

## FRANZ JOSEF LAND EXPLORER, 12 DAY



### INTRODUCTION

Experience the mysterious and rugged beauty of the Russian Arctic on this 12 day voyage to Franz Josef Land. Franz Josef land is an incredible archipelago comprising of 192 islands. Following in the footsteps of historic explorers you will travel into this largely untouched archipelago. This adventure gives you the unique opportunity to see exotic Arctic wildlife including polar bears, walrus, Greenland whales, and an assortment of seal and bird species. At Rudolf island - the northernmost in the peninsula you will find ghostly abandoned Russian stations. At Cape Norvegia you will zodiac cruise close to walrus haul out. From cliffside birdlife to the occasional whale breach, each expedition on this voyage will be unique and into the unknown.

### ITINERARY

#### DAY 1: Arrival and Embarkation in Longyearbyen

We set out from Longyearbyen at 16.00 hours, hoping to get some initial sightings of local seabirds and marine life along the way.



#### TRIP CODE

ACOWFJ

#### DEPARTURE

01/08/2022, 12/08/2022

#### DURATION

12 Days

#### LOCATIONS

Russian Arctic - Franz  
Josef Land



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### DAY 2: Spitsbergen Ice Edge - Day 2 to 3

The next two days we spend sailing eastward, exploring the ice edge north of Spitsbergen. Here we might see seals, whales, seabirds, and even polar bears.



### DAY 4: Franz Josef Land

Today we approach the Russian base Nagurskoye on the Franz Josef Land island of Alexandra Land. We will see the Russian base at Nagurskoye from the ship, but we will not land there. After getting clearance from Russia, we will then welcome on board four guides / inspectors from the Russian Arctic National Park. Later in the day, we aim to make our first landing on the southern part of Arthur Island. In the Arctic archipelago of Franz Josef Land, polar bear sightings are likely.



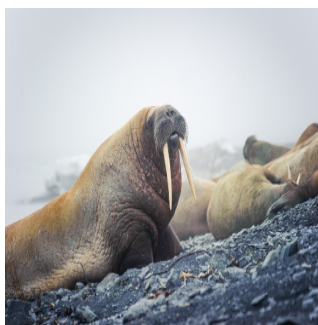
### DAY 5: Rudolf Island

The goal is to sail to Rudolf Island, the northernmost island of the Franz Josef Land archipelago. Here we hope to land near an abandoned Russian station in Teplitz Bay, seeing some reminders of the Italian and American expeditions here around the turn of the 19th century. We will try to land at Cape Fligely, the northernmost landmass in Eurasia, but may also change the order of these visits.



### DAY 6: Cape Norvegia

After sailing south, we will reach Apollonov Island, a large haul-out site for walrus, which you might be able to see from our Zodiacs. At Cape Norvegia on Jackson Island, our aim is to visit the site where Nansen and Johansen spent the winter after leaving the m/v Fram in 1895. Later we will sail southeast by Ziegler Island, then continue south through narrow but spectacular straits.



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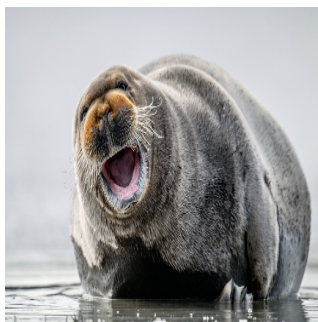
### DAY 7: Cape Tirol

Today we land at Cape Tirol, located on the northeast coast of Wiener Neustadt Island in the Austrian Straight. This cape was named by the Austrian-Hungarian Tegthoff Expedition and was climbed by its leader, Julius von Payer, in spring of 1874. On Champ Island at Cape Trieste, we plan to make excursions among enormous spherical stone formations, after which we aim to sail by the coast of Alger Island, where the American Baldwin-Ziegler Expedition had its main camp in 1901-02. This beautiful area is surrounded by mountainous islands boasting impressive glacier fronts.



### DAY 8: Franz Josef Exploration

Early in the morning, we arrive at Rubini Rock on Hooker Island's Tikhaya Bay. Along this impressive cliff face, you can see colonies of seabirds, such as Brünnich's guillemots, black guillemots, little auks, fulmars, and kittiwakes. You might also see bearded seals, harp seals, or Greenland whales in this area. Next we sail to Cape Flora on Northbrook Island, an important site in the history of polar exploration. More than a century ago, several expeditions had their bases here, and on the cliffs behind Cape Flora are large colonies of Brünnich's guillemots. It is exciting to witness the younger birds trying to glide from the ledges to the sea. At Günther Bay, we may take a Zodiac cruise near an important haul-out site for walruses. If landing at Cape Flora is difficult due to sea swell and permission, we will try to land at Bell Island, near Eira Lodge, the station of 19th-century British explorer Benjamin Leigh Smith.



### DAY 9: Nagurskoye

In the morning, we will return to Nagurskoye. Here our four inspectors from Franz Josef Land National Park will leave the ship, after which we'll sail west to Spitsbergen.



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## DAY 10: Seven Islands of Northern Svalbard

In the northernmost area of the Svalbard archipelago lies an island group known as Sjuoyane, which translates to “seven islands.” Here we plan to land at the rugged island of Phippsøya, where you may be able to see more walruses.



## DAY 11: Krossfjorden

Today we sail into Krossfjorden in the main island of Spitsbergen, where you’ll pass through staggeringly scenic alpine mountaintops, active glaciers, and rich vegetation.



## DAY 12: Disembarkation in Longyearbyen

We finally return to Svalbard’s principal town, where you will disembark the vessel, taking home priceless memories of friends made, wildlife encountered, and a once-in-a-lifetime Arctic adventure.



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## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
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<b>Inclusions</b>	All accommodation on board vessel All meals whilst on board All shore excursions and activities by zodiac Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition team Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes Comprehensive pre-departure material <b>EXCLUSIONS</b> International airfare Pre and post land arrangements Travel insurance Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Excess baggage fees and items of a personal nature
<b>Difficulty Rating</b>	2 (light adventure)
<b>Single Surcharge</b>	Available upon request. Contact us for more details.
<b>Notes</b>	Please note this itinerary may be subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.
<b>Price Dependent upon</b>	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

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travels by guides and staff.

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

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