Realm of the Polar Bear aboard the MS Expedition

From close-up encounters with icebergs and glaciers to the region's plentiful wildlife, this is a voyage of non-stop highlights. Always on the lookout for wildlife that live in this polar wilderness, you'll explore this landscape not only by ship but also on foot and via Zodiac.

Roaming polar bears, lounging seals, grazing reindeer, and colonies of birds all co-exist in this harsh land we dare only to explore a few months of the year.

Duration: 8 Days from Longyearbyen to Longyearbyen
Ship: MS Expedition

Visit our website, email or call us for more information!
Web: www.chimuadventures.com  Email: uk@chimuadventures.com  Phone: 020 7403 8265
Itinerary

Day 1: Longyearbyen

Transfer from Longyearbyen to the G Expedition for a late afternoon embarkation.

Please make sure you drop your checked luggage off at the meeting point between 9am – 12pm. A local representative will be in the luggage storage room. They can provide general information about the town or your embarkation process.

All passengers will be transferred to the ship as a group for embarkation at 4pm. Please ensure that for embarkation you have your passport accessible (not in your luggage which is being transferred separately to the ship).

Day 2– 7: Spitsbergen

This voyage is spent travelling in the world in which the polar bear survives. Our wildlife viewing opportunities are enhanced by exploring as many remote areas as possible. Spotting wildlife like the arctic fox, Svalbard reindeer, and land or sea birds can be difficult, but well worth the effort. Ice and weather conditions permitting we can explore near sea ice, through fjords that lead to glaciers and icebergs, and discover bird nesting colonies, all from the platform of the ship. Alternatively, hop in a Zodiac to explore more closely, or be brought to land to visit historical sites and experience the tundra. We are always on the lookout for wildlife, ranging from endangered and rare polar species to sea mammals and birds.

And, of course, we’ll have our eyes peeled for polar bears – they can be found all throughout this region, but finding them can require patience and persistence. Come join us in the search!

Early-season voyages often provide the greatest opportunity to see large ice floes in the Arctic pack ice, which usually means excellent wildlife viewing. Later in the season, the group can cover more territory, which may allow the chance to explore more of the archipelago. This can lead into the less explored regions, or the continental edges where large whales are attracted by nutrient rich upwellings. Each day will be planned to take advantage of local ice and weather conditions. Distances are relatively short in the Archipelago and as there are no ocean crossings, the seas are normally calm.
During these six days visit ice covered seas, fjords with breathtaking mountain scenery and glaciers flowing into the sea. Possibility to cruise in Zodias along the ice edge viewing seals or walrus, in fjords with glaciers spilling down to the sea or in front of spectacular seabird cliffs.

Day 8: Spitsbergen/Longyearbyen

On the departure day, there will be transfers available to the Longyearbyen airport for all passengers with flights scheduled.

Included:

- 7 nights aboard the MS Expedition
- Arrival transfer
- Zodiac excursions with our expert expedition team
- Lectures and educational programs
- Insulated, waterproof boots supplied for USA size 6–16
- Expedition parka

Daily Excursions

Explore the edges of an ice floe by Zodiac, walk on the tundra searching for birds, keep an eye out for a variety of whale species, learn about the Arctic from lectures and onsite briefings, sail through magnificent fjords and visit a local Greenland community in Ittoqqortoormiit.

Please note: While it is our intention of adhere to the route described above, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. On the first day onboard, your expedition leader will give you an expedition overview.
Our ship – MS Expedition

The G Expedition provides an intimate small-ship cruising experience. Completely refurbished in 2009, she boasts spacious cabins, each featuring ocean-facing windows or portholes and private en-suite facilities. Large common areas and observation decks provide panoramic views of the distinctive landscapes of some of the world’s most remote regions. The Expedition’s spacious confines can hold up to 134 passengers. Many expedition cruise operators offer you a choice of space, comfort or expertise; the Expedition delivers all three at a price few can top. With a focus on safety, comfort and the unique demands of polar travel, the crew of the Expedition is committed to the ship’s continued safe operation.

Details

- Passengers: 134
- Crew: 55 + 14 Expedition team members
- Language: English
- Built: Helsingor Skibsvaerft, Denmark 1972
- Refurbished: 2009
- Ice class: 1B
- Length / Breadth: 105m / 18m
- Speed: 13 knots

Deckplan:

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Cabins aboard the MS Expedition

**Suite – Cat 5:**
Suite with queen bed, lounge area and fridge and upgraded private bathroom with several large windows views located on Deck 4.

**Twin – Cat 4:**
Double cabin with 2 lower berths and private bathroom with large window view located on Deck 4.

**Twin – Cat 3:**
Double cabin with 2 lower berths and private bathroom with window view located on Deck 3.

**Twin – Cat 2:**
Double cabin with 2 lower berths and private bathroom with porthole view located on Deck 2.

**Cat 1:**
Triple cabin with 1 upper & 2 lower berths and private bathroom with porthole view located on Deck 2.

**Cat 1A:**
Quad cabin with 2 upper & 2 lower berths and private bathroom with porthole view located on Deck 2.

**Facilities and amenities:**

- Fine dining – international cuisine in one sitting
- Large aft deck with barbeque facilities
- Polar Bear Pub, Gift Shop, Medical Clinic, Sauna
- Computer Room with internet where available
- Gym
- 360° Top Observation Deck
- All cabins with private ensuite and outside views
- Raised Forward Observation Deck
- Large fleet of Zodiacs with four stroke engines
- Complimentary Wellington Boots for duration of your cruise
- Complimentary destination guides for every passenger
- Large heated Mud Room
- Lonely Planet Library
- Discovery Lounge

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