



LONGYEARBYEN TO REYKJAVIK - 30 DAY ICELAND, GREENLAND & SPITSBERGEN LUXURY EXPEDITION

Join us as we set off on an adventure around Iceland, Greenland and Svalbard. This voyage sails from Longyearbyen to Reykjavik with an exploration of the entire Svalbard region hunting for polar bears, walruses and rare bird cliffs. You'll cruise on to Scoresby Sund which is the most vast and lengthy fjord on the planet. You'll visit Reykjavik before heading back to Greenland and into Iceland for more remote and wild beauty. Do it aboard Silver Wind.

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ITINERARY

Day 1 Pre Cruise

Day 2 Longyearbyen

Longyearbyen is the biggest settlement in Svalbard. Seat of the Norwegian administration, it also has the best services and infrastructure in the archipelago. Located deep in the Adventfjord, a sidearm of the Isfjorden (Icefjord), Longyearbyen's airport can be used all-year round, but its harbor is blocked by ice in winter. Most shops, hotels, restaurants and a hospital are within easy walking distance of

the port. One of the most prominent buildings in town is the UNIS center, where several Norwegian universities have joined forces to operate and offer the northernmost higher education to both Norwegian and international students. Adjacent to UNIS, and well worth a visit, is the Svalbard Museum, covering the natural history and exploitation of Svalbard. Remnants of the former mining activity can be seen all around Longyearbyen and even in town.

Days 3 - 4 Svalbard Southern Region

Svalbard's Southern Region and specifically Spitsbergen's west coast is less ice-clogged than the rest of Svalbard due to the moderating influence of the Gulf Stream. Several fjords cut into the western coast of Spitsbergen and have been used by trappers and hunters, as well as the different mining companies that tried to exploit the riches of the archipelago's largest island of Spitsbergen. Remains of huts and mines, as well as active commercial and scientific settlements can be found and visited. Depending on the time of the season, glaciers can be visited on foot or by sea. Hornsund will reveal fascinating views of geological formations, craggy mountains, spectacular glaciers and a variety of seabirds and seals.

Days 5 - 6 Svalbard Northern Region

Svalbard's northern region is less influenced by the Norwegian Current coming through the Greenland Sea than the southern region and shows more ice. The northern part of the island of Spitsbergen shows quite a number of impressive fjords, bays and glaciers. The Nordaust Svalbard Nature Reserve includes Spitsbergen's east coast, the Hinlopen Strait, Nordaustlandet and some islands further east like Kvitoya and Storoya. Several walrus haul-outs, spectacular glaciers, bird cliffs and bird islands, as well as surprising flora in Arctic deserts and the



possibility to see polar bears and to visit historically important sites make this an area prone for exploration. Ice conditions will dictate which sites can be seen.

Days 7 - 8 Day at sea

Days at sea are the perfect opportunity to relax, unwind and catch up with what you've been meaning to do. So whether that is going to the gym, visiting the spa, whale watching, catching up on your reading or simply topping up your tan, these blue sea days are the perfect balance to busy days spent exploring shore side.

Days 9 - 12 Ittoqqortoormiit & Scoresby Sund

In the 1920s the sparsely settled coast of East Greenland had too many families living in Ammassalik (today's Tasiilaq) for the hunting grounds available and in 1925 Scoresbysund was chosen to start a new settlement with some 70 Inuit from Ammassalik and four families from West Greenland. Less than 10 kilometers from the entrance to the Scoresbysund system, Ittoqqortoormiit ("Big House Dwellers") lies on the southern tip of Liverpool Land, a low and rounded area compared to the steeper mountains further south or into the fjord system. Some 460 inhabitants call Ittoqqortoormiit, one of Greenland's most isolated settlements, their home. Not counting the military and civilian researchers at Daneborg, Northeast Greenland, their closest neighbors actually live in Iceland. Although Greenland's hottest hot springs are located some 8 kilometers south of Ittoqqortoormiit, the village is frozen in some nine months of the year and access to other parts of the country can only be done via the Nerlerit Inaat Airport at Constable Point some 38 km to the north with flights to Iceland and West Greenland. The former village's shop serves as a small museum and features historic photographs and costumes and shows what a typical hunter's

