

ARCTIC - ADVENTURE IN GREENLAND



INTRODUCTION

Set sail from Reykjavik in Iceland, bound for Greenland on this 11-day expedition cruise. Follow in the footsteps of the Norwegian explorer Nansen as you step onto the ice sheet at Nansen Harbour. Discover the remains of old peat houses from the Thule civilisation and marvel at the majestic landscapes of Skjoldungen Island. Cruise along the narrow Prins Christian Sund where jagged mountains, rocky cliffs, waterfalls and floating ice create an incredible wild landscape. Sail amongst the immense blue icebergs of the Narsaq region before discovering the spectacular Ilulissat icefjord. In amongst the breathtaking scenery, you will discover fascinating Arctic wildlife - from bearded seals to musk oxen, Arctic foxes, whales, seals and an array of birdlife.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Reykjavík

Iceland's capital stretches along the edge of a vast bay in the west of the country. For a panoramic view of the lush, green landscapes, make your way to Perlan, the "Pearl of Reykjavík", a large environmental structure located on 'Oskjuhlíð hill. Look out for the signpost showing the way to the evangelical Hallgrímskirkja church, and to the historical centre where you can stroll along the Skólavörðustígur and the Laugavegur. The little shops in these lively streets will entice you to do a bit of shopping. For some relaxation just outside of the city, you'll have the opportunity to visit the Reykjanes peninsula and its famous thermal lagoons of the Blue Lagoon. Embarkation time is between 4.00pm and 5.00pm, at which time cabins and suites will be ready to check in to. The vessel will depart at 6.00pm.



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DAY 2: At Sea

During your day at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This day without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.



DAY 3: Nansen Harbor

Travelling to Nansen Harbor is the guarantee of a voyage back in time and will enable you to discover a superb bay, into which the ice cap plunges directly. Arriving in these parts, you will immediately understand why Fridtjof Nansen chose this place for his ice cap crossing in August 1888. Indeed, it is particularly easy to access the cap from here and you will certainly be able to follow in some of this great Norwegian explorer's footsteps. A unique experience, one that will definitely delight the most adventurous among you.



DAY 4: Qingminguartalik

Welcome to a small protected bay on the eastern coast of Greenland, around 200 km south of Tasiilaq, for a date with history and ice. During this port of call, you will have the opportunity to visit the remains of old peat houses from the Thule civilisation. Then, after sailing through the ice, you will reach the starting point of the very first crossing of the Greenland ice cap, led in 1888 by Fridtjof Nansen, the great Norwegian polar explorer. A magical place where you can climb the gentle slopes of the ice cap's first foothills to better appreciate its huge size.



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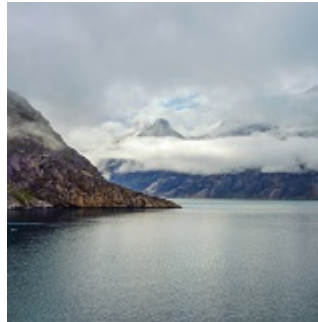
DAY 5: Skjoldungen

Discover Skjoldungen Island on the south-east coast of Greenland. This uninhabited land boasts magnificent landscapes that are sure to dazzle you. The island is surrounded by a stunning fjord, a distinctive feature of which is its double entrance: it forms a bend before joining the sea on the other side. Mountains, glacial valleys, rocky outcrops, tundra and willow forests make up the beautiful scenery which you will be able to admire more closely when you land here. At this port of call, surrounded by wild and pristine nature, it is quite common to see bearded seals, orcas, but also birds such as the common redpoll, the northern wheatear, or the common raven.



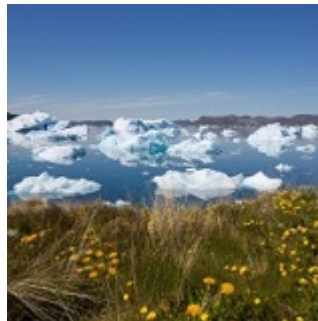
DAY 6: Prins Christian Sund

Your ship glides silently towards the Greenland coast, in a setting punctuated by pointed peaks and majestic glaciers... You are on the verge of crossing the Prins Christian Sund, a narrow channel that stretches out and zigzags over some one hundred kilometres between Greenland's south-east and south-west. Fall under the spell of the primitive beauty of these unique landscapes, including rocky cliffs and waterfalls that are fed by the ice sheet and plunge into the icy waters. Here, bearded seals love to lie on the floating ice to soak up the sunshine. If you are lucky, you may get to witness an aurora borealis, a stunning light show put on by the polar night.



