

SVALBARD EXPLORER - BEST OF HIGH ARCTIC NORWAY

This fascinating expedition provides a taste of everything Spitsbergen—the largest island in the Svalbard archipelago—has to offer. It's also known as the "Wildlife Capital of the Arctic," and we'll show you why on this 10-day itinerary, which offers multiple departures—except for one extended 12-day voyage. Spotting Arctic wildlife will be a key focus of this expedition. Just imagine photographing walrus, reindeer, and that most iconic of Arctic denizens—the polar bear—all while marveling at the surreal spectacle of continuous daylight. On this exciting introductory journey, you'll explore the unique Arctic landscape, hike the vast and colorful tundra, and learn about the history and geology of this remote Norwegian Arctic island. Our polar-obsessed guides will be on hand to answer all your questions about local wildlife. You have two ship options for this voyage: Ultramarine, our technologically advanced polar vessel that can access remote places most larger ships can't reach; and our newest ship, the state-of-the-art Ocean Explorer.



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Arrive in Helsinki, Finland

Your Arctic adventure begins in Helsinki, renowned for its extraordinary architecture and intriguing mix of eastern and western influences. If you arrive early, explore the many



museums, galleries and restaurants, relax at a Finnish sauna or wander the vibrant Design District before retiring at your included hotel.

Day 2 - Fly to Longyearbyen, Svalbard and Embark

This morning, the group will transfer to the airport and board our private charter flight to Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen's largest settlement. As your ship sets sail, enjoy your first view of the island's rugged, glacier-topped mountains rising majestically from frigid waters.

Days 3 to 9 - Exploring Spitsbergen

You'll cruise around this magical island on a constant search for wildlife. Your expedition will cover western Spitsbergen as well as stunning fjordsto the north. From polar flora to immense glaciers, the natural landscape here is just as varied as the wildlife.Each expedition presents new opportunities and different weather and ice, so there is no fixed itinerary; however, some of the places we may visit include the 14th of July Glacier, Smeerenburg, Alkefjellet and the Hinlopen Strait. The destinations visited will be selected for optimum wildlife viewing with an appreciation of the history and geology of Spitsbergen.The island offers multiple opportunities for wildlife photography. Since most of Svalbard's Arctic ecosystem is uninhabited and well-protected, this remote archipelago is one of the world's best places to spot polar bears against stunning natural backdrops of mountains and ice.The towering cliffs of Alkefjellet provide homes to thousands of Bru nnich's guillemots (thick-billed murres).Coming across a walrus haul-out is a moment you won't soon forget. Get a chance to witness the intimate gatherings of giant pinnipeds as they haul out together on small coastal strips.If you're itching to experience a more intimate view from the water, you can book the sea kayaking or paddling excursion adventure options.In Spitsbergen, there is no shortage of natural beauty. The tundra can be surprisingly colorful in summer, with wildflowers bursting for a taste of sunshine. Each day, you'll see something interesting, whether it is an ever-changing gallery of spectacular icebergs, a polar bear resting between hunts, oran abandoned historical site from centuries ago.

Day 10 - Disembark in Longyearbyen and Fly to Helsinki

The time to say goodbye to your Expedition Team and shipmates has come. Your adventure ends as it began, in the historic frontier-style settlement of Longyearbyen. From here, we'll transfer you to the airport for your return group charter flight to Helsinki, included in the transfer package.

