

## THE ARCTIC - TRAVERSING THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE 2025 | SYLVIA EARLE



### INTRODUCTION

#### SAVE UP TO 20% on Selected Cabins & Departures\*

We attempt to sail the entire length of the North-west Passage on this epic journey, which is inspired by the famous expedition led by Roald Amundsen. We wind our way west through the intricate network of rivers that border the mythical islands of Arctic Canada until we arrive at the Beaufort Sea. Expanding upon our iconic North-west Passage journey, we tour historical locations once visited by valiant explorers, get to know the amazing people who live in this area, and look for mysterious creatures that can only be found in this special part of the world. We could be stopped by pack ice during our trip, so be ready for a true expedition full of excitement around every corner.

*\* Early Bird Savings up to 20% on selected departures and cabins. Discounts are subject to availability and are available until 30 Jun 24 unless withdrawn prior. Discounts are not combinable with any other promotions except back-to-back voyage or loyalty discounts. Discounts and pricing are subject to change and may be withdrawn or varied at any time.*

**PLEASE NOTE: Pricing is subject to change and availability at the time of booking. Contact us for more information.**

### ITINERARY

#### TRIP CODE

ACAESTNP

#### DEPARTURE

27/08/2025

#### DURATION

29 Days

#### LOCATIONS

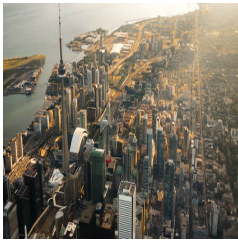
Greenland & Canadian Arctic



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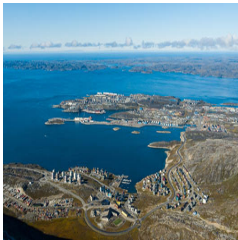
## DAY 1: Arrive Toronto

Upon arriving at Toronto Airport, check in at our group hotel near the airport for an overnight stay. Visit the hospitality desk to collect your luggage cabin tags and speak with our ground operations team. They may provide information on pre-embarkation procedures and the charter flight to Nuuk tomorrow. Ensure you label the cabin tags with your name and ship cabin number.



## DAY 2: Fly to Nuuk & Embarkation

After breakfast at the hotel, board our charter flight to Nuuk, Greenland, where our vessel Sylvia Earle awaits. After boarding, there is time to settle into your cabin before our important safety briefings. This evening, meet your expedition team and crew at the Captain’s Welcome Drinks.



## DAY 3: Sisimiut

Greenland’s second largest town, Sisimiut is located approximately 54 kilometres (33.5 miles) north of the Arctic Circle, meaning that during summer, you can experience the midnight sun here. The town is famous for the old blue church with the gate made of whale bone. In the cosy museum next door to the church, you will find an excellent reconstruction of an Inuit turf house as well as exhibits of local history and early life in Greenland. Sisimiut offers hiking trails with various degrees of difficulty. The easier trails take you through the town itself, its outskirts and into the mountains, where you will find spectacular vantage points. Approximately 4,500 years ago, the Saqqaaq culture arrived from Canada and settled in the area. They lived here for approximately 2,000 years, after which they mysteriously disappeared from the area. The Dorset culture arrived around 500 CE and stayed until the 1200s until they were replaced by the Thule culture, and today, most of the population of Sisimiut are descendants of the Thule culture.



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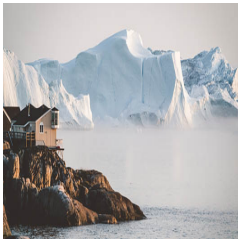
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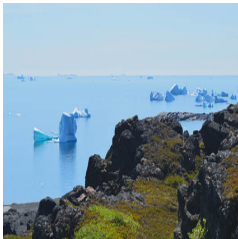
## DAY 4: Ilulissat

