



The Small Cruise Ship Collection

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ASTRONOMY VOYAGE | NORTHERN LIGHTS EXPEDITION FROM LONDON

Aurora adventures with Tom Kerss November is one of the best times to see the Northern Lights along the Norwegian coastline. Spending five nights above the Arctic Circle offers even better odds of seeing one of nature's most dazzling phenomena. It's also the perfect time to enjoy a host of winter activities against the backdrop of Norway's breathtaking scenery. You'll be joined by renowned astronomer Tom Kerss F.R.A.S, who will be leading onboard helping you to better understand the Northern Lights, Arctic sky, and the solar system. Tom is an astronomer, astrophotographer, author, and consultant. Having previously worked at the Royal Observatory Greenwich, he now travels the world to help stargazers experience extraordinary skies, and has published numerous bestselling books. Tradition and charm You'll cruise along enchanting Norwegian fjords visiting charming towns and cities, and exploring up close and in comfort aboard MS Maud. Discover Norway's coastal communities and local culture with our Expedition Team.

ITINERARY

DAY 1 Depart from London

Set sail for winter sights and Northern Lights Your Arctic expedition cruise to see the Northern Lights starts in Tilbury. Perched on the North shore of the Thames with Essex to the North and Kent to the South, Tilbury has a long and proud seafaring history. If you have time, why not explore Tilbury's historic fortress that has defended the river since the 16th century. Soon it's time to board MS Maud, your home for the next 15 days. Pick up your complimentary expedition jacket, settle into your cabin, and meet your Expedition Team. Sail out of the mouth of the Thames as you head for your first stop in historic Harwich. Your adventure has begun.

DAY 2-3 Norway bound

Ease into your journey and relax on board The next two days at sea will give you plenty of time to enjoy the onboard facilities, such as our hot tubs, sauna and gym. You'll also dine on delicious seasonal produce in our restaurants. The Expedition Team will begin the first in their series of lectures over at the Science Center. Each member of the Expedition Team is an expert in their field. They'll share fascinating insights about the places, history and nature you may encounter on your Norwegian coast adventure. Find out about our Citizen Science projects, where you can contribute to important scientific research. Or pick up pointers on improving your wildlife and landscape images from our expedition photographers.

DAY 4 Views from Mount Hoven

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Enjoy the glacial beauty of Nordfjord In the morning, we'll enter Nordfjord. We'll pass Hornelen, Europe's highest sea cliff – look out for it if your cruise is passing in daylight – and head towards Jostedalbreen, Europe's largest glacier. As we cruise past picturesque inlets, you'll spy old fishing communities dating back to pre-Viking times. One of these is Loen, where we'll land if conditions are right. In the shadow of the mighty glacier, there's much to discover. After a short boat ride to the floating jetty, you'll take the Loen Skylift to enjoy spectacular views from the summit of Mount Hoven. After, why not join exciting activities such as snowshoeing, sledding or winter kayaking.

DAY 5 Cruising towards the Arctic

Enjoy a restful day at sea and cross the Arctic Circle Relax in the ship's Explorer Lounge or enjoy the scenery out on deck as we sail through Helgeland county, home to the Seven Sisters mountain range, and cross the Arctic Circle. The Expedition Team continues its onboard lecture series and you can ask the Expedition Photographer for tips on how to capture the best Northern Lights images. You'll experience the Polar Night above the Arctic Circle, when instead of total darkness, the skies turn a dreamy shade of cobalt blue, bathing the fjords and mountains in an ethereal hue. It's known as the 'blue hour' and is caused by an extended twilight when the winter sun glows just below the horizon.

DAY 6 Idyllic island life

Majestic peaks, sheltered bays and pristine beaches Today we explore the famed Lofoten Islands. With steep mountains, beautiful beaches and pretty fishing villages, the archipelago is unlike anything you've seen. With its iconic red fishing huts, known as rorbuer, dotted against a granite-peak backdrop, Reine is an idyllic place to visit. You'll see why this is one of

Norway's most-photographed places! And if the weather conditions aren't quite right, there are plenty of other equally memorable ports in the area to explore, such as Svolvær.

