

THE ARCTIC - POLAR ODYSSEY BETWEEN NORTHEAST GREENLAND & SPITSBERGEN | LE COMMANDANT CHARCOT



TRIP CODE

ACPOPOGS

DEPARTURE

28/09/2026

DURATION

17 Days

LOCATIONS

Iceland, Greenland, Svalbard & Norway



INTRODUCTION

This 17-day polar expedition offers a rare opportunity to explore the remote Arctic, beginning along Greenland's dramatic east coast and culminating in the rugged beauty of Spitsbergen. Traveling aboard the hybrid-electric Le Commandant Charcot, you'll navigate through the icy labyrinth of Scoresby Sound and venture deep into the world's largest national park—Northeast Greenland National Park. Along the way, you'll encounter historic trappers' cabins, glacial fjords like King Oscar and Kaiser Franz Joseph, and possibly spot Arctic wildlife such as polar bears and musk oxen. The journey concludes in Nordvest-Spitsbergen National Park, where marine life thrives amid relics of the region's whaling past.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive Reykjavik & Embarkation

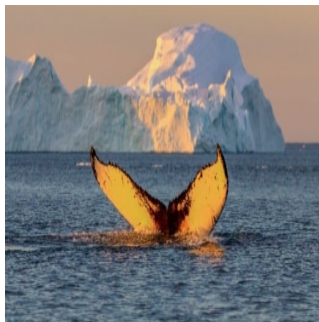
A charter flight will take you from Paris to Tromso, where you will then embark from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm, and departure at around 6:00 pm. Iceland's capital stretches along the edge of a vast bay in the west of the country. Perlan, the "Pearl of Reykjavik", a museum located on 'Oskjuhlíð hill, offers a panoramic view of the lush, green landscapes. A little further, one can easily spot the signpost showing the way to the evangelical Hallgrímskirkja church, and to the historical centre where one can stroll along the Skólavörðustígur and the Laugavegur, two lively streets with charming small shops. For some relaxation just outside of the city, visitors have the opportunity to visit the Reykjanes peninsula and its famous thermal lagoons of the Blue Lagoon.



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DAY 2: At Sea

Spend exceptional moments sailing aboard Le Commandant Charcot, the world's first luxury polar exploration vessel and the first PC2-class polar cruise ship capable of sailing into the very heart of the ice, on seas and oceans which the frozen conditions render inaccessible to ordinary ships. Le Commandant Charcot is fitted with oceanographic and scientific equipment selected by a committee of experts. Take advantage of the on-board lectures and opportunities for discussion with these specialists to learn more about the poles. Participate in furthering scientific research with PONANT and let us discover together what these fascinating destinations have yet to reveal to us.



DAY 3: Exploration Ittoqqortoormiit Region

On the East coast of Greenland, in the Ittoqqortoormiit region that is covered with snow and ice for nine months of the year, you will have the rare opportunity of immersing yourself in the heart of an isolated territory and exploring the beauty of its infinite polar whiteness. The high alpine mountains punctuate the sky and gradually reveal their dark rock edges beneath a coat of snow. Located at the entrance to the longest system of fjords in the world, sits the village of Ittoqqortoormiit, one of the northernmost inhabited places on the East coast. Its name means 'great house' in Greenlandic and it is home to the last hunters of the polar region, whose ancestral way of life you will encounter. As soon as the thickness of the ice floe allows it, the hunters set out on the trail of walruses, seals, narwhals, musk oxen and polar bears, travelling by traditional dog sleds. On these expanses of immaculate snow, the silence is broken only by the sounds of the dogs, the grating of a sled coming back from a run or of footsteps on the ice. You will discover Inuit traditions through privileged and festive moments on the ice floe and in the village.



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DAY 7: At Sea

Enjoy the absolutely unique experience of sailing to the heart of the ice floe, this vast expanse of virgin, immaculate ice. The landscapes are constantly changing, shifting from a smooth, flat wilderness to a chaos of ice, then to channels of open water. Your ship will sail along these naturally open channels and through the areas where the frozen layer is thinnest, offering you the chance to experience magic maritime moments in the midst of drifting sea ice. It will also often be an opportunity to see a particular kind of fauna, totally dependent on the ice floe.



