newfoundland: Mountains, Wildlife and Viking History is our only itinerary that features Greenland, the Canadian High Arctic and the East Coast of Canada. This brand-new itinerary is also unique because it enables you to explore both Arctic and boreal environments. This means you'll have the opportunity to experience boreal biomes—also known as taiga—which are cold, dense forests dominated by coniferous trees, boreal woodlands and boreal wildlife such as caribou, black bears, red and Arctic foxes, and peregrine falcons. This is a sharp contrast to what you'll experience in Arctic biomes, treeless regions marked by extreme winters, low vegetation consisting mostly of mosses and lichens, and wildlife species such as polar bears, seals and migratory birds call home.

Greenland to Newfoundland starts with a charter flight from Reykjavik, Iceland, to your embarkation port in Kangerlussuaq, West Greenland. Within a few days we'll cross the Davis Strait to Nunavut, then south to Labrador, and ultimately to St. John's, Newfoundland. Our team designed this itinerary so guests could immerse themselves in a cross-section of cultural traditions: Greenlandic culture in places like Sisimiut; Inuit and Nunatsiavut culture in Nunavut and Labrador; Viking history at l'Anse Aux Meadows in Newfoundland; then the welcoming East Coast hospitality of St. John's, famously steeped in Celtic music and history thanks to its vast population of Irish descendants.

On this voyage you'll get to visit three UNESCO World Heritage sites: Greenland's Ilulissat Icefjord, home to some of the most active glaciers on the planet; Red Bay Basque Whaling Station in Labrador; and the 11th century Viking ruins at l'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site.

Greenland to Newfoundland: Mountains, Wildlife and Viking History will deliver one of the most diverse adventures of a lifetime as you journey from the Arctic to the Atlantic.

Itinerary

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DAY 1: Arrive Iceland

Duration

14 Days

Upon your arrival at Keflavik International

Airport, make your way independently to

Greenland & Canadian Arctic

your included hotel in downtown Reykjavik,

approximately 45 minutes from the airport.

If your arrival schedule allows, you'll have

time to explore the fascinating Icelandic

capital on your own. Many major tourist

attractions and historic sites are within

walking distance of the city center.



DAY 2: Fly to Kangerlussuaq & Embarkation

This morning you'll catch your charter flight to Kangerlussuaq, Greenland, where you'll board your vessel and begin your expedition. Get ready for great adventures ahead. Expect a welcome and safety briefing from your Expedition Leader.



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Today we'll explore two towns in the Qeqqata Municipality on the west coast of Greenland along the Davis Strait. The first is

Maniitsoq, which translates into "the place of rugged, uneven terrain." That's precisely what you see in the surrounding terrain: towering mountains, pristine rivers, seemingly endless glaciers and incredibly deep fjords. In fact, one of the day's highlights is a journey along Eternity Fjord, which is 75 kilometers (47 miles) long and reaches a depth of 1,200 meters (3,937 feet). Later in the day you'll have time to wander through the historic town of Sisimiut, where several 18th-century colonial buildings still stand, one of which is Bethel Church. Just look for the striking blue-and-red wooden place of worship.

Today's activities also include a demonstration of the traditional art of kayak making. Experiencing a cultural resurgence, the kayak is a symbol of Greenland and can be traced back over 4,000 years to the Inuit, who used the vessels for hunting and transportation. For those inclined to other modes of transport, mountain biking is another option during our visit to Sisimiut.



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DAY 4: Ilulissat: Unesco World Heritage Site

Duration

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Ilulissat, Greenlandic for icebergs, is one of the highlights of any journey along west Greenland. Declared a UNESCO World

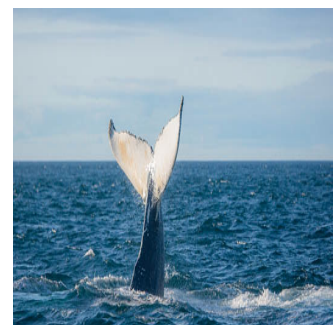
Heritage Site in 2004, Ilulissat Icefjord gives birth to countless icebergs. In fact, it's home to one of the most productive glaciers in the northern hemisphere, Sermeq Kujalleq (also known as Jakobshavn Glacier). A Zodiac excursion is a unique way to enjoy the spectacle of enormous bergs floating out to Disko Bay. We plan to Zodiac cruise ashore to visit the nearby town of Ilulissat, and from there we'll hike to the icefjord, where you can view this incredible parade of icebergs from the rocky shore.