Known as the ‘birthplace of icebergs’, this region produces some of the most dazzling icebergs found anywhere in the Arctic. Hike past the husky sledge dogs to the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Icefjord and stand in awe at its immensity. Sermeq Kujalleq, also known as Jakobshavn Glacier, is the most productive glacier – not only in Greenland but the entire Northern Hemisphere. It produces 20 million tonnes of ice each day, all floating into the Ilulissat Icefjord and Disko Bay. Conditions permitting, enjoy a Zodiac cruise at the mouth of the fjord and kayak through sea ice and icebergs. An optional 90-minute helicopter flight over the icefjord is a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience. Optional helicopter flight (90 mins): this excursion is the only way you can get close to the gigantic glacier. The 12-seater helicopter departs from Ilulissat Airport sweeping over hills, lakes and ice fjords. Land on the mountain at Kangia, in the middle of the preserved area, where you can revel in the incredible surroundings. On the return flight to Ilulissat, fly above the edge of the glacier with breathtaking views of the massive icebergs drifting in the fjord. The views of some of the largest icebergs that become stranded on a moraine underneath the water, just outside the town, offers a wonderful finale to this excursion. Please note that this excursion requires a minimum of 8 passengers to operate.



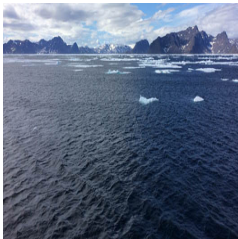
## DAY 5: Qeqertarsuaq & Disko Bay

This compelling island seems to have more in common with Iceland than Greenland. While most of the interior is mountainous and glaciated, its beautiful shorelines boast black sandy beaches, unusual basalt columns, hot springs and dramatic lava formations. Zodiac cruise in Disko Bay, which features fascinating geology. It is also a hotspot for marine life including humpback, fin, minke and bowhead whales.



## DAY 6: At Sea, Towards Baffin Island

Our team of experts entertain us with informative talks about wildlife, geology and epic tales of early explorers such as Franklin and Amundsen. Reaching the coast of Baffin Island, we may encounter Greenland’s famous icebergs. Keep watch for humpback, sei, sperm and fin whales, as well as various species of seals such as ring and harp seal.



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## DAY 7: Baffin Island - Days 7 to 9

The east coast of Baffin Island features hidden bays that are feeding grounds for bowhead whales and where glaciers calve into the sea. Sail along inlets and fjords surrounded by towering mountains that feature impressive geology. Some of the places that we may visit include: Home Bay, Sillem Island, John Ford Fjord, Sam Ford Fjord and Scott Inlet. Conditions permitting, we hope to go ashore at Pond Inlet and be treated to a warm welcome from the local community. Covered with mountains, icefields, steep cliffs, snowfields and glaciers, Bylot provides nesting habitat for large numbers of thick-billed murres and black-legged kittiwakes. A total of 74 unique species of arctic birds thrive on this island. Due to the richness of the wildlife and the beauty and diversity of the landscapes in the area, a large portion of the island was also included in the Sirmilik National Park, established in 2001. We plan to sail along the coastline of Bylot Island, where we hope to enjoy the scenery and outstanding birdlife.



## DAY 10: Devon Island, Lancaster Sound - Days 10 to 12

At a latitude of almost 75° degrees north, we are now truly in the High Arctic. Here, nutrient-rich waters support an abundance of wildlife, giving the area the moniker ‘wildlife superhighway’ of the Arctic. Devon Island is the largest uninhabited island on Earth and features stunning geology, with flat-topped mountains and glacial valleys giving Devon Island its unique character. We hope to visit Dundas Harbour to enjoy offers walks on undulating tundra, and perhaps some birdwatching. Other possible places that we might visit include Croker Bay and Maxwell Bay. A dilapidated Royal Canadian Mounted Police outpost and remnants of a Hudson’s Bay Company trading post can be found here. In the bay, walruses are often present. At the western end of Devon Island lies Beechey Island, where we plan to land. Named after Frederick William Beechey, the island is one of Canada’s most important arctic sites and is a designated Canadian National Historic Site. During the Franklin expedition of 1845–46, Franklin attempted to sail through the Northwest Passage with HMS Erebus and HMS Terror, with perilous results - three of his men are buried here. Roald Amundsen landed at Beechey Island in 1903, during the first successful voyage by ship to fully transit the Northwest Passage from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean.