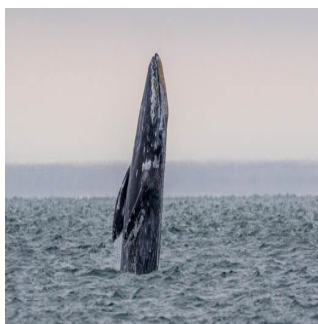
DAY 8: Northeast Greenland National Park

With a craggy coastline formed by gigantic fjords, magnificent alpine mountains looming over them, the shores of north-east Greenland offer breathtaking landscapes and are home to the largest national park in the world. Covering an area of around one million square kilometres, almost half the island, the North-East Greenland National Park, a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, is a particularly isolated region. Cut off for many months of the year by the ice floe, it is renowned for its pristine nature and rich wildlife.



DAY 12: At Sea - Day 12 & 13

Enjoy the absolutely unique experience of sailing to the heart of the ice floe, this vast expanse of virgin, immaculate ice. The landscapes are constantly changing, shifting from a smooth, flat wilderness to a chaos of ice, then to channels of open water. Your ship will sail along these naturally open channels and through the areas where the frozen layer is thinnest, offering you the chance to experience magic maritime moments in the midst of drifting sea ice. It will also often be an opportunity to see a particular kind of fauna, totally dependent on the ice floe.



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DAY 14: North-West Spitsbergen

A kingdom of contrasts and natural marvels dotted with islands and peninsulas, northwest Spitsbergen fascinates with its preserved beauty. On these pristine lands, infinity unveils itself, treating the eyes to beauty sculpted by nature and enhanced by the changing light. The fjords bathed by icy waters, the jagged mountains and the imposing glaciers stand majestically before you, like monumental sculptures. In these lands, where souls are filled with deep serenity, only the murmur of broken ice, bearing mysteries and legends, disturbs the calmness. Aboard our Zodiacs and in the company of naturalist-guides, get as close as possible to this unique fauna and discover this centre for scientific expedition departures. In the distance, majestic whales glide silently through the glacial waters, whereas seals, walrus and Arctic foxes add a playful touch of life. As Svalbard reindeer wander the vast expanses, Arctic terns liven up the polar sky with their gracious flight and polar bears, which you may be lucky enough to see, patrol magnificently along the icy shores.



DAY 15: Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen

Longyearbyen is the capital of the Norwegian Svalbard archipelago, located on Svalbard's main island, and is the northernmost territorial capital on the planet. With winter temperatures dropping to below 40°C, the landscapes of this mining town are simply breathtaking. The glaciers, the mountains stretching as far as the eye can see and the untouched nature, make you feel like you're in completely unexplored territory.



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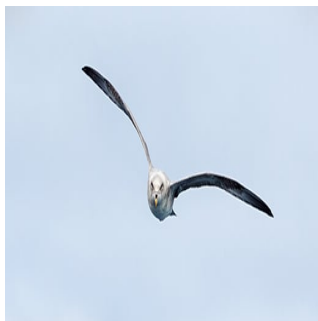
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DAY 16: At Sea

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DAY 17: Disembark in Tromso

In the north of the Arctic circle you'll discover Tromsø, a secluded town located in the county of Troms. Norwegians call it the "Paris of the north". You'll soon see why when you discover its extensive neoclassical architectural heritage. A stunning example is the Arctic cathedral, a major monument whose stylistic purity echoes the outline of the mountains surrounding the town.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation

Cabin on board a ship

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Inclusions	<p>INCLUSIONS Cabin accommodation whilst on board Le Commandant Charcot Flight Tormso/Paris on Disembarkation Day Group transfer from pier to airport for disembarkation Meet & greet at the airport by our local English-speaking representative. All meals whilst on board including snacks Open Bar (excluding premium brands) Room Service & Mini Bar (excluding Champagne) Scheduled landings and excursions, conditions permitting Guiding and lectures by expedition team Complimentary Polar expedition jacket (yours to keep) Free use of rubber boots for shore excursions All port taxes Comprehensive pre and post voyage informational material Free WIFI</p> <p>EXCLUSIONS Airfares other than specified Pre and post land arrangements and accommodation Visa and reciprocity fees (if applicable) Travel Insurance Personal expenses such as laundry Gratuities for the crew (recommend US\$15 per person per day) Optional Activities whilst on-board</p>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request. A supplement surcharge may apply and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.
Notes	<p>Prices are based on per person, twin share. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions.</p> <p>In rare and unforeseen situations, an operator may apply a fuel surcharge after your booking has been confirmed and paid. This is outside our control and uncommon, but transparency with our travelers is important to us.</p>
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

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SUSTAINABILITY