

# SOUTH GREENLAND EXPLORATION: FJORDS, WATERFALLS, AND FISHING VILLAGES

Blanketed in ice and carved by glaciers, Greenland is a dazzling tableau of the Arctic's epic glory. Witness the centuries of tradition and ingenuity of Arctic farmers, from the ruins of Brattahlíő, the estate of Eric the Red, to the modern landscape of Kujataa, the UNESCO World Heritage region of Southern Greenland. Explore these storied fjords as the ship cruises through the dramatic cliffs of Prins Christian Sund and Skjoldungen Island, and experience them up close through hikes and kayaking alongside locals. This is an expedition deep into wilderness, rich Inuit culture, and Norse lore.



### **ITINERARY**

### DAY 1 Reykjavík, Iceland

Arrive in Reykjavík. Upon arrival, visit the Perlan Natural History museum for breakfast and an introduction to the flora, fauna, and geology of the Island. This afternoon, enjoy lunch and the option to visit the country's National Museum at your own pace.

### DAY 2 Reykjavík, / Kangerlussuaq, Greenland / Embark

Enjoy the morning at leisure. After lunch, transfer to the airport for a chartered flight to Greenland and embark our ship at the head of Kangerlussuaq Fjord, a 120-mile-long waterway whose name means "large fjord" in Greenlandic. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 3 Nuuk





Perched on the seaside in the shadow of ice-capped Sermitsiaq Mountain, Nuuk is the world's smallest capital city by population, with some 18,000 inhabitants. Watch for harp seals as we enter the harbor and take a walking tour with local residents to learn how the community has changed over the generations. At the National Museum, examine the extraordinary 15th-century Qilakitsoq mummies found near Uummannaq—a discovery that was featured in a National Geographic magazine cover story in 1985. The Arctic ice preserved these mummies so well that researchers have been able to study their tattoos, their medical conditions, and even what they ate. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 4 Paamiut and Kuannersoog Fjord

Lying at the unofficial boundary between western and southern Greenland, Paamiut serves at the gate keeper to a fjord system filled with hundreds of islands, multiple fjords and bays, as well as terminal glaciers stretching out from the Greenlandic ice sheet. Enjoy an exploration day in these fjords, on the lookout for a view of the ice sheet and wildlife that calls the fjords home, such as fin whales and sea eagles. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### DAY 5 At Sea / Tunulliarfik Fjord

Today we sail along the southeastern coast of Greenland from the "Western Settlement" to the "Eastern Settlement" areas of the Vikings in Greenland. Follow the waterway known as Tunulliarkfik to Brattahlíð, where Erik the Red established his farm in 982 AD after his exile from Iceland. Erik's wife, Þjódhild, built the first Christian church in the western hemisphere here. Visit replicas of the church and Erik the Red's longhouse and see the shores from which their son, Leif Eriksson, launched the first voyages to North America—500 years before Columbus.

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 6 Qagortog

Our exploration of Erik the Red's Eastern Settlement continues in the fjords around Qaqortoq. The Sissarluttoq World Heritage Center is dotted with ruins of Inuit and Norse farm, stables, and storerooms made of sandstone and granite blocks, allowing you to imagine what farming was like on the edge of the ice cap over 1,000 years ago. Explore the ruins of the 14th-century Hvalsey Church and venture deep into the fjord to witness how these ancient remnants create the backdrop for daily farming life in southern Greenland. Continue to Qaqortoq, inhabited since the Viking era and now the largest town in South Greenland with just over 3,200 residents. Stroll through the town square and visit the museum, where Greenlandic kayaks, hunting equipment, and local art and handicrafts are on display. Sample traditional Greenlandic food this afternoon. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

### DAY 7 Nanortalik / Tasermuit Fjord

After we anchor off the small fishing village of Nanortalik, go ashore to explore Greenland's most southerly town and meet some of the residents for a performance of local folk music and dance. Visit reconstructed longhouses and learn about the construction of traditional umiaks and kayaks. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 8 Southeastern Greenland Fjords