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DAY 13: Leopold & King William Islands - Days 13 to 16

Our options for the following days are heavily dependent on unpredictable sea ice. We may attempt to cross Bellot Strait if conditions allow, giving us the possibility to sail Prince Regent Sound and search for wildlife and to perhaps visit historic Fort Ross - an abandoned Hudson's Bay trading post. Other places we may visit include Prince Leopold Island, which features magnificent vertical cliffs. Prince Leopold Island, Port Leopold On the southern side of Lancaster Sound opposite Beechey Island lie the towering bird cliffs of Prince Leopold Island— the most important bird sanctuary in the Canadian Arctic, with approximately 500,000 birds nesting pairs here in summer. Ringed seals are often spotted on the sea ice. Nearby Port Leopold is a historic site where British explorer James Clark Ross wintered in 1848 while searching for the missing Franklin expedition. The ruin of a century old Hudson's Bay trading post can be found there, and polar bear often lurk nearby. The shallow gravel beds attract beluga whales, which come to moult in this part of the Arctic each summer. King William Island Remains attributed to the Franklin expedition have been found at 35 different locations on King William Island and on nearby Adelaide Peninsula. South of Cape Felix, in Victoria Strait, we hope to get close to where the HMS Erebus and HMS Terror were abandoned in 1848.



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DAY 17: Coronation and Amundsen Gulfs - Days 17 to 22

Your experienced expedition team will create your day-by-day itineraries based on sea ice and weather conditions. Apart from Franklin, other heroic explorers including Amundsen explored this territory, and we may visit the same places as early explorers. We hope to meet the resilient locals who make the extreme far north their home. In our Zodiacs, we plan to explore the coastlines, bays and hidden estuaries of the region, and delight in the show of autumn colours during this season of change. Hold your breath as we near the geological wonder evocatively known as the ‘Smoking Hills,’ where the stench of sulphur rises from below the earth. Where it’s possible to land, we stretch our legs on hikes to explore the dramatic landscapes of hills, valleys, cliffs and canyons of the region. Below are some of the places in the area that we may visit:

**Cambridge Bay** The administrative and transportation hub of the region, Cambridge Bay is the largest stop for passenger and research vessels traversing the Northwest Passage and unofficially marks the midpoint for voyages of the Northwest Passage. Zodiac ashore for an exploration of this Inuit settlement located in the high arctic. Enjoy a walk through the village, where you can visit the local church, visitor centre and support the local community by purchasing some locally made handicrafts. In the old town, we plan to visit the ancient archaeological sites of the Pre-Dorset, Dorset and Thule people. Wildlife abounds in this area, and you might see caribou, musk ox and seals. The tundra is ablaze with wildflowers and birds including jaegers, ducks, geese and swans visit the area in large numbers.

**Johansen Bay, Edinburgh Island** Edinburgh Island is a small and uninhabited island in Canada’s Nunavut region. The scenery consists of colourful flowering shrubs, beaches tinged in stunning ochres, while the surrounding cliffs shaded in rich, deep tones. We hope to enjoy a Zodiac excursion within an estuary of at the northeast end of Johansen Bay and up the river towards the lake. A possible walk to a lookout overlooking the lake offers spectacular views over lakes, sea and mountains. Wildlife including caribous, reindeer, arctic foxes, hares and peregrine falcons frequent the area.

**Jesse Harbour, Banks Island** Located in the north of Canada’s Northwest Territories, Banks Island, the fifth largest island in Canada, is home to approximately 60 per cent of the world’s population of Lesser Snow Geese. Arctic foxes, wolves, polar bears, caribous, musk ox and many birds are also found here. Grizzly bears are occasionally spotted, and bowhead whales are often seen offshore. The dramatic cliffs on the southeast coast feature colourful yellow, white and red quartzites, while, on the west coast is characterized by long, sandy offshore bars. Nelson Head cliffs features ancient Precambrian rock that is almost 2 billion years old. Smoking Hills, Franklin Bay The smoking Hills in Canada’s Northwest Territories have been smouldering, sending plumes of gas across the landscape, for centuries. Technically sea cliffs, you would be forgiven for thinking that the multicoloured fiery natural phenomenon is the set to an apocalyptic movie depicting the end of the world. The smoke is caused by layers of combustible, sulphur-rich lignite (brown coal) that ignites and emit sulphurous gas into the air, when exposed to erosion and landslides, which also creates a dazzling colouration of the rocks.



