



## THE UNTAMED NORTH: ICELAND TO GREENLAND

Iceland enchants with its mighty glaciers and geothermal hotspots, while Greenland beckons with its glittering icebergs and wildflower-bedecked tundrahike, sail by Zodiac, photograph, and commune with seabirds in these ethereal landscapes.



### ITINERARY

#### Day 1: Reykjavik, Iceland

Arrive in the Icelandic capital this morning and transfer to our the Grand Hotel. Lunch and the remainder of the day are at leisure to enjoy this fascinating and colorful city. Gather this evening for a welcome reception followed by dinner and overnight at our hotel.

#### Day 2: Reykjavik / Embark Sea Adventurer

After breakfast, set out to explore Iceland's classic scenic wonders known as the Golden Circle. Begin with Thingvellir National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site surrounded by mountains and encompassing a vast lava plain of green moss and wildflowers. Continue to Gullfoss Waterfall where the Hvita River drops 96 feet in two voluminous cascades. The Geysir



Center is a huge geothermal field of both boiling and tranquil multi-hued hot springs and bubbling mud pools. After lunch, visit Fridheimar Farm, which produces tomatoes and cucumbers year-round in their impressive greenhouses, and also breeds Icelandic horses. Embark the Sea Adventurer this afternoon.

#### Day 3: Flatey Island / Latrabjarg

By Zodiac, trace the coastline of Flatey Island before going ashore for a walking tour of the village. View the uniquely painted island church and the restored houses of islanders who earn a living fishing for cod and lumpfish. This evening sail past Iceland's westernmost cape, the Latrabjarg cliff, a breeding ground for millions of seabirds including puffins, kittiwakes, northern fulmars, and thick-billed murres.

#### Day 4: Vigur Island / Isafjordur

After breakfast take a walking tour of small, verdant Vigur, the summer home to vast numbers of puffins, black guillemots, Arctic terns, and eiders. The tiny community dates back to the late 1800s and boasts Iceland's only windmill. During lunch on board, cruise northward to Isafjordur, the trading and cultural center of the West Fjords. A cultural tour reveals the history and daily life of one of Iceland's oldest fishing settlements and visits the region's scenic highlights. This afternoon, enjoy free time in town to browse the local shops.

#### Days 5 & 6: Scoresbysund, Greenland

Please note: Our itinerary in Scoresbysund and vicinity is entirely dependent upon ice conditions. Should ice prevent us from making a landing, we will spend additional time on the west coast of Greenland. Scoresbysund, the world's longest fjord, is a remote and stunning wilderness that is home to large numbers of Arctic wildlife. Spectacular mountains surround the fjord, clad

in tundra dotted with seasonal wildflowers. Inuit ruins and old trading stations speak of a long and arduous history of subsistence living. By Zodiac, cruise among glittering icebergs, sculpted by wind and sea into fantastical shapes, watching for clusters of harp seals on the ice floes and whales feeding in the nutrient-rich waters. Polar bear sightings are also possible in the area. On walks along pristine beaches and across tundra-carpeted landscapes, keep an eye out for musk oxen, collared lemmings, and Arctic foxes.

#### Day 7: At Sea

Relax onboard today and enjoy our lecture series on the nature and history of Greenland.

#### Day 8: Ammassalik

The small settlement of Ammassalik is part of the municipality of the same name which covers an area five times the size of Denmark. Ashore, enjoy a cultural performance and stroll through the town. Those who wish may continue on a hike along the river toward a waterfall, accompanied by naturalists who point out the varieties of local vegetation enjoying their brief seasonal bloom.

#### Day 9: King Frederik VI Coast

Today cruise along the southeastern coast of Greenland. Now uninhabited, the region recalls its past civilization in skeletal sites of old Scandinavian and Inuit camps and settlements. Watch for seals, whales, and polar bears and, conditions permitting, go ashore this evening via Zodiac to explore this remote expanse of shoreline. Farther south, witness the portion of Greenland that fully lives up to its name. This is the most fertile part of the country; unlike the northern hunting and fishing villages, agriculture and farming are an important part of





economic life.

#### Day 10: Prins Christian Sund

The 55-mile-long channel near the southern tip of Greenland offers breathtaking vistas as you cruise among a flotilla of ice. Volcanoes rise from the barren landscape, and icebergs, like tiny atolls, sit in pools of aquamarine waters. Steep, glacier-cut cliffs border the fjord; frozen waterfalls cling to their edges like freeze-framed photographs. By Zodiac and aboard the ship, cruise the bays and finger-like offshoots of this truly spectacular display of geology and geography.