Expect to see a lot of dogs while you're in town. There was a time when sled dogs actually outnumbered citizens in Ilulissat, which, unsurprisingly, is the birthplace of the first European to traverse the Northwest Passage by dogsled, explorer Knud Rasmussen. If time allows, you can visit a local museum dedicated to his memory.



DAY 5: At Sea: Crossing the Davis Strait

As your ship navigates across the Davis Strait, onboard polar experts will present on a variety of topics to deepen your understanding of the places featured in the itinerary. Our experts include glaciologists, historians, wildlife specialists and other polar specialists.



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DAY 6 - Pangnirtung: Stronghold of Inuit

Duration

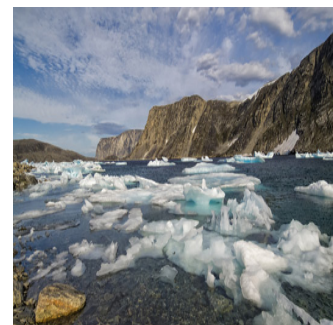
14 Days

Today is our first day exploring the Greenland & Canadian Arctic in Nunavut, Canada's youngest territory. Nunavut, which means "our land" in the Inuktitut language, stretches north of the Arctic Circle and covers over 1.8 million square kilometers, and is considered the homeland of the Inuit in Canada. Guests will get to spend time in Pangnirtung, located at the mouth of Pangnirtung Fjord, which merges with Cumberland Sound. It's a stronghold of the Inuit community, and an ideal place to learn about Inuit culture while admiring finely crafted traditional art, especially the textiles. You may want to purchase a famous Pang toque, a must-have knit cap for anyone visiting the community.



DAY 7: Cape Mercy

History buffs will enjoy a visit to Cape Mercy, an isolated cove at the southern tip of Cumberland Sound in Nunavut. Cape Mercy was named by British explorer John Davis, who sailed through this part of the Arctic in 1585. Fastforward several centuries to the 1950s when Cape Mercy was selected as the site of a Distant Early Warning Line (DEW) installation, a system of radar stations set up during the Cold War to detect nuclear attacks. It should be noted that the Inuit hunted and fished in Cape Mercy and the surrounding area long before the arrival of European explorers. You can join a guided shore walk to enjoy incredible views of the vast Davis Strait, which connects Baffin Bay to the Labrador Sea.



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Location

Torngat Mountain National Park will leave

you a westward trek within the 10,000 square-

Kilometer national park, established in

2008, are Canada's highest mountains east

of the venerable Rockies. The park is a

wilderness landscape painting brought to

life: breathtaking fjords, dramatic glacial

formations, stunning landscapes, boreal

woodlands and wildlife. For students of

Indigenous history, Torngat Mountain

National Park is especially meaningful: the

park is located at the northern edge of

autonomous Nunatsiavut territory, which

was recognized as the homeland of the

Labrador Inuit in 2005, operating under its

own constitution and administration. In fact,

these lands have been home to the

Nunatsiavut and their predecessors for over

7,500 years. We are honored to explore this

majestic wilderness territory with you.

Torngat, in Inuktitut, means "place of the

spirits," which reflects the spiritual

significance of the region to the Inuit

communities. As a national park, this

wilderness domain offers protection to

boreal woodland caribou, black bears,

Labrador wolves, red and Arctic foxes, polar

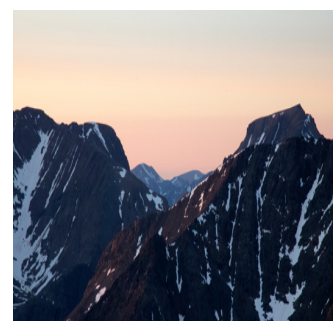
bears, and peregrine falcons, among other

species. You will have opportunities to

explore this national wilderness area during

Zodiac and kayaking excursions, as well as

guided hikes.