Sail through the dramatic fjords of Prins Christian Sund, marked with retreated glaciers, as we make our way through the southern fjords to the eastern shores of Greenland. The Greenland ice sheet is the second largest body of ice in the world after Antarctica and covers roughly 80% of Greenland's





surface. The island's coast is etched with thousands of fjords which play host to calving glaciers and ice flows. Spend the day exploring the islands and inlets of the eastern coast, using our underwater cameras and Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) to discover marine life and fascinating underwater geology. Venture deep into Skjoldungen Fjord and take a Zodiac or a kayak for a foray among the icebergs. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 9 Crossing the Denmark Strait

Sail away from the shores of Greenland as we voyage across the Denmark Strait to the Westfjords of Iceland. Known as the world's largest waterfall, the Denmark Strait contains underwater cataracts that fall as deep as 10,000 feet as the cold Arctic water sinks below warmer water flowing northward. Listen to talks by our experts, review your expedition photos with our Certified Photo Instructors, or enjoy the observation deck and keep an eye out for wildlife. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

#### DAY 10 Snaefellsnes Peninsula, Iceland

Arrive at the Snaefellsnes Peninsula today, known for its volcanic landscape, colorful fishing villages, and breathtaking waterfalls. Visit the Kirkjufellsfoss waterfall for a breathtaking view of Kirkjufell, one of the most photographed mountains in Iceland. Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

## DAY 11 Reykjavík / Disembark Ship

Today we complete our voyage, disembarking the ship in the Icelandic capital of Reykjavík for the transfer to the airport and flights home. Meals Included: Breakfast

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.





# YOUR SHIP: NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC ENDURANCE

YOUR SHIP: National Geographic Endurance

VESSEL TYPE: Expedition Ship

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY: 126

BUILT/REFURBISHED: 2018

A next-generation expedition ship, purpose-built for polar navigation. National Geographic Endurance is a next-generation expedition ship, purpose-built for polar navigation. A fully stabilized, highly strengthened, ice-class Polar Code PC5 (Category A) vessel, it is designed to navigate polar passages year-round, and safely explore unchartered waters, while providing exceptional comfort. Its patented X-BOW® is key to its design; its powerful wave-slicing action provides an extremely smooth ride in even adverse conditions, and even reduces spray on deck, for superior observation. She carries a full suite of expedition tools and offers a variety of experience-enhancing amenities. The luxury of comfort on expedition National Geographic Endurance comfortably accommodates 126 guests in 69 outside-facing cabins. Cabins are efficiently designed, with sizes range from the 140-square-foot solo cabin to the 430-square-foot category 7 suite. Fifty-three of the 69 cabins, including all 12 of the solo cabins, will feature small balconies with floor-to-ceiling sliding doors that bring in the spectacular views and ample natural light. Comfort & convenience in every room Every cabin has two portholes, a large window or balcony, and temperature controls. Bathrooms are modern and stocked

with botanically inspired hair products, soap, and shower gel, plus a hairdryer. Cabins are equipped with expedition command centers with tablets and USB/mobile device docking, TVs, Wi-Fi connections, and hair dryers. Dining: Food served aboard is fresh, local, and delicious, and sourced from suppliers who share our values of sustainable use whenever possible. Meals aboard are almost always served in the dining room, located aft of the lounge deck. When weather conditions allow, lighter fare may be served on the observation deck. There is no assigned seating and our dining room accommodates the entire expedition community in a single seating. During meals your expedition leader, naturalists, and any guest speakers aboard will join you. Public Areas: Two restaurants, a Chef's Table for small group dining, Observation Lounge with bar, gym, Wellness area, infinity-style outdoor hot tubs, library, main lounge with full service bar, 24-hour beverage, state-of-the-art facilities for films, slideshows and presentations, and a photo workshop area; plus, an expedition base with lockers for expedition gear, and an "open bridge" for access to our captain, officers and the art of navigation. Meals: Two restaurants, featuring local, sustainable choices and unassigned seating for flexible, inclusive dining; plus a Chef's table for intimate, small group dining. Main restaurant has 270° views, and the Observation deck restaurant features lighter, made-to-order fare. Cabins: All cabins face outside with large windows, private facilities and climate controls. 53 cabins have balconies. Cabins are equipped with expedition command centers with tablets and USB/mobile device docking, TVs, Wi-Fi connections, and hair dryers. Expedition Tools: Zodiac landing craft, kayaks,



