

# THE ARCTIC - INTRO TO SPITSBERGEN | OCEAN EXPLORER




## INTRODUCTION

Explore the mysteries of Spitsbergen, the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago. On board the Ocean Adventurer you will discover the immense beauty of the remote Norwegian Arctic, from immense glaciers, fjords and more. A realm of natural beauty where immense natural landscapes are home to unique and hardy wildlife including walrus and the legendary polar bear. Explore the large settlement of Longyearbyen, where colourful houses stand solitary among the stark backdrop of Arctic hills.

*\*Current Discounts, promotions and pricing are available until 04 Feb 2024, however discounts may be withdrawn or changed at any time and are subject to availability on selected cabins and departure dates. Some current in market offers may be combinable and Shackleton Club Past Passenger and multi trip discounts may be applied subject to confirmation at the time of booking. Prices are subject to change based on currency fluctuations, fuel surcharges, and other external factors. No discount applies to any transfer packages, additional activities or pre/post services. The advertised prices may also include a 'Pay in full at time of booking' which is a 5-10% early payment discount, which requires the full balance to be paid at the time of booking to apply. Further conditions may apply, [contact us](#) for more information.*

## ITINERARY

<b>TRIP CODE</b>
ACQEIAD
<b>DEPARTURE</b>
20/05/2024, 07/06/2024, 22/07/2024
<b>DURATION</b>
10 Days
<b>LOCATIONS</b>
Spitsbergen


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## DAY 1: Arrival and Overnight in Helsinki

Your Arctic adventure begins in Helsinki, renowned for its extraordinary architecture and intriguing mix of eastern and western influences. If you arrive early, explore the many museums, galleries and restaurants, relax at a Finnish sauna or wander the vibrant Design District before retiring at your included hotel.



## DAY 2: Embarkation Day in Longyearbyen, Svalbard

This morning, the group will transfer to the airport and board our private charter flight to Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen’s largest settlement, where you’ll have some time to explore before embarkation. As your ship sets sail, enjoy your first view of the island’s rugged, glacier-topped mountains rising majestically from icy waters.



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### DAY 3: Exploring Spitsbergen - Day 3 to 9

You'll cruise around this magical island on a constant search for wildlife. Your expedition will cover western Spitsbergen as well as stunning fjords and outlying islands to the north. From polar flora to immense glaciers, the natural landscape here is just as varied as the wildlife. Each expedition presents new opportunities and different weather and ice, so there is no fixed itinerary; however, some of the places we may visit include the 14th of July Glacier, Smeerenburg, Alkefjellet and the Hinlopen Strait. The destinations visited will be selected for optimum wildlife viewing with an appreciation of the history and geology of Spitsbergen. The island offers multiple opportunities for wildlife photography. Spotting polar bears is more likely here than almost anywhere else, as the Svalbard archipelago is one of their preferred hunting areas. The towering cliffs of Alkefjellet provide homes to thousands of Brünnich's guillemots (thick-billed murres). Coming across a walrus haul-out is a moment you won't soon forget. These giant pinnipeds of the Arctic create quite a noisy scene as each walrus vies for a choice spot of coastline. If you're itching to experience a more intimate view from the water, you can book the sea kayaking or paddling excursion adventure options. In Spitsbergen, there is no shortage of natural beauty. The tundra can be surprisingly colourful in summer, with wildflowers bursting for a taste of sunshine. Each day, you'll see something interesting, whether it is unique arctic wildlife a polar bear resting between hunts, or abandoned sites from centuries ago.



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### DAY 10: Fly Longyearbyen to Helsinki

The time to say goodbye has come. Your Arctic adventure ends as it began, in the frontier-style settlement of Longyearbyen. From here, we'll transfer you to the airport for your return group charter flight to Helsinki, included in the transfer package.



## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

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Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
Inclusions	<p><b>INCLUSIONS</b></p> <p>Cabin accommodation on board ship  All meals whilst on board  All scheduled landings and activities by zodiac  Guiding and lectures by experienced expedition crew  Expedition parka  Loan of expedition boots  Comprehensive pre-departure material  Transfers to/from ship on embarkation and disembarkation days</p> <p><b>Mandatory Transfer Package:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One night's pre-expedition hotel night at Helsinki airport hotel, with breakfast</li> <li>• Charter flight from Helsinki to Longyearbyen</li> <li>• Arrival and departure transfers in Longyearbyen</li> <li>• Charter flight from Longyearbyen to Helsinki</li> </ul> <p><b>EXCLUSIONS</b></p> <p>International Flights  Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable)  Travel insurance  Any pre or post land arrangements not mentioned in itinerary  Customary gratuity for staff and expedition crew</p>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available on request. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	Please note this itinerary may be subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions. Please note that price may be subject to change and availability at the time of booking.
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, seasonality and availability. Price is subject to change and availability at the time of booking.

SUSTAINABILITY

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