

NORTH SPITSBERGEN ARCTIC SPRING



INTRODUCTION

Embark on an incredible voyage to an Arctic Wildlife Haven on board the quaint and intimate S/V Nooderlicht. This voyage will take you into the heart of West Spitsbergen as you explore the serene and isolated sights of the Arctic Spring. Despite the start of Spring, the climate remains relatively the same. Snow capped mountains and snow-swept shores create incredible backdrops for your expedition experiences. Explore the unique history of Arctic Explorers whilst also encountering unique wildlife including walrus, whale, arctic fox, reindeer and potential sightings of the elusive polar bear.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Embarkation in Longyearbyen

You touch down in Longyearbyen, the administrative center of Spitsbergen, the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago. Enjoy strolling around this former mining town, whose parish church and Svalbard Museum make for fascinating attractions. Though the countryside appears stark, more than a hundred species of plant have been recorded in it. In the early evening the ship sails out of Isfjorden, where you might spot the first minke whale of your voyage. In the evening you sail for Trygghamna, where you see the remains of a 17th-century English whaling station and 18th-century Pomor hunting station, both of which you can visit the next morning.



TRIP CODE
ACOWNAS
DEPARTURE
17/04/2021, 24/04/2021, 22/05/2021
DURATION
8 Days
LOCATIONS
Spitsbergen


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DAY 2: Foxes, Seabirds and Grazing Reindeer

From Trygghamna you walk to Alkhorntet, a large seabird cliff where the birds are scouting out breeding places. Below the cliffs is a common place to spot Arctic foxes, and you may also see reindeer grazing on the lush vegetation if there's not too much snow



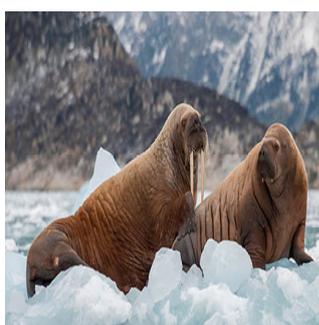
DAY 3: Earth's Northernmost Community - Day 3 to 4

You head north for Kongsfjorden and Krossfjorden. The landscape is likely to show signs of winter, the crags and slopes still blanketed with snow. Here there are rich opportunities for snowshoeing - we provide the snowshoes - and visiting places of historic interest: Ny London, where you can see the remains of early 20th-century marble mining, and Ny Alesund, the northernmost community in the world. There are also research stations and the famous anchor mast of the dirigible Norge, which took the first flight across the North Pole to Nome, Alaska in 1926. Krossfjorden offers views of colossal glaciers and lofty mountain peaks, but ultimately the extent of fjord ice dictates the itinerary here.



DAY 5: Walrus Watching, Seal Seeing

Cutting south between the main island of Spitsbergen and Prins Karls Forland, you may encounter walrus at Poolepynten, a common haul-out site. You also have views of St. Johns fjorden, near Gaffelbreen. The winter ice may not have loosened its grip on the water here, and seals (ringed and bearded) could be numerous in the area.



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DAY 6: Wild Tundra and Tall Mountains - Day 6 to 7

You now double back into Isfjorden and venture to Ymerbukta, possibly embarking on a walk in this mountainous area. Here you find an expansive tundra with its own avifauna, depending on when spring arrives, as well as spectacular geological formations along the coast. Further northeast, near Ekmanfjorden, you have the chance for another hike. Common to this area are numerous glaciers that terminate near or in the sea. In Gipsvika you can go on shore near the cliff of Templet, a mountainous location of eroded sedimentary rock from the Upper Carboniferous period - around 290 million years ago.



DAY 8: Disembarkation in Longyearbyen

Every adventure, no matter how grand, must eventually come to an end. You disembark in Longyearbyen, taking home memories that will accompany you wherever your next adventure lies.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Cabin on board ship

Inclusions

Cabin accommodation on board ship
All meals on board
All scheduled landings and excursions
Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition team
Free use of snowshoes
Transfers and baggage handling between the airport, hotels and ship only for those passengers on the group flights to and from Longyearbyen.

Exclusions

International flights
Pre or post land arrangements
Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable)
Travel and medical insurance
Gratuities for staff and crew
Personal expenses

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Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request. Contact us for more details.
Notes	Please note this itinerary may be subject to weather conditions.
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, seasonality and availability

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SUSTAINABILITY

Being environmentally accountable is a crucial part of our organisation. Chimu is currently striving towards using less paper, taking several initiatives to do so and tracking our progress along the way. Our goal: A paperless organisation. For this reason, all information given to you will be sent electronically. We encourage those who choose to travel with us to support our aspirations and actions and ask that you reconsider printing out documentation. To view these documents, you can download them to your iPad or portable computer before and during your trip.

Chimu is passionate and dedicated to sustainability measures and understands the crucial part sustainability plays within the tourism industry.

We use local guides and office staff to both maximise local employment opportunities and minimise carbon footprint. Local guides also ensure you benefit from the intimate knowledge, passion and culture of the country you're visiting. Our guides are all highly qualified (most with university degrees) or equip with many years of experience and are paid above the standard wage. Whether it be our knowledgeable local guides, locally produced meals or the transport on tour, we do not use imported goods when local products are available. We aim to minimise our impact on the environment and give as much back as possible to the communities we work in.

While visiting the many national parks, heritage sites, museums and landmarks our travellers are encouraged to explore whilst remaining culturally aware and sensitive. We further encourage you to buy appropriate souvenirs and discourage the buying of anything wrongfully made or taken from the environment i.e. shells and endangered species products. Information on how you can be environmentally conscious, and travel responsibly will be made available in our Travellers Guides and provided during your travels by guides and staff.

For more information on our sustainability policies, including how we are striving towards being a paperless organisation, click [HERE](#)