home from the 1960s looked like. Today hunting narwhals, seals, polar bears and muskoxen is still an important part of the life, but tourism is gaining importance. Scoresby Sund is the largest and longest fjord system in the world, and exhibits all the natural wonders Greenland has to offer. This labyrinth of islands, fjords and ice boggles the mind at every turn. Named in honour of William Scoresby, the English explorer who mapped the area in 1822, Scoresby Sund today hosts only the small town of Ittoqqortoormiit, although it has been inhabited by many Paleo-Eskimo cultures in the past. The area is incredibly rich in Arctic wildlife, hosting musk oxen, arctic foxes and a wealth of marine life including whales, belugas, narwhals, walrus and seals, as well as several species of sea birds, including King Eiders, Atlantic Puffins and several species of geese which migrate to the area during the fleeting Arctic Summer. It is also one of the best places in the world to see polar bears in their natural habitat, an experience that can never be forgotten. But the scenery is the true highlight of Scoresby Sund. The area is very sheltered, and the waters of the fjords are often glassy and calm, save the vast icebergs which calve off the vast glaciers which drain from the Greenland Ice Sheet into the fjord. Staggering geological variation means no two mountain views are the same, some black, layers and covered with permanent ice, while some are jagged, pinnacled cliffs sweeping out to the fjord to eye-watering heights, crowned with ice that never melts.

Day 13 Day at sea

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Day 14 Flatey Island & Stykkisholmur

Flatey is the 'flat island' just as the name sounds. These days Flatey is mainly seasonally populated with many brightly painted, wooden summer cottages to be found here. Like many other small islands around Iceland though, Flatey was once a hub for fishing and trade. This particular island prospered so much that it was the center of commercial and cultural life in the 19th century for this part of Iceland. Thanks to the surrounding nutrient-rich waters 35 species of birds have been counted on Flatey ranging from Eider Ducks and Atlantic Puffins, to Arctic Terns, Red-necked Phalaropes, Ringed Plover and Snow Buntings. Stykkishólmur, located in western Iceland at the northern end of the Snæfellsnes peninsula, is the commerce center for the area. Its natural harbor allowed this town to become an important trading center early in Iceland's history. The first trading post was established in the 1550s, and still today fishing is the major industry. The town center boasts beautiful and well-preserved old houses from earlier times. Stykkisholmur is very environmentally conscious – it was the first community in Europe to get the EarthCheck environmental certification, was the first municipality in Iceland to start fully sorting its waste, and was the first town in Iceland to receive the prestigious Blue flag eco-label for its harbor. It has also been a European Destination of Excellence (EDEN), since 2011.

Day 15 Reykjavik

The capital of Iceland's land of ice, fire and natural wonder, Reykjavik is a city like no other - blossoming among some of the world's most vibrant and violent scenery. Home to two-thirds of Iceland's population, Reykjavik is the island's only real city, and a welcoming and walkable place - full of bicycles gliding along boulevards or battling the wind when it rears up. Fresh licks of paint brighten the streets, and an artistic and creative

atmosphere embraces studios and galleries - as well as the kitchens where an exciting culinary scene is burgeoning. Plot your adventures in the city's hip bars and cosy cafes, or waste no time in venturing out to Iceland's outdoor adventures. Reykjavik's buildings stand together - below the whip of winter's winds - together with the magnificent Hallgrímskirkja church, with its bell tower rising resolutely over the city. Iceland's largest church's design echoes the lava flows that have shaped this remote land and boasts a clean and elegant interior. The Harpa Concert Hall's sheer glass facade helps it to assimilate into the landscape, mirroring back the city and harbour. Its LED lights shimmer in honour of Iceland's greatest illuminated performance – the northern lights. Walk in the crusts between continents, feel the spray from bursts of geysers and witness the enduring power of Iceland's massive waterfalls. Whether you want to sizzle away in the earth-heated geothermal pools, or hike to your heart's content, you can do it all from Reykjavik - the colourful capital of this astonishing outdoor country.

Day 16 Stykkisholmur & Flatey Island

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Day 17 Dynjandi Waterfalls & Arnarfjörður

Iceland is well-known for its spectacular waterfalls. The iconic Dynjandi waterfall, located in the Westfjords region, is regarded as one of Iceland's most impressive and majestic waterfalls. At the top, the cascading water is roughly 100 feet wide and tumbles down about 330 feet into the fjord. Its name Dynjandi means, "the thundering one" and its vast size, enormous sound, and sheer force is overwhelming. It has also been nicknamed, 'The Bridal Veil' because of the way the water sprays and spreads over the rocks.

