

## ORCAS AND NORTHERN LIGHTS IN NORTHERN NORWAY

Join us on an exciting trip in true expedition style with the 12-passenger ship M/S Stockholm, a vessel with both history and character! We head into the fjords outside of Tromsø to enjoy a grand natural wonderland and hopefully experience the majestic Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis). In recent years, family groups of orca and humpback whales have gathered in search of the great herring shoals that have chosen to overwinter in the region. If we are lucky this expedition will offer truly immersive and unforgettable encounters with these remarkable animals!



### **ITINERARY**

### Day 1: Tromsø, Norway

We arrive in the Norwegian city of Tromsø, located 350 km north of the Arctic Circle, and beautifully framed by fjords and mountains peaks. The city has been the starting point for many polar expeditions and was referred to as "the Gateway to the Arctic" in the 1800s. In the afternoon, we board our small expedition ship M/S Stockholm and settle into our comfortable cabins. The expedition cruise has started!

## Day 2 - 5: Expedition

We are now on an expedition cruise and our itinerary the following days is flexible due to weather and wildlife. We travel in late October and in November, just before the polar darkness settles over Tromsø. In the middle of November the sun is still up for a few hours each day. For those who are interested in





photography, the light at this time of year is captivating. Even when the sun is below the horizon, we can enjoy enchanting dusks and dawns. In clear weather we have good chances to see the spectacular Northern Lights (Aurora Borealis) dance in the sky. Tromsø is known as one of the best destinations if you dream about watching this fascinating phenomenon. Since 2010, huge shoals of herring have overwintered in the fjords around Tromsø, which has attracted many orcas and humpbacks. As with any wild animals, it is hard to predict if they will return this year, but with some luck we will experience unforgettable encounters with these incredible mammals. The area is also a popular haunt for white-tailed eagles. They can be seen soaring above us with their impressive wingspans. During the trip, we hope to be fortunate to see both Northern Lights and whales, but when the opportunity arises, we will head out on exciting Zodiac cruises and refreshing hikes to explore Tromsø's dramatic islands up close. Kvænangen, Loppa and Vannøya are examples of places we hope to explore. Perhaps the first snow has fallen and settled over the high mountain peaks, offering marvellous sceneries together with the small picturesque houses and the beautiful fjords. On board, we will listen to inspiring lectures, enjoy delicious food and keep a lookout for wildlife and Northern Lights out on deck. For those who are interested in fishing, there will be opportunities to try your luck from the ship.

Day 6: Tromsø

In the morning we disembark our ship and begin the journey home.

#### Please Note:

The exact route will depend on weather and possible wildlife encounters. The captain and the expedition leader will do everything to maximise our experience. Please remember that flexibility is the key to a successful expedition!





# YOUR SHIP: STOCKHOLM

YOUR SHIP: Stockholm

**VESSEL TYPE:** 

LENGTH:

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:** 

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:** 

The M/S Stockholm is a classic vessel built in 1953 for the Swedish National Maritime Administration. In 1999 she was totally refitted and started her career as a comfortable polar passenger ship. The M/S Stockholm exclusively carries a maximum of 12 passengers in outside twin cabins, all with upper and lower berth and private facilities. She is a marvellous piece of maritime history with beautiful brass details and pine decks. No wonder the M/S Stockholm is loved by so many! On board the ship you will enjoy delicious meals in the company of likeminded travellers who enjoy the natural world, and who are as fascinated by the Arctic as you will be. The food on board is of a high standard. All wine, beer and drinks are included in the trip fare. With such a small party on board, this is like travelling on a private yacht. An entirely different experience and perspective to that of a larger and more conventional vessel! The M/S Stockholm is also ideal for private parties who wish to explore the Svalbard archipelago. The owner, Captain and crew of the ship have long experience in Arctic waters, and are actively involved in making expeditions in tune with nature conservation. The crew onboard M/S Stockholm are great enthusiasts of the unique wildlife and unspoilt nature too, so do

not be surprised if you suddenly see the chef ashore taking photographs or studying birds, whenever his time permits. The genuine curiosity of the crew is a prerequisite for expedition cruises of this kind. A trip on board M/S Stockholm in these northern waters, with its unique wildlife and pristine nature is an experience of a lifetime, simply



hard to beat.



## **PRICING**