



The Small Cruise
Ship Collection

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WEST GREENLAND WHALE SAFARI

Greenland or "Kalaallit Nunaat" ("Land of the People") in the Greenlandic language, is the largest island in the world, it stretches from 60° to 83° north latitude. Kap Farvel, its southern tip, is located at almost the same latitude as the Shetland Islands in Scotland. The extreme north of Greenland is the northernmost point of land on our planet. Greenland is dominated by the second largest ice-sheet in the world; more than 80% of its surface area is covered by ice reaching a thickness of over 3000 meters (10,000 feet) in the interior. Although huge in size (2,166,000 km²), it is inhabited by less than 60,000 people. Greenland is geographically a part of the North American continent but has more social and political ties with Europe. The coastline of Greenland is spectacular. Heavily indented with numerous fjords, the coastline consists of spectacular high mountains, 2000 meters (6500 feet) high cliffs and innumerable glaciers. The large glaciers produce the huge, cathedral-like ice-bergs that are abundant in Greenlandic waters. The name Greenland was given by Eric the Red, a Norwegian-born Icelandic settler who was banished from Iceland around the year 982 after committing a murder. He found refuge in Greenland. When his exile was over, he returned to Iceland with stories of a green and fertile land to the north-west to lure potential settlers, hence the name Greenland. Although initially flourishing, the Icelandic settlements disappeared from Greenland around 1400, probably due to a climatic change, the Little Ice-Age. But the Norwegian settlers were certainly not the first humans to have lived on Greenland. For thousands of years Palaeo-Eskimos (the Dorset culture) had been living on the coasts of Greenland: they were finally

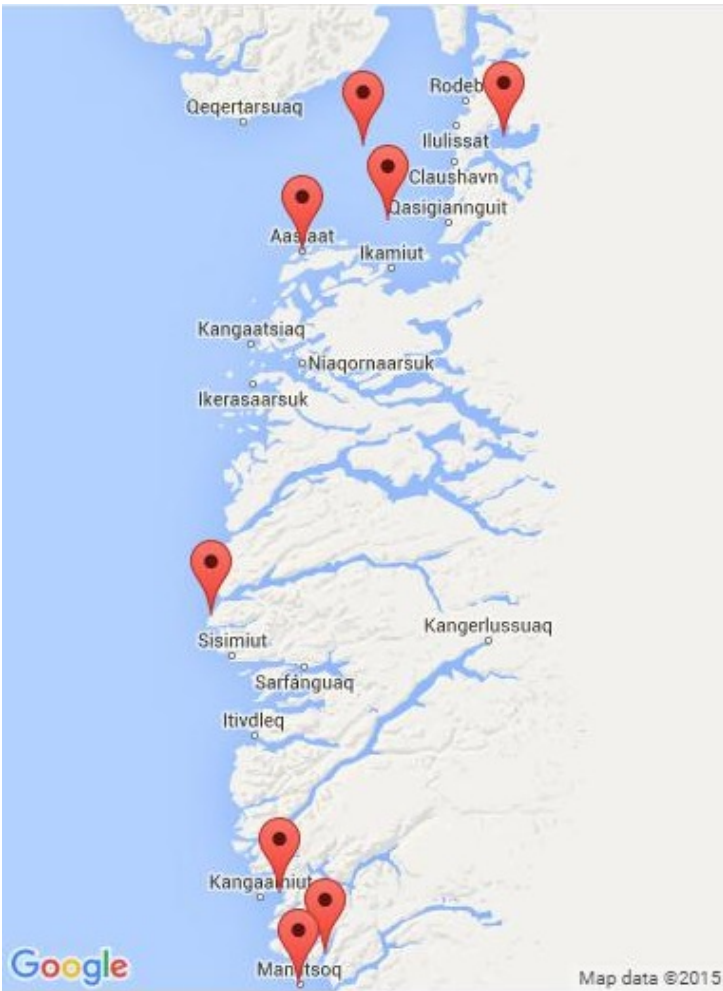
replaced by Inuit (or Kalaallit as they call themselves in Greenland) around 1300 A.D. The Inuit now make up the majority of the Greenlandic population. The Inuit, the word means "men" in the Inuit language, are nowadays seen as the indigenous people of the North American Arctic. Inuit are traditionally subsistence hunters, living primarily from whales, walrus, Caribou, Musk Oxen, Arctic Foxes, Polar Bears and seals. Please note; Pack-ice is unpredictable and may prevent our ships to complete the planned