DAY 7: Narsaq

After sailing in the Kangerlluarssuk fjord, discover the town of Narsaq. You will be dazzled by the beauty of the surrounding icebergs – large masses of ice in different shapes and shifting colours. Dominated by lush mountains, this small town is typical of Greenland. It is known for its sheep farming, made possible by the rich, grassy plains to the town's north. This rather rare activity reflects a past and a technique inherited from the Vikings. Admire the stunning interplay of colours between the multicoloured house facades and the glaciers with their myriad shades of blue, and dive into the Scandinavian history of Narsaq by visiting the local museum. A unique experience.



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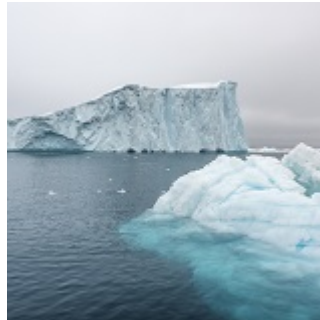
DAY 8: Nuuk

When Erik Le Rouge, the exiled Norse chief, landed on the coast of Nuuk, he found a fertile and welcoming land dotted with fjords. He settled there with a group of his former countrymen, and the Norse remained the principal inhabitants until, over a period of 500 years, their population declined and gave way to the Inuit. Nuuk is situated at the mouth of one of the largest networks of fjords in the world, where the waters never freeze. The town spreads gently out towards the Davis Strait and enjoys an historic center that is particularly rich in national heritage. The vivid reds, blues, greens and yellows of the houses are a lively contrast to the somber waters of Greenland and serve to lift the spirits of the locals during the Winter months.



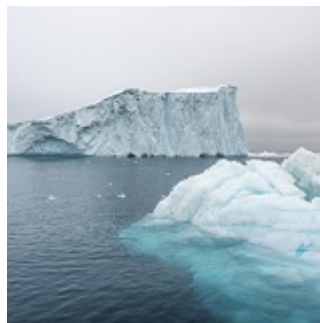
DAY 9: Ilulissat

At the heart of Disko Bay - a UNESCO World Heritage Site - the Ilulissat Icefjord provides an extraordinary spectacle of almost surreal beauty, with the largest icebergs of the northern hemisphere. The sculptural icebergs continue their timeless journey, shimmering with their eternal light. Vast pieces of ice break off from the bergs and rejoin the inexorable movement of the sea. Close by lies the town of Ilulissat, the region's principal destination. Encircled by icebergs, it has retained a unique mix of traditional Arctic life, with multicoloured wooden houses, huskies and the leather tanners who still work today using the ancient methods of their ancestors.



DAY 10: Ilulissat

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DAY 11: Evighedsf Jorden & Kangerlussuaq

From 1941 to 1992, the town of Kangerlussuaq in Greenland was home to an American military base. Nowadays, thanks to its international airport, it has become a transit point for travellers seeking adventure in the Far North. Located to the north of the Arctic Circle, this town is the starting point of magnificent discoveries surrounded by unspoiled nature. Indeed, just a few dozen kilometres from there it is possible to get close to the Greenland ice sheet, the largest body of ice in the Northern Hemisphere. From Kangerlussuaq, admire also the superb landscapes of tundra in autumnal colours, where Arctic hares, musk oxen, Arctic foxes, reindeer, falcons and eagles live. Disembarkation is scheduled for 7.00am. You will be transferred to the airport for your onward flight to Paris which is included in your cruise package. It is highly recommended that you schedule your departure from Paris for the next day.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Deluxe

Inclusions

One way flight Kangerlussuaq to Paris on disembarkation day
Shipboard accommodation
Group transfer to/from pier
All meals whilst on-board including snacks
Open Bar (excluding premium brands)
Room Service
Free Wi-Fi internet access
All shore excursions
Guiding and lectures by expedition team
Free use of rubber boots for shore excursions
Polar jacket
All port taxes

EXCLUSIONS

Airfares to/from embarkation and disembarkation city
Visa fees (if applicable)
Travel Insurance
Personal expenses such as laundry, on-board communication (telephone calls, faxes)
Gratuities for the crew (recommend US\$15 per person per day)
Optional Activities whilst on-board

Difficulty Rating

2 (light adventure)

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Single Surcharge	Available upon request
Notes	Contact us for more details
Price Dependent upon	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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