

# THE ARCTIC - THE NORTHWEST PASSAGE 20 DAYS | MS FRAM



## INTRODUCTION

Explore the legendary northwest passage in the wake of great explorers such as Roald Amundsen and Captain James Cook. The isolated sea passage allows you to take in the sites of stunning Arctic scenery boasting of raw and unspoilt natural habitats inhabited by spectacular wildlife such as the polar bear and walrus. Throughout the journey, enjoy views of vast expanses of pristine wilderness from the deck such as beautiful glaciers, fjords and icebergs including UNESCO World Heritage Site, Ilulissat. In the heart of the Northwest Passage explore Arctic Canada, or Nunavut as it is known in Inuit (subject to ice conditions). We hope to visit several sites with traces of earlier expeditions, and some of the world's northernmost communities. We will attempt to explore legendary inlets and channels and take you on exciting small boat cruising and landings. On this expedition cruise you will also see and explore settlements along the way including the picturesque capital of Greenland, Nuuk, founded in 1728. This expedition will end in the panoramic city of Edmonton, Canada. A truly spectacular journey through history and picturesque landscapes.

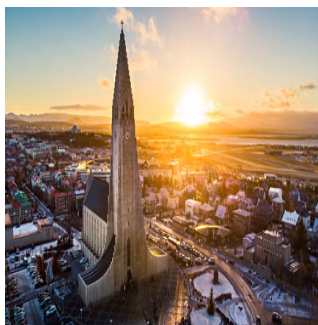
## ITINERARY

| TRIP CODE  |
|--|
| ACHUNP19   |
| DEPARTURE  |
| 14/08/2023   |
| DURATION   |
| 19 Days  |
| LOCATIONS  |
| Canadian Arctic, Greenland   |
|  |

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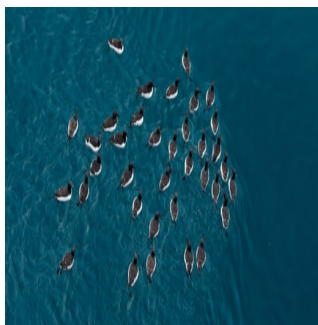
### DAY 1: Arrive in Reykjavik & Embark

Packed full of art, culture and history, delightful Reykjavik is well worth spending time discovering before you begin your cruise to the Northwest Passage. Take a stroll along Laugavegur with its boutiques and outdoor shops, head to the striking Hallgrímskirkja Cathedral or fascinating Reykjavik Art Museum. MS Fram awaits you in Reykjavik Harbour. After collecting your complimentary expedition jacket, it's time to settle into your cabin and meet your Expedition Team. Your exciting adventure is just beginning.



### DAY 2: Crossing the Denmark Strait - Day 2-3

We sail toward Greenland across the Denmark Strait, the route taken by Erik the Red, supposedly the first European to have settled there. Your Expedition Team will share the protocols of respectfully visiting wildlife habitats and indigenous Arctic communities. In the Science Center, you can learn more about Greenland's geology, or join one of our Citizen Science projects. You can relax in comfort onboard the ship. Hit the gym, soak in our open air hot tubs – or enjoy a delicious meal in one of our onboard restaurants.



### DAY 4: Prins Christian Sund

We aim to explore the incredible waters of the 60-mile-long Prins Christian Sund on your included excursion today. Sharp-peaked granite mountains provide a stunning contrast to the bright white glaciers. Look out for calving icebergs and colourful houses in the village of Aappilattoq. Nature is abundant here. You'll see ringed and bearded seals resting on the ice, and Glaucous Gulls and Black Guillemots soaring down from above. You may even spot minke and humpback whales. If sea ice prevents us entering the sound, we'll head to craggy Cape Farewell, the southernmost point of Greenland.



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### DAY 5: Exploring Kvanefjorden

Experience your first sight of Greenland's sublime west coast fjords as we reach Kvanefjorden in Sermersooq, meaning 'Place of Much Ice'. Have your camera ready for glistening icebergs and semi-submerged glacial ice - pure white with undertones of crystalline blue. These sculpted ice blocks are some of Arctic nature's finest creations. Few people venture into this remote fjord, making it even more special to spend the day exploring here. The Expedition Team will select places to head ashore to enjoy the beautiful scenery on nature walks, or head out in boats to scout for wildlife.



