

GREG MORTIMER



## INTRODUCTION

**EARLY BIRDS: Book and Save up to 20%\* on select cabins. Conditions apply, contact us for more details.**

Enjoy 16 days on board the Greg Mortimer exploring Franz Josef Land and all it has to offer. Franz Josef Land is an archipelago of spellbinding wonder and indescribable beauty. A land where natural beauty is encapsulated through fierce highlights of magnificent glaciers and snow capped peaks, where jagged mountains join with rolling tundra. A land where polar bears roam and walrus and wales dance in the icy waters off shore. This place is truly unique wonder.

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1: Embarkation in Kirkenes

Arrive in Kirkenes, Norway, located on the border with Russia. Join a pre-arranged half day excursion or activity prior to boarding the Greg Mortimer late afternoon. Airport transfers will be included if arriving on preferred flights into Kirkenes. You'll have time to settle into your cabin before our important briefings. Sail the scenic Bokfjord to reach the Barents Sea on our way to Murmansk in neighbouring Russia.



NO IMAGE  
AVAILABLE

### TRIP CODE

ACAEFJL

### DEPARTURE

19/07/2021

### DURATION

16 Days

### LOCATIONS

Arctic



# GREG MORTIMER

## DAY 2: Murmansk

After sailing overnight into Russia, we stop in Murmansk, to undergo formalities to enter Russia. During clearance procedures, we may go on a city of Murmansk visiting the monument to the soldier of WW2 and also the first nuclear icebreaker Lenin.



## DAY 3: At Sea - Day 3 - 4

Over the next two days at sea, enjoy informative and entertaining lectures from our expert expedition team including naturalists, historians and geologists. Take this time to also familiarise yourself with your crew and fellow passengers.



## DAY 5: Novaya Zemlya


Novaya Zemlya archipelago was once an important nuclear research site during the cold war, and today only a few places in the north are accessible to visitors. These islands offer stunning rugged Arctic landscapes - enormous extinct volcanoes, jagged cliffs and the most isolated mountain range in the Baltic Sea. For wildlife lovers, Novaya Zemlya boasts a great variety of flora and fauna, many of which are on the brink of extinction. You may get a chance to see a massive walrus rookery, various species of whale, and the Novaya Zemlya reindeer. If we're very lucky we may also see polar bear, and the ones found at Novaya Zemlya are considered to be a genetically unique sub-species.



## DAY 6: At Sea

Use this time to rest and relax on board. Enjoy more lectures from your expedition team in preparation for your arrival to Franz Josef Land.



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### DAY 7: Franz Josef Land Exploration - Day 7 - 13

Franz Josef Land is a stark yet beautiful world of glaciers, mosses and lichens. Approximately five million sea birds nest on the archipelago every year, with the thick-billed guillemot accounting for approximately 20%. Other seabirds such as fulmar, kittiwake, Brünnich's guillemot, black guillemot and little auk are common throughout the archipelago. On the flat tundra, nest other species such as: common eider, purple sandpiper, Arctic skua, glaucous gull, ivory gull, Arctic tern and snow bunting. Franz Josef Land is home to two Arctic giants – the Polar bear and the walrus. There is also a population of Arctic fox, which typically have their territories near seabird habitats. The waters of Franz Josef Land are visited by whales, including humpback, bowhead, narwhal, and white beluga whale. Walrus, ringed seals, bearded seals and an amazing species of mammals, choose Franz Josef Land and the water areas around it as their home. Depending on weather and natural conditions, you may visit locations such as Bell and Mabel Island, Hooker island, Cape Norway and Prince Rudolf island.



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### DAY 14: Return Along Barents Sea - Day 14 - 15

The return crossing of the Barents Sea offers some good opportunities to encounter whales, perhaps the elusive bowhead whale if you're lucky, and certainly plenty of opportunities to photograph sea birds.



### DAY 16: Murmansk

Arrive in Murmansk in the morning, farewell your expedition team, crew and fellow expeditioners as you all continue our onward journeys, hopefully with a newfound sense of the immense power of nature. A transfer to downtown Murmansk or the airport is included in the cost of the voyage.



GREG MORTIMER

## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

<b>Accommodation</b>	Standard
<b>Inclusions</b>	All onboard meals & snacks All Shore excursions and zodiac cruises Educational lectures and guiding services Waterproof jacket & boots Port surcharges, permits & landing fees <b>Exclusions</b> International or domestic flights Airport arrival or departure tax Optional excursions not included in this itinerary Optional activity surcharges Travel insurance or emergency evacuation charges
<b>Difficulty Rating</b>	2 (light adventure)
<b>Single Surcharge</b>	Available upon request
<b>Notes</b>	Contact us for more details
<b>Price Dependent upon</b>	Season and availability

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## 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

GREG MORTIMER

bicycle. Currently almost half of our office based staff commute to work via bicycle.

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