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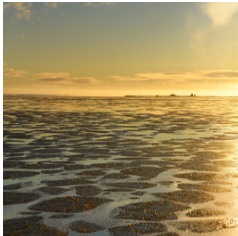
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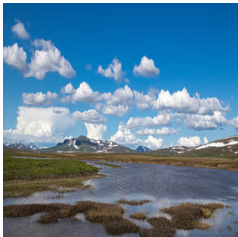
DAY 23: Beaufort Sea - Days 23 to 25

Excitement builds as we sail the Beaufort Sea. Whether you are out on deck or in the comfort of one of the observation lounges, watch as the captain navigates our state-of-the-art vessel through these waterways, which are frozen for most of the year. Keep a close watch for marine wildlife including Beluga whales that are often seen here. At Prudhoe Bay, we farewell Canada and enter the United States.



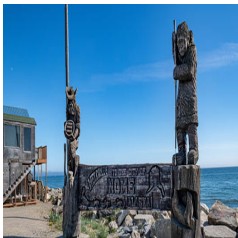
DAY 26: Chukchi Sea and Bering Strait - Days 26 to 27

As we sail westwards to Nome, along the northern coast of Alaska to where the U.S and Russia are only 100 km (60 miles) apart, separated by the Bering Sea, there is ample time to reflect on our adventures while scanning the water for marine life. Enjoy a massage in the wellness centre, share, edit and submit pictures in our photo competition and attend final lectures from our team of onboard experts. We hope to ship cruise close to Point Hope, Little Diomedes and King islands in Alaska. Celebrate an unforgettable voyage at the Captain's Farewell Dinner on board.



DAY 28: Disembark in Nome, fly to Anchorage

In Nome, farewell your expedition team and crew after sharing a once-in-a-lifetime voyage together. After disembarking, we transfer to the airport for a charter flight to Anchorage for an overnight stay.



DAY 29: Depart Anchorage

Transfer to the airport for your onward journey. Please note: Cruise itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, ice conditions and other factors.



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## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

**Accommodation** Cabin on board ship

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Inclusions	<b>Inclusions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome reception/pre-embarkation briefing on Day 1.</li> <li>• One night's hotel accommodation including breakfast, in Toronto on Day 1.</li> <li>• Charter flight from Toronto to Nuuk on Day 2.</li> <li>• All airport transfers mentioned in the itinerary.</li> <li>• Charter flight from Nome to Anchorage on Day 28.</li> <li>• One night's hotel accommodation including breakfast, in Anchorage on Day 28.</li> <li>• Onboard accommodation during voyage, including daily cabin service.</li> <li>• All meals, snacks, tea and coffee during voyage.</li> <li>• Beer, house wine and soft drinks with dinner.</li> <li>• Captain's Farewell receptions including four-course dinner, house cocktails, house beer and wine, non-alcoholic beverages.</li> <li>• All shore excursions and Zodiac cruises.</li> <li>• Educational lectures and guiding services provided by Expedition Team.</li> <li>• Complimentary access to onboard expedition doctor and medical clinic (initial consultation).</li> <li>• One 3-in-1 waterproof, polar expedition jacket.</li> <li>• Complimentary use of Muck Boots during the voyage.</li> <li>• Comprehensive pre-departure information.</li> <li>• Port surcharges, permits and landing fees.</li> <li>• Gratuities for ship's crew.</li> </ul>
	<b>Exclusions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• International or domestic flights not mentioned in the itinerary, unless specified in the itinerary.</li> <li>• Transfers - unless specified in the itinerary.</li> <li>• Airport arrival or departure taxes.</li> <li>• Passport, visa, reciprocity and vaccination fees and charges.</li> <li>• Travel insurance or emergency evacuation charges.</li> <li>• Hotel accommodation and meals unless specified in the itinerary.</li> <li>• Optional excursions and optional activity surcharges.</li> <li>• All items of a personal nature including but not limited to alcoholic beverages and soft drinks (outside of dinner service), laundry services, personal clothing, medical expenses, wi-fi, email or phone charges.</li> </ul>
	<b>Difficulty Rating</b> <p>2 (light adventure)</p>
	<b>Single Surcharge</b> <p>Available upon request, contact us for more details. Subject to availability</p>
Notes	<p>Prices are based on per person, twin share* (unless otherwise stated for triple/quad cabins)</p> <p>Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.</p> <p>Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions</p>

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ACAESTNP
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27/08/2025
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29 Days
<b>LOCATIONS</b>
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Price Dependent upon	Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.
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SUSTAINABILITY

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