snowshoes, cross-country skis, undersea specialist operating a remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) and underwater video camera for unique access to polar marine world, hydrophone, aerial remote-controlled camera and video microscope. Special Features: A full-time doctor, undersea specialist, National Geographic photographer, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor and video chronicler, an internet cafe and laundry. Wellness: The vessel is staffed by our wellness specialists and features a glass-enclosed yoga studio, gym, treatment rooms and spa relax area, and high- and low-heat saunas with ocean views. Expedition Landing Craft: Key to our operation is our fleet of expedition landing craft, which we use to land in places that would otherwise be inaccessible. With 8 of these boats and two loading stations used every time we disembark, we're able to transfer guests off the ship quickly, so you can be out on adventures, not idly waiting. The expedition landing craft we use are 19 feet long, powered by four-stroke outboard engines, and are capable of comfortably carrying 10-12 people. They are widely recognized as the safest and most versatile small boats afloat. Remotely Operated Vehicle: Capable of reaching 1,000 feet, far beyond the range of any Scuba diver, the ROV allows you to literally view parts of the undersea that are as unexplored as the moon. Chances are you, like many of our guests, will be struck by how surprisingly colorful undersea life is in these unlikely places. And this glimpse may fundamentally change how you view the ocean. Kayaks: National Geographic Endurance will be equipped with a fleet of kayaks large enough to ensure everyone who wants to can paddle at every opportunity. Consequently, prior kayaking experience isn't necessary--many of our guests have their first kayaking experience in extraordinary locations. custom-designed floating platform lets us deploy kayaks from

the ship, or any location we want--including far from shore. Kayakers are usually free to explore where they want within boundaries set by the undersea specialist and officer of the watch. Underwater camera: Our undersea specialist will dive often during your expedition, even in Alaska, with cold-water gear, to shoot high-definition, Cousteau-like footage of the deep. Colorful nudibranchs, swimming, plant-like crinoids, and mysterious fish with antifreeze blood that thrive in the frigid sea will give you an entirely new appreciation of the marine environment. Video microscope: Naturalists will use the video microscope to help explain all elements of the environment, including tiny organisms that are the building block of the marine ecosystem. Spellbinding live views of krill at 80x magnification fills the high-definition screens in the lounge with vivid detail, and fills every onlooker with a sense of wonder at importance of otherwise unobservable creatures. Hydrophone: This underwater microphone is deployed to listen to the vocalizations of marine mammals. Real time transmissions of their eerie, haunting sounds can be broadcast through the ship or recorded for later playback. Few experiences in nature are as captivating as watching humpback whales feed close to the ship as their vocalizations play through the ship's PA system. Electronic charts: An electronic chart showing the ship's location, course, and speed is almost always on display in the lounge. Open bridge: You'll find our captains are engaged, knowledgeable members of your expedition who are eager to share their passion with you. Venture's open bridge features comfortable spaces to sit, enjoy the view, drink your morning coffee, or simply chat with the officers. Snorkeling gear & wetsuits: On warm weather itineraries where there will be snorkeling, you'll select a mask, snorkel, fins, and wetsuit that remain yours for the duration of the expedition. There's no need



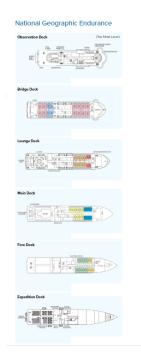
to pack and tote your own gear, although guests who prefer to are welcome to bring



their own.



# **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**





# **PRICING**