### DAY 6: Nuuk, Greenland's capital

After several days exploring remote, idyllic icescapes, you'll cruise into Nuuk, Greenland's colourful capital. With a population of 18,000, it has a striking mix of old and new buildings. Compare the old buildings - Hans Egede's House and Nuuk Cathedral - with the ultra-modern architecture of Greenland's Parliament. Visit Katuaq Cultural Centre, where you'll experience a Greenlandic mask dance, enjoy some local delicacies, and listen to the local choir on an included activity. Visit the National Museum to see six Qilakitsoq mummies, offering a fascinating insight to life here 500 years ago. Join us for an optional nature walk around Mount Lille Malene and explore the pristine nature around Nuuk.



### DAY 7: Spectacular Sisimiut

We reach Sisimiut, Greenland's second city. It sits in a spectacular location just 25 miles north of the Arctic Circle. This area has history spanning more than 4,500 years. Old traditions are alive and well here. You can learn more about the ancient Saqqaq artefacts in the local museum and Taseralik Cultural Centre. Pick up a special souvenir - a qiviut scarf, hat or mittens - made from a local fabric said to be 10 times warmer than sheep wool. One of the best things you'll experience on your expedition cruise in Greenland with us is meeting the local communities - real interactions that make for fantastic memories.



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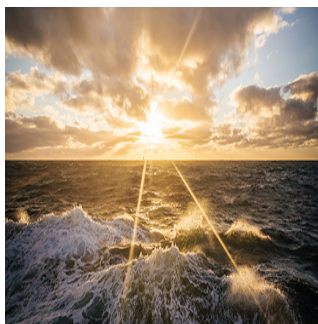
### DAY 8: UNESCO-listed Ilulissat

Our expedition cruise reaches Disko Bay - a haven for walrus, whales and seals. You're in for a unique experience. Nestled in magnificent Ilulissat Icefjorden, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is Ilulissat. Against a backdrop of colourful houses is an ever-changing gallery of passing icebergs. Marvel at these giants as they float past the town, taking on different hues of white, grey and blue. You won't just see them, you'll hear them too. As they bump into one another, the cracks, creaks and rumbles echo all around. Even amateur photographers will return to ship with the most enviable images.



### DAY 9: Crossing the Davis Strait - Day 9-10

Leaving Greenland behind, we'll set a course for Canada across the Labrador Sea. Soon we'll enter the Davis Strait, named after the English explorer John Davis, and known for its abundance of seals, whales and cod. The Expedition Team will continue their onboard lectures on topics from the wildlife of Northern Labrador to Inuit culture and the history of Arctic exploration. You can also take part in one of our Citizen Science programmes, helping photograph and track whales or contributing to the GLOBE Observer project.



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### DAY 11: The Northwest Passage - Day 11-17

Like pioneering explorers who've come before you, we won't have an exact itinerary as we attempt to sail from the Atlantic to the Pacific via the famed sea route, the Northwest Passage. We plan to stop at Pond Inlet, Dundas Harbour, Fort Ross and Gjoa Haven if conditions are in our favour. As we explore, we'll land at sites linked to early exploration history, visit Inuit communities, and look out for Arctic wildlife such as polar bears, whales, narwhals, seals and seabirds. You'll go expedition boat cruising between ice floes, and go ashore to experience the pristine wilderness first hand. Your Expedition Team will adapt activities to ice and weather conditions, giving you the best experience possible. We'll try to reach Pond Inlet and the Inuit community of Mittimatalik on Baffin Island. On Devon Island - the largest uninhabited island on Earth - we'll visit Dundas Harbour and learn about its Thule heritage. We may pay our respects at the graves of three Franklin expedition team members on Beechey Island. We'll continue west to Fort Ross, a former Hudson Bay Trading post before sailing to Gjoa Haven, where Roald Amundsen learned polar survival tips from the Netsilik Inuit. If we are able, we'll take a walking tour to learn more.