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m. The port of Maniitsoq is ice free from late spring to early winter. It is a community where fishing and hunting form the backbone of the economy. There is a museum which portrays regional history and culture. Sperm Whale frequently surface in the waters near town

Day 2: Hamburgerland

East of Hamburgerland we reach the fantastic landscapes of the Sermilinguaq Fjord. The Maniitsoq area has rugged scenery with mountain tops flanked by glaciers reaching down to the sea. On snowshoes we will explore the lower slopes and viewpoints.

Day 3: Evighedsfjord

At the mouth of Evighedsfjord (Eternity Fjord) we often see Humpback Whales. We sail into that fjord and sail along the nearby glacier front. Further into the fjord we sail among the highest alpine mountains in West Greenland.

Day 4: Sydbay (Ukivik)

We arrive at Sydbay (Ukivik), where the 18th Century whalers traded with the Greenlanders at the annual Assivik, a time when people from a large area come together on a beautiful sandy beach. We land also at nearby Isortoq where remains of houses from the Thule culture can be found. In this area we may also see reindeer.

Day 5: Fortune Bay

Today we are in the mouth of the Disko Bay, surrounded by rich waters, which attract both seabirds and whales. We expect to see our first Greenland Whales. In the evening we spend the night in Fortune Bay or Engelsmandens Haven, where there are warm springs.

itinerary.

ITINERARY

Day 1

We arrive in Maniitsoq from Kangerdlussuaq by chartered plane (flight not included in the voyage cost. The town is nestled on an island at the mouth of a fjord surrounded by peaks above 2000



Day 6: Godhavn

Another day of opportunities to see Greenland Whale, when we sail south of Godhavn. In the afternoon we sail to the mouth of the Jakobshavn Isfjord with its enormous icebergs, where we will float for a few hours.

Day 7: Grønne Ejland

A third day of opportunities to see Greenland Whales when we sail from Jakobshavn Glacier to the nature reserve Grønne Ejland, where we see the remains of a small 19th century Greenlandic settlement and a small cemetery.

Day 8: Disembarkation in Aasiaat

We arrive in Aasiaat, a settlement which was created in the 17th century to support the whaling at the mouth of Disko Bay. Its port is ice free from late spring to early winter. In the morning we fly from Aasiaat to Kangerlussuaq by chartered flight, and onward by scheduled flight to Copenhagen.

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YOUR SHIP: REMBRANDT VAN RIJN

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VESSEL TYPE:

LENGTH:

PASSENGER CAPACITY:

BUILT/REFURBISHED:

S/V 'Rembrandt Van Rijn' was originally built as a herring lugger. The vessel was rebuilt as a three-masted passenger sailing schooner in The Netherlands in 1994 and sailed in Spitsbergen (1994 - 1996) and in Galapagos (1998 - 2001). The vessel underwent a complete rebuilding and refurbishment program in 2011. The communication and navigation equipment has been completely renewed according to the latest SOLAS regulations. The Rembrandt van Rijn measures 56 meters in length (168 ft.), 7 meters in width and has a draft of 2, 5 meters. The maximum engine speed is 9 knots. She has an experienced crew of 12 on board including two tour guides. The ship can accommodate a maximum of 33 passengers in 16 cabins: 1 Triple Private cabin with porthole (with shower and toilet), 6 Twin Private Inside cabins (with shower and toilet, no porthole), 9 Twin Private cabins (with shower and toilet and porthole). The general interior public areas include a spacious restaurant area so that all meals can be taken together as well as separate bar area and reading table area. There is room to relax, read and socialize. The ship is well suited for expedition cruising among small islands and offers excellent open deck viewing areas, even when under sail. The two inflatable rubber crafts (zodiacs) enable landing

and wildlife viewing opportunities in otherwise



inaccessible areas.



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