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DAY 10: Inain, Nunatsiavut

Duration

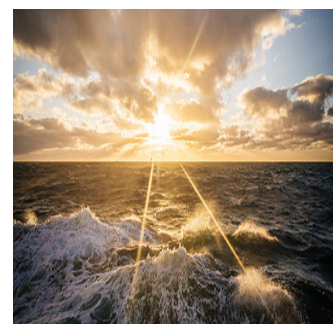
14 Days

Inain, which has a population of approximately 1,200, is the administrative capital of Nunatsiavut, the semi-autonomous region in northern Labrador claimed by the Inuit. Visitors can learn about Labrador Inuit heritage through interactive exhibits, artwork, and cultural programs at the very modern-looking Illusuak Cultural Centre. Then, to learn about the other cultural group that influenced the region, stroll through town to discover the historic Moravian Mission complex, established in 1771. The white-painted church and mission house bear witness to centuries of cultural exchanges between the Inuit and European missionaries. You'll have time to engage with friendly locals to hear stories passed down through the generations, and sample traditional foods like arctic char and cloudberries. There will be a guided hike to take in breathtaking vistas of the surrounding mountains and sea.



DAY 11: At Sea

As our ship heads south, enjoy the views of the southern coast of Baffin Island Labrador. While at sea for the day, join expedition staff out on deck as they look for whales and birdlife. This is also your chance to relax with a glass of wine or hot tea and simply take in the wondrous beauty around you.



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DAY 12: L'Anse aux Meadows

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Consider the wooden longboats that transported the Vikings an incredible 2,180 kilometers from Greenland to

Greenland & Canadian Arctic

Greenland & Canadian Arctic

Newfoundland in 1000 AD. Today, you're going to visit the archeological remains at the place they landed in their handhewn vessels. L'Anse aux Meadows National Historic Site (also a recognized UNESCO World Heritage Site) is the only confirmed Norse or Viking settlement in North America. Join a guided tour to see where Norseman Leif Erikson, son of Erik the Red, is believed to have founded "Vinland" (the East Coast area including what would later be known as Newfoundland) around 1000 AD. Explore the reconstructed sod huts and Norse ruins throughout the historic site; proof that Vikings discovered North America 500 years before Christopher Columbus' much-chronicled arrival.



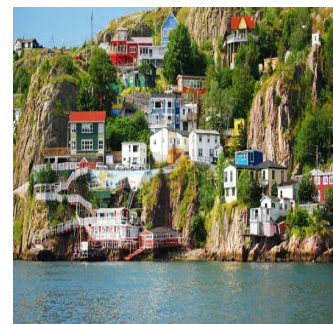
DAY 13: At Sea

Your final at-sea day is a great opportunity for you to ask any lingering questions you have for our team of onboard experts, attend one last polar presentation, relax in Tundra Spa & Sauna or in one the outdoor Jacuzzis.



DAY 14: Disembarkation in St-John's, Newfoundland

Your ship arrives at the pier in St. John's for a morning disembarkation. After breakfast, you may make your way to St. John's International Airport to connect with your onward flight, or stay longer if you have booked additional accommodation



Inclusions & Details

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Locations

Greenland & Canadian Arctic



Cabin on board ship & Hotel

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

MANDATORY TRANSFER PACKAGE (INCLUDED)

- One night's pre-expedition hotel night in Reykjavik
- Group transfer from Reykjavik hotel to airport on day two
- Charter flights between Reykjavik and Kangerlussuaq

Inclusions

EXCLUSIONS

- International flights
- Arrival transfer in Reykjavik
- 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

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

Please note this 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