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### DAY 18: Wildlife of Cambridge Bay

Our expedition cruise continues onto wildlife-rich Cambridge Bay where you'll disembark. Here, you might see Arctic char, muskoxen, and caribou. You'll also find the Canadian High Arctic Research Station, an important centre for climate change research, here too. Home to 2,000 residents, Cambridge Bay is popular with fly-fishers, keen to net giant char or lake trout. Its local name 'Iqaluktuuttiag' even means 'a good fishing place'. Walk around and explore before we take our evening flight to Montreal, where we'll spend the night.



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DAY 19: Arrive in lively Montréal

Your adventure ends in Montréal, the largest city in Québec. It's a hub of Canadian history and culture with a cosmopolitan feel and a year-round calendar of events. There's plenty to see and do, from shopping, cuisine and culture to the Basilica of Notre Dame in the historic streets of Old Montréal. You'll find a kaleidoscope of colour in the city's Plateau district, and a lively atmosphere in the downtown social hub of Crescent Street. If you'd like to extend your adventure, join our optional Post-Programme for a sightseeing tour of this vibrant city in all its glorious diversity.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

|               |                     |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Accommodation | Cabin on board ship |
|---------------|---------------------|

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|-------------------|---|
| Inclusions        | <b>INCLUSIONS</b><br>Flight from Cambridge Bay to Edmonton in Economy Class<br>Transfer from the ship to the airport in Cambridge Bay after the expedition cruise<br>Transfer from the airport to the hotel in Montréal after the expedition cruise<br>Overnight in Montréal after the expedition cruise, including breakfast<br>A stay in a cabin of your choice<br>Breakfast, lunch and dinner including beverages* in restaurant Aune<br>À la carte restaurant Lindstrøm included for suite guests<br>Complimentary tea and coffee<br>Complimentary Wi-Fi on board†<br>Complimentary reusable water bottle<br>English-speaking Expedition Team who organise and accompany activities on board and ashore<br>In-depth lectures and discussions hosted by experts on the Expedition Team<br>Full use of our Science Center, extensive library and advanced biological and geological equipment<br>Citizen Science Programme where you can assist with ongoing scientific research<br>Photography tips and techniques for capturing landscape and wildlife from our onboard professional photographer<br>Use of ship's hot tubs, panoramic sauna and gym<br>Informal gatherings with the crew for daily briefings<br>Escorted landings with small expedition boats<br>Loan of boots, trekking poles and all equipment for activities<br>Complimentary wind- and water-resistant expedition jacket<br>Expedition photographers on hand to assist you<br><b>EXCLUSIONS</b><br>International flights<br>Travel insurance<br>Luggage handling<br>Optional shore excursions with our local partners<br>Optional small-group activities with our Expedition Team<br>Optional treatments in the onboard wellness and spa area<br>Visas<br>Personal expenses<br>Any items not mentioned as included<br>Gratuities for tour guides and drivers |
|                   |   |
| Difficulty Rating | 2 (light adventure)   |
| Single Surcharge  | Available upon request  |

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| <b>Notes</b>                | <p>Weather and ice conditions could affect planned activities.</p> <p>Programs and excursions are subject to change. Please make sure you meet all entry and boarding requirements.</p> <p>Contact us for more details.</p> |
| <b>Price Dependent upon</b> | Season and availability   |

## SUSTAINABILITY

Chimu Adventures undertakes a number of sustainability measures within its operations including:

- 1) Only using local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprints. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you’re visiting.
- 2) Where possible, using locally owned and operated boutique hotels to maximise the return to the local community.
- 3) Chimu’s “Pass it on” programme has provided funding to hundreds of local community projects in Latin America. Our aim is to empower local communities, helping them to develop their own infrastructure for the future. Since 2006, we have been working with Kiva (a well-known Non-Governmental Organisation), providing hundreds of loans to local businesses all over South America.
- 4) In our pre tour information we provide a range of tips and advice on how to minimise your impact on both local environments and communities.
- 5) Chimu Adventures’ offices also take a number of sustainability measures including carbon offsets for company vehicles and most staff travel. Chimu Adventure’s internal processes are also structures to create a paperless office and to reduce waste. There are also internal programmes to help staff minimise their carbon footprint such as our staff bike purchase assistance plan which encourages office staff to commute to work via bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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