DAY 7 On the lookout for the Northern Lights

Welcome to Alta, one of the northernmost towns in the world Dubbed 'The Northern Lights City', Alta is the turning point of your expedition and one of the northernmost towns in the world. It's charming to stroll around, swathed in Christmas lights and snow. Lying 70° north of the Arctic Circle, Alta sits directly beneath the Auroral Oval, a zone known for consistent Northern Lights activity. If the conditions are right, you could be in for a show. Learn more about the Aurora on a visit to Alta's Northern Lights Cathedral, with its striking Aurora-inspired architecture, and fascinating interactive exhibition on Northern Lights research.

DAY 8 Gateway to the Arctic

Discover the rich history and culture of Tromsø Today we sail to Tromsø, capital of the Arctic. You'll spend your day discovering its fascinating history, culture and bold architecture. The Arctic Cathedral is one of the most striking landmarks in Tromsø, especially when lit up at night. Visit the Polar Museum to learn about Tromsø's fabled explorer history and join the friendly locals in the town's many pubs. Don't miss Ølhallen, Tromsø's oldest pub, with around 70 Norwegian beers on tap.

DAY 9 Historic Narvik

Discover one of the world's most northerly towns Sitting 150 miles inside the Arctic Circle and surrounded by three fjords, Narvik enjoys a spectacular setting. Developed as an all-year port for the Swedish iron mines, Narvik was a strategic target for Germany during World War II. Today, you can browse the local

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galleries, shops, and restaurants specialising in local seafood and reindeer meat. If conditions allow, ride the cable car to the top of Mount Narvik for breathtaking views. Or go hiking, snowshoeing or kayaking on the fjord.

DAY 10-11 At sea

Double expedition day The plan for the next two days is that there isn't one! In true expedition style, we'll spend the time getting off the beaten track and heading to wherever takes our fancy. Activities and any landings will be picked at the discretion of the Expedition Team, and they'll draw on their in-depth knowledge of the area to bring you to the most exhilarating and naturally beautiful locations. There are many islands and fjords to discover in this region, and we'll be sailing in to get a closer look at some of them. Our expedition boats will take us ashore where we'll be on the lookout for the local wildlife in these stunning surroundings. Weather conditions will also play a part in deciding where to explore – so all we can say is expect the unexpected!

DAY 12 Beautiful Bergen

The City of Seven Mountains is full of history and charm Welcome to Bergen, one of Norway's most picturesque cities and perfect for exploring on foot. It was once Norway's capital and you'll see that the city has retained a great deal of its local character, heritage and charm. You'll take a funicular ride to the top of Mount Fløyen. At the summit, breathe in the stunning views over the city, surrounded by seven mountains and the sea. Once back in the centre of Bergen, stroll around the historic Bryggen district, a UNESCO World Heritage site famous for its distinctive wooden wharves. Explore the many boutiques, cafés and galleries along its cobbled streets and alleys.

DAY 13 Cosy Egersund

Bask in the magical atmosphere of this well-preserved town You'll love Egersund, with its cosy vibe. The town is famous for its brightly coloured, wooden houses – a real departure from the white-painted dwellings of many of Norway's towns, and a welcome sight as you approach the harbour. People have lived around the area of Egersund since the Stone Age. There are several places around the town where you'll find ruins of settlements dating back to the early migrations around 400 – 600 BCE, and ancient runes have been found carved into rocks nearby. It's also one of the best natural harbours in Norway, and it used to be the largest in the country when measured in quantity of fish landed each year. Enjoy exploring the bijoux town centre, which has preserved some of the best examples of wooden houses – a few even dating back 160 years. The varied landscape surrounding the town is great for walking.