Day 18 Skagaströnd

Skagaströnd lies in the Northwestern region of Iceland nestled between the east coast of the bay of Húnaflói and the west side of the Skagi peninsula. It is a small and charming fishing village which sits at the foot of the soaring mountain Spákonufell. There are many bracing walking and hiking paths you can take which lead from the port towards the mountain which offer panoramic views across the crystalline azure waters of Húnaflói and the Westfjords. It's an ideal place to hike and take in some pure air and breath-taking Icelandic scenery. Emerald fields dotted with

small white flowers stretch across the land and meet blue skies which are home to a variety of birds. The Fulmar, which is a large seabird rather like a gull, can be seen in the summer months, along with Common Eiders, Oystercatchers, Snipes, Arctic Tern and the Black Guillemot. Near the port you'll find restaurants and bars where you can sample Icelandic favourites such as langoustine, cod and haddock with a side of local rye bread and butter.

Day 19 Akureyri

Iceland's Capital of the North is the gateway to a thrilling land of roaring waterfalls, soaring volcanoes and glorious wildlife. It may lie a mere 60 miles from the Arctic Circle, but Akureyri blossoms with a bright, cosmopolitan feel, and explodes into life during the summer months, when its outdoor cafes and open-air bathing spots fill up with visitors ready to immerse themselves in Iceland's cinematic scenery. Feel the thundering impact of Iceland's celebrated natural wonders shaking your bones at Godafoss Waterfalls, known as the 'Waterfalls of the Gods'. Here, the Skjálfandafjót river unleashes a colossal torrent of water over charcoal-black rocks below. Or, find some peace at the Botanical Gardens, which opened in 1957 and offer space for contemplation - amid plants that bloom with unexpected vibrancy, even at this northerly latitude. The Lutheran, Akureyrarkirkja Church rises like a grand church organ and is the town's most striking landmark. The 112-step climb is worth the effort to see light flooding in through its narrow stain glass windows, spreading colourful patchworks across the interior. Magic and mythology are important elements of Icelandic folklore, and you'll even bump into giant sculptures of grizzled, child-snatching trolls on the town's high street. Or, meet more earthly - but no less magical - creatures in the waters around



Akureyi, where immense blue whales cruise by and dolphins playfully leap.

Day 20 Day at sea

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Days 21 - 23 Scoresby Sund

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Day 25 Watkins Fjord

Day 26 Sermiligaaq Fjord

Day 27 Tasilaq



Tasiilaq is the jewel in Northern Greenland's crown. This picture-perfect haven is thought to be one of the most beautiful towns in the country and it's easy to see why. Ice prevents boats from accessing the town in winter, but for three precious months in summer this remote paradise opens up and comes alive with a vivid cacophony of colour and nature. Deep green-hued flower dotted meadows stretch across pristine valleys, icebergs float in the bluest Sermilik Fjord and snowcapped mountain peaks reach towards seemingly endless skies. Home to the nearby Mittivakkat Glacier, this is the edge of the world at its finest. Locals spend their time dog sledding, exploring ice caves and hiking up the glacier. Soak up the natural splendour of this region where Inuit traditions are still respected. It's a must for nature lovers seeking the crispest, freshest mountain air. As an added perk it is not uncommon to spot whales frolicking in the fjord nearby.

Day 28 Day at sea

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Day 30 Post Cruise

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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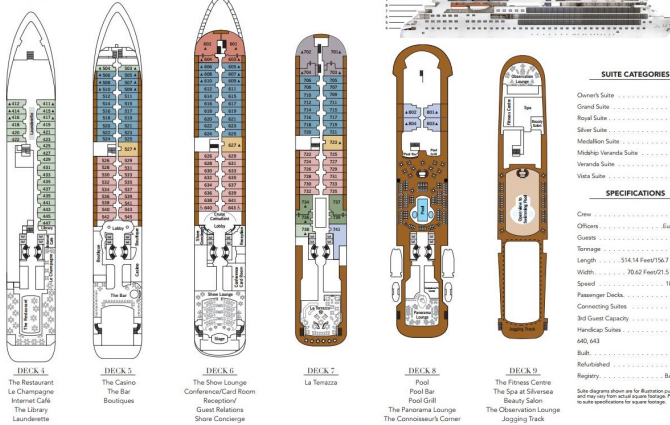
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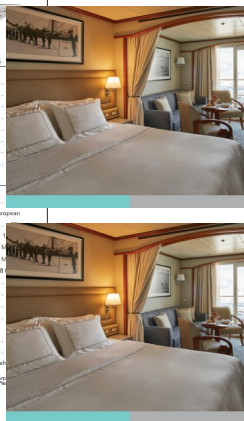
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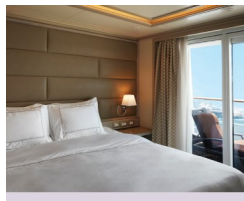
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