#### Day 11: Brattahlid / Narsaq

This morning disembark in Brattahlid to visit the historic Norse site, named after Eric the Red's wife who built the first Christian church in the New World. In the afternoon visit Narsaq, built on a beautiful plain on the Narsaq Peninsula, and surrounded by waters rich with seals, salmon, Arctic char, and minke whales. Explore the small town with its brightly painted houses, museum, and local handicrafts market, and visit the remains of an old Norse settlement. Attend a performance by the local choir before setting sail for the Arsuk Fjord.

#### Day 12: Arsuk Fjord

This morning cruise along beautiful Arsuk Fjord, home to one of Greenland's largest bird cliffs where thousands of kittiwakes, gulls, and guillemots breed. Zodiac excursions bring you close to the edges of the rugged cliffs, where in addition to the birds, you may spot whales and seals. Ashore, nature hikes along the beach and to a nearby waterfall showcase the natural beauty of the area.

#### Day 13: Nuuk

Billed as the world's smallest capital, Nuuk is home to 18,000 residents who live in colorful houses with picket fences, adjacent to a serene harbor graced by traditional kayaks. The town is also the center of Greenlandic culture and a visit to the National Museum of Greenland reveals intriguing Inuit mummies found farther north, at Uummannaq. Walk through the old and new quarters of town, as well as the open-air market filled with the bounty of the sea and land.

#### Day 14: Kangerlussuaq / Disembark / Ottawa, Canada

Cross the Arctic Circle and sail down the long, and sinuous Kangerlussuaq Fjord to the town at its head of the same name. Disembark and, time permitting, take a brief tour that includes a stop at the local museum, and continue to the airport for your flight to Ottawa (extra charge). Transfer to the Hilton Garden Hotel for dinner and overnight.

#### Day 15: Ottawa

Transfer to the airport for your independent flights homeward.

#### Please Note:

We do our best to adhere to the scheduled itinerary, but in the spirit of our expeditionary style of travel we may deviate slightly to take full advantage of encounters with the destination and its people, culture, and wildlife.



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### YOUR SHIP: OCEAN ADVENTURER

**YOUR SHIP:** Ocean Adventurer

**VESSEL TYPE:**

**LENGTH:**

**PASSENGER CAPACITY:**

**BUILT/REFURBISHED:**

with exterior views and private facilities. Decks 4 and 5 have exterior access, with outside seating. Window-lined dining room on Deck 4 with unreserved seating. Lounge/Presentation Room. 2 bars. Library. Gift shop. 4 hour beverage station. Ship-to-shore satellite communications with email, and wireless, Internet access. Clinic with licensed doctor. Exercise room. Deck Plan for some trips may vary, please ask

The 118-passenger Ocean Adventurer, (formerly the Sea Adventurer) is among the very few vessels in the world specifically constructed for expedition voyages to the remote polar regions. Her ice-strengthened hull permits her to glide easily and safely through ice-strewn waters that are not accessible to conventional cruise vessels. She has advanced communications and navigation equipment, and newly installed, state-of-the-art Sperry Gyrofin stabilizers. In 1998 the Adventurer had a \$13 million conversion done in Scandinavia. She is a handsome expedition vessel, done in the style of great ocean liners when ships were ships. With lots of varnished wood, brass, and wooden decks, the ship has all new outside cabins, with lower beds and private facilities. There is a Main Lounge, bar, Clipper Club, library/card room, gymnasium and gift shop. A multi-national staff serves American and Continental cuisine. The ship has a fleet of 10 Zodiacs and a special loading platform. An ice class rating of A-1 allows the Clipper Adventurer to go to places larger cruise ships can only dream of, and she does it in comfort and style unsurpassed by other vessels her size. Cabins: All cabins have a window with outside view. Each has private facilities. Cabins and amenities 61 outside cabins



for details.





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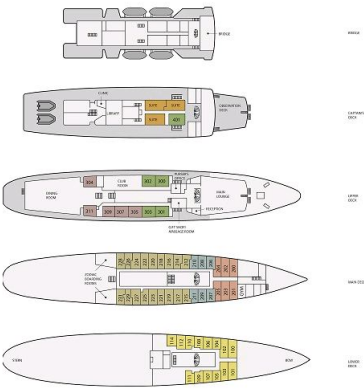
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- Main Deck Twin Window Cabin 2 lower berths, private facilities, 2 windows
- Superior Cabin 2 lower berths, private facilities, windows
- Deluxe Cabin 2 lower berths, private facilities, windows
- Suite 2 lower berths, windows - private facilities, bathtub in 403, shower in the remainder



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