

## THE ARCTIC - SPITSBERGEN EXPLORER | OCEAN EXPLORER



### INTRODUCTION

Discover the incredible wildlife of Spitsbergen, a remote, untouched wilderness and the 'wildlife capital of the Arctic'. Departing from Helsinki, you will board the Ocean Adventurer in Svalbard to explore the islands to the north and cruise along the western edge of this magical island where jagged mountains, deep fjords and dramatic glaciers provide a stunning backdrop. Spitsbergen is the land of the polar bear and the midnight sun, home to Svalbard reindeer, Arctic foxes, colonies of walruses, whales, seals and thousands of migratory seabirds. There are opportunities to sea-kayak, and to snowshoe to a historic memorial to the whalers who lost their lives in the 17th and 18th centuries. This is a classic Arctic itinerary.

*\*Current Discounts, promotions and pricing are available until 04 Feb 2024, however discounts may be withdrawn or changed at any time and are subject to availability on selected cabins and departure dates.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

#### TRIP CODE

ACQESAH

#### DEPARTURE

28/05/2024, 15/06/2024,  
30/06/2024, 30/07/2024

#### DURATION

12 Days

#### LOCATIONS

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 11

Explore western Spitsbergen as well as stunning fjords and outlying islands to the north. From polar deserts to immense glaciers, the natural landscape here is just as varied as the wildlife. As you cruise around this magical island located above the Arctic Circle, your Expedition Team will constantly be searching for wildlife. Each expedition presents new opportunities and different weather and ice, so we have no fixed itinerary; however, some of the places we may visit include the 14th of July Glacier, Smeerenburg, Phippsøya, Alkhornet 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 murre). 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 12: Disembark and Fly 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

**Accommodation** Cabin on board ship

### INCLUSIONS

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

### Mandatory Charter Package:

- One night's pre-expedition hotel night at Helsinki airport hotel, with breakfast
- Charter flight from Helsinki to Longyearbyen
- Arrival and departure transfers in Longyearbyen
- Charter flight from Longyearbyen to Helsinki

### Inclusions

### EXCLUSIONS

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

**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 due to weather and sea conditions once on board. Prices may be subject to change and availability at the time of booking.

**Price Dependent upon** Departure date, seasonality and availability.

## SUSTAINABILITY

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