Please Note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



YOUR SHIP: OCEAN EXPLORER

YOUR SHIP: **Ocean Explorer**

VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

Ocean Explorer is a modern ship, elegant and purpose-built for polar exploration. The 138-passenger vessel has been designed with the latest in expedition ship technology. One of the ship's key features is the ULSTEIN X-BOW®, a marine engineering innovation that ensures a comfortable and smooth sailing experience thanks to the inverted bow. Located at the bow is the two-story, light-filled library, which introduces a welcome airiness to the expedition ship. Spacious cabins feature a modern, bespoke Scandinavian design and almost all have verandas. Guests can relax and find comfort in the spacious gym, sauna with large windows, and two outdoor Jacuzzis. Ocean Explorer features ample outdoor viewing areas and multi-height outer decks, which are ideal for long-view photography and wildlife viewing. The vessel is equipped with a fleet of 15 Zodiacs that enable guests to get off the ship quickly and safely for off-ship adventures. In addition to the well-appointed and spacious public areas, Ocean Explorer has an industry-leading mix of sustainability systems, including fuel-efficient Rolls Royce engines. Two Story Library Light-filled interior library--at the bow of the ship-- allows guests to sit and relax indoors while taking in the surrounding polar landscapes from their choice of two levels. Leading Edge Sustainability With the latest sustainability technology in polar expedition, the ship features fuel-efficient Rolls-Royce engines and the ground-breaking MAGS gasification system that converts waste into energy, eliminating the environmental impact of waste transportation. ULSTEIN X-Bow In addition to forming the double-story library, the innovative X-Bow design ensures calm, energy-efficient sailing in rough waters. High Observation Outdoor Decks Observation areas on Decks 7 and 8 allow for higher, longer-view landscape photography while contending with less sea spray. Quiet and Comfortable Spacious and luxurious cabins ensure your quiet ambience with no sound disturbance from adjoining cabins--and almost all cabins feature a balcony for outdoor viewing. Stunning Interior Design Each interior element was carefully hand-picked by designers for you to enjoy, from the dramatic two-story forward lounge, the floor-to-ceiling glass refuge in the library, to the grand fixtures and luxe furnishings throughout the ship. Main Dining Room Contemporary meets cozy in this modern dining room with its stylish lighting and contemporary art. Located on Deck 5, the Main Dining Room seats 144 guests, and features expansive floor-to-ceiling windows that open onto the spectacular polar wilderness. Private Dining Room Tasteful and intimate. This stylish, private dining room on deck 5 provides a relaxed dining experience--with views of the polar landscape--for up to 36 guests. The Latitude Bar A popular social hub on Deck 5, the beautifully-lit Latitude Bar--with its lush sofas and faux marble-topped end tables--is large enough to seat 46 and is ideal for enjoying a quiet drink on your own or hanging out with

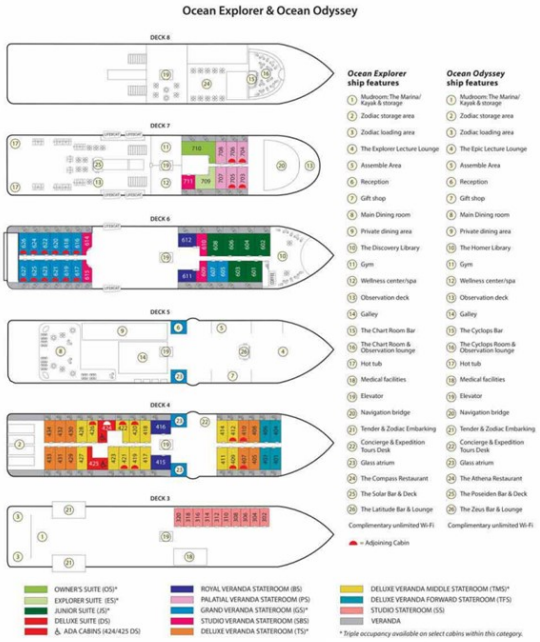
friends. Library Located on Deck 6 at the top of the gorgeous atrium staircase, this beautiful Library with floor-to-ceiling glass, accommodates up to 47 people Dry Sauna After a day of exciting off-ship adventure, guests can relax on the sauna's traditional wood benches while gazing at the polar wilderness just outside the large sauna windows. Accommodates 15 people on Deck 7. Fitness Center Stay fit with the latest work-out equipment in the Fitness Center on Deck 7. Jacuzzis Two outdoor Jacuzzis on deck 7, at the ship's stern, mean you can relax alfresco while soaking up the breath-taking polar views. Observation Lounge This stylish lounge at the top of the ship guarantees incredible views. Guests also frequent this spacious lookout on Deck 8 to enjoy cocktails and conversation with fellow



travelers.



INSIDE YOUR SHIP




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Ship Collection
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PRICING