SPITSBERGEN - SVALBARD EXPRESS | OCEAN ALBATROS



TRIP CODE