DAY 14 Heading home

Recall the best moments of your expedition cruise Make the most of your last full day on board MS Maud. You may want to soak in the hot tub, work out in the gym, spend time in the Science Center, or simply relax in the Explorer Lounge & Bar and edit the photos from your trip. Join the Expedition Team as they review the highlights of your memorable expedition cruise to the fjords of Norway. Reflect on all the wonderful experiences you've had, like the sensation of standing in awe under the Northern Lights or the spectacular scenery of the Lofoten Islands.

DAY 15 Return to England

Unforgettable memories of Norway in Winter Complete your voyage across the islands of the North Atlantic in Tilbury, the gateway to the U.K.'s cosmopolitan capital city, London. Before beginning your onward journey, why not visit some of London's

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iconic sites, and absorb the atmosphere of this vibrant and cultural city. The city's world-renowned restaurants rub shoulders with myriad markets, so take some time to discover this foodie's paradise. Why not explore historic landmarks such as St Paul's Cathedral and the Houses of Parliament, or experience culture at London's many world-famous museums and galleries. A perfect way to end your adventure.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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YOUR SHIP: MAUD

YOUR SHIP: Maud

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

Equipped with battery packs and other green technology, Maud will operate year-round expedition cruises along the Norwegian coast from 2021. You will be able to explore Norway like never before, with all the comforts, facilities and expertise you need for creating a perfect adventure. Maud will also be equipped for shore power, to cut emissions to zero when docked in ports with shore power facilities, and she will be fitted with low-emission engines, complying with all known and upcoming regulations. Cabins and public areas Norway's stunning scenery is reflected in the ship's interior design. Comfortable cabins and suites feature natural Scandinavian materials, such as granite, oak, birch and wool. Our stylish and welcoming public areas create great places to watch the world's most beautiful coastline pass by. A specially designed Expedition Launch zone - the tender pit area where guests embark on their on their excursions and off-ship adventures - will be added, complete with tender boats and other expedition equipment. A new Science Center will be added. Packed with state-of-the-art technology and high-tech gadgets such as touch screens, science equipment and other interactive features, the edutainment area will also be the on-board HQ for the ship's Expedition Team. A wellness-area,

complete with gym, lounge and treatment rooms, will be built. There will be a range of restaurants : Restaurant Aune, an expedition cruise main restaurant concept. Aune will be social and informal with the use of natural elements in design and interiors, and serves breakfast, lunch and dinner based on a Scandinavian identity. Restaurant Lindstrøm, a specialty restaurant named after the favorite chef of the Norwegian polar heroes, will be added. Lindstrøm will be an upper premium fine dining restaurant with strong roots in traditional Norwegian cooking that are contrasted with modern cuisine. The informal eatery Fredheim, named after a legendary 1920s hunting station in Svalbard that sheltered adventurers from around the world. In addition, a new outdoor grill venue will be added outdoor on the top decks. Honouring explorer heritage MS Maud is named after one of the most famous polar vessels of all time, Roald Amundsen's "Maud" from 1917. The original "Maud" got her name from the first Queen of modern



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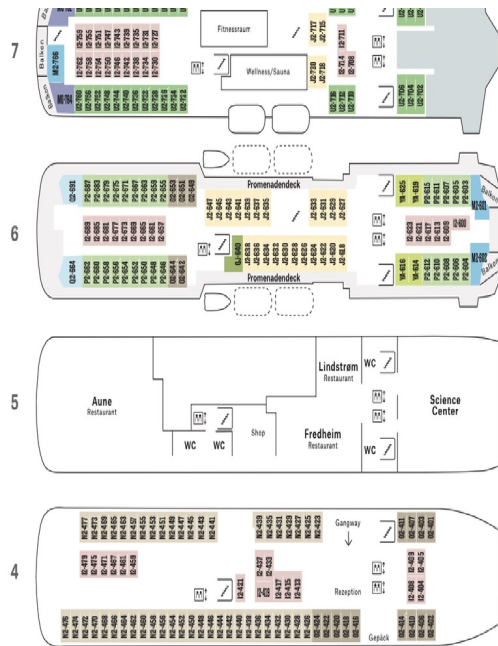
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PRICING



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