

SVALBARD IN SPRING: SEA ICE, PRISTINE SNOW AND WILDLIFE

Our 11 (or 12) day Svalbard in Spring: Sea Ice, Pristine Snow and Wildlife is a rare opportunity to visit the Norwegian High Arctic when Svalbard is bathed in 24 hours of daylight, yet the landscape remains entrenched in its snow-clad Arctic splendor. Entire mountains are still cloaked in snow and expansive sea ice, including fast ice. You have the unique privilege of witnessing the Arctic "waking up." Birds arrive, filling the silence with their calls. Meltwater begins to trickle, ice cracks and pops, and the ground starts to thaw. Tiny shoots may appear through the melting snow--a quiet yet grand rebirth unfolding, echoing life's cycle on an Arctic scale. _Some departures may have slightly modified itineraries. Please confirm the itinerary with an Expedition Specialist._



ITINERARY

Day 1 - Arrive in Helsinki, Finland

Arrive in the Finnish capital and make your way to the group hotel located right at Helsinki airport, included in your Charter Flight & Hotel Package. You will have the rest of the day to



explore explore the many museums, galleries and restaurants, relax at a Finnish sauna or wander the vibrant Design District. If you do plan to visit Helsinki city center, take advantage of the convenient 40-minute rail service from the airport.

Day 2 - Fly to Longyearbyen for Embarkation

After breakfast, the group will transfer to the Helsinki airport and board our private charter flight to Longyearbyen, included in your Charter Flight & Hotel Package. Our journey to the High Arctic now truly begins. You will see the coastal and birch forests of southern Scandinavia give way to taiga and tundra environments, the mountains of Norway and northern Sweden, and the convergence of the Norwegian and Barents seas. Approaching Svalbard, you may get your first views of a pure, snowcapped wilderness, complete with ridgelines, glaciers, and perhaps even sea ice in the distance. We land in Longyearbyen, Svalbard's largest settlement, and transfer to the harbor where we will embark on our ship.

Days 3 to 9 - Springtime in the Svalbard wilderness

Spring in Svalbard is characterized by a beautiful combination of snow, ice and Midnight Sun. A fascinating contrast unfolds with the arrival of spring: majestic polar landscapes illuminated by continuous daylight. Sea ice is at or near its annual maximum, drawing us north. If experiencing Arctic sea ice is on your bucket list, you have chosen the perfect time to visit. Your Expedition Team and Bridge Officers will consult the latest ice charts daily—sea ice is incredibly dynamic and can drift dozens of kilometers in a day. Our route will depend on where sea ice offers the best opportunities for exploration and wildlife encounters. Sea ice is the primary hunting, resting, and travelling platform for iconic Arctic species—and spring offers the best chance to see it all. As we navigate the ice edge—or even through it—spend time on deck with your binoculars at the ready. Somewhere in the maze of marooned icebergs and pressure ridges, wildlife may be present—perhaps even polar bears who are lured to the ice edge by the presence of seals—a primary food source. Watch for clues, shapes, and shadows that could signal something special. And while polar bears may be the main goal, you may also spot walruses, Arctic foxes, and ivory gulls—in addition to ringed and bearded seals. On shore, spring landscapes remain blanketed in snow, with many bays still f illed with ice—habitat crucial to Arctic wildlife for food and survival. It's the kind of scenery that embodies the word "pristine." On sunny days, snowcapped ridges against cobalt skies are electric in their beauty. On cloudy days, the Arctic's muted palette of whites, greys, and blues creates moody, powerful vistas. Photography tip: try switching your camera to black-and-white mode—textures become dramatic, and light behaves differently. Alongside drifting sea ice, you may see icebergs and bergy bits— fragments of glacial ice whose origins lie deep in mountain valleys. Spring in the Arctic is also a time of awakening. As we travel, we'll witness this seasonal transformation firsthand. Some slopes, beaches, and valleys begin to melt faster than others, revealing bare ground untouched for months. Grasses and mosses emerge, seizing every opportunity to photosynthesize in the returning sunlight. Meltwater trickles grow into fast-flowing runoff, adding sound and motion to the awakening landscape. Yet spring remains cold. In fact, these areas may go through multiple freeze-thaw cycles, especially farther north and east. In Svalbard, this mesmerizing transition is vivid and inspiring—a reminder to all of us of the powerful rhythms of Arctic life. Spring also welcomes migratory birds and whales. As the season unfolds, cliffsides will become busy with seabirds, such as little auks, guillemots and



kittiwakes, returning to breed. Each day brings new arrivals. Nest-building, courting, and bird calls fill the air in a sensory-rich spectacle. When we encounter these colonies, take time to pause. Put down your camera. Simply observe the vibrant pulse of life and imagine the sheer abundance of food required to feed so many birds—and the chicks that will soon arrive. Whales, too, may appear. While sightings can never be guaranteed, some large migrators—such as blue whales—begin arriving in coastal waters by late spring. Others, like belugas, live here year-round and may be spotted threading through sea ice. Each encounter, however brief, reminds us of the interconnectedness of Arctic ecosystems. With seven full expedition days in Svalbard, we aim to explore a wide range of locations. The order of our journey will be shaped by sea ice conditions, which vary daily. Potential destinations include the spectacular fjord systems of Hornsund, Bellsund, Isfjorden, Krossfjorden, Smeerenburgfjorden, Raudfjorden, Woodfjorden, Sorgfjorden, and others. These fjords feature dramatic mountains rising directly from the sea, folding into endless layers. Glaciers spill from the highlands, many reaching the water's edge where they calve into the sea. Throughout Svalbard, we'll look for thriving seabird colonies and hope to make regular landings along the coasts and within fjords. Some outings may take place on exposed rocky terrain, but most will involve walking on snow. And if conditions are safe and suitable, we may even set foot on the sea ice itself—an unforgettable moment that truly feels like walking on water.

Day 10 - Disembark in Longyearbyen and fly to Helsinki

The time to say goodbye has come. Your adventure ends as it began, in the frontierstyle settlement of Longyearbyen. From here, we'll transfer you to the airport for your return group charter flight to Helsinki, and hotel night. Both are included in your Charter Flight & Hotel Package.

Day 11 - Depart Helsinki

After breakfast at your included hotel, make your way independently to the airport for your onward flight home, or spend more time exploring the Finnish capital as prearranged.

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

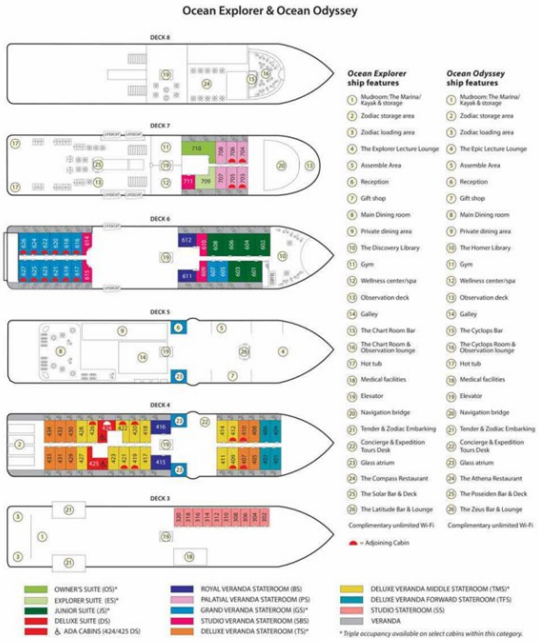
friends. Library Located on Deck 6 at the top of the gorgeous atrium staircase, this beautiful Library with floor-to-ceiling glass, accommodates up to 47 people Dry Sauna After a day of exciting off-ship adventure, guests can relax on the sauna's traditional wood benches while gazing at the polar wilderness 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



Balcony Suite



Deluxe Balcony Suite



Deluxe Veranda Forward



Explorer Suite



Explorer Triple



Junior Suite





Owner's Suite



Owners Suite



Ultra Suite



Veranda Stateroom



Penthouse Suite



Solo Panorama



Veranda Suite



Studio Single



Studio Veranda Single



Terrace Suite



Triple Suite





PRICING

30-Apr-2027 to 11-May-2027

Deluxe Veranda Forward	Contact us
Junior Suite	Contact us
Penthouse Suite	Contact us
Studio Veranda Single	Contact us
Owners Suite	£12764 GBP pp
Veranda Stateroom	£8280 GBP pp
Veranda Suite	£8736 GBP pp
Studio Single	Contact us

09-May-2027 to 19-May-2027

Owners Suite	Contact us
Veranda Stateroom	£7672 GBP pp
Penthouse Suite	£11092 GBP pp
Veranda Suite	£8128 GBP pp
Studio Single	Contact us
Deluxe Veranda Forward	Contact us
Studio Veranda Single	Contact us
Junior Suite	Contact us

16-May-2027 to 26-May-2027

Balcony Suite	£8584 GBP pp
Penthouse Suite	£11244 GBP pp
Ultra Suite	£15576 GBP pp
Explorer Suite	£7824 GBP pp
Deluxe Balcony Suite	£10104 GBP pp
Terrace Suite	Contact us
Solo Panorama	Contact us
Owner's Suite	£13980 GBP pp
Explorer Triple	Contact us

17-May-2027 to 27-May-2027

Deluxe Veranda Forward	£7824 GBP pp
Junior Suite	Contact us
Veranda Stateroom	£8204 GBP pp
Penthouse Suite	Contact us
Veranda Suite	£8660 GBP pp
Owners Suite	£12688 GBP pp
Studio Single	£11244 GBP pp
Studio Veranda Single	Contact us



PRICING

24-May-2027 to 03-Jun-2027

Solo Panorama	£12004 GBP pp
Terrace Suite	£10484 GBP pp
Owner's Suite	£13980 GBP pp
Penthouse Suite	£11244 GBP pp
Explorer Triple	£6608 GBP pp
Deluxe Balcony Suite	£10104 GBP pp
Ultra Suite	£15576 GBP pp
Explorer Suite	£7824 GBP pp
Balcony Suite	£8584 GBP pp

25-May-2027 to 04-Jun-2027

Studio Veranda Single	Contact us
Veranda Stateroom	£8204 GBP pp
Veranda Suite	£8660 GBP pp
Penthouse Suite	£11928 GBP pp
Owners Suite	£12688 GBP pp
Deluxe Veranda Forward	£7824 GBP pp
Studio Single	£11244 GBP pp
Junior Suite	Contact us

01-Jun-2027 to 11-Jun-2027

Owner's Suite	£14208 GBP pp
Penthouse Suite	£11472 GBP pp
Balcony Suite	£8660 GBP pp
Solo Panorama	£12156 GBP pp
Terrace Suite	£10712 GBP pp
Ultra Suite	£15804 GBP pp
Deluxe Balcony Suite	£10256 GBP pp
Explorer Triple	£6760 GBP pp
Explorer Suite	£7900 GBP pp

27-Apr-2028 to 07-May-2028

Triple Suite	£10005 GBP pp
Veranda Stateroom	£10305 GBP pp
Veranda Suite	£10905 GBP pp
Penthouse Suite	£14505 GBP pp
Owners Suite	£15305 GBP pp
Studio Single	£13805 GBP pp
Studio Veranda Single	Contact us
Deluxe Veranda Forward	£9905 GBP pp



PRICING

13-May-2028 to 23-May-2028

Veranda Suite	£12905 GBP pp
Studio Single	£16305 GBP pp
Owners Suite	£18305 GBP pp
Triple Suite	£10605 GBP pp
Veranda Stateroom	£12305 GBP pp
Deluxe Veranda Forward	£11705 GBP pp
Penthouse Suite	£17205 GBP pp
Studio Veranda Single	£17605 GBP pp

23-May-2028 to 02-Jun-2028

Explorer Triple	Contact us
Explorer Suite	£11305 GBP pp
Balcony Suite	£12305 GBP pp
Deluxe Balcony Suite	£14305 GBP pp
Terrace Suite	£14705 GBP pp
Penthouse Suite	£15705 GBP pp
Owner's Suite	Contact us
Ultra Suite	£21205 GBP pp
Solo Panorama	£16605 GBP pp

26-May-2028 to 05-Jun-2028

Triple Suite	£9605 GBP pp
Owners Suite	£16305 GBP pp
Studio Single	£14605 GBP pp
Deluxe Veranda Forward	£10505 GBP pp
Studio Veranda Single	Contact us
Veranda Stateroom	£10905 GBP pp
Veranda Suite	£11605 GBP pp
Penthouse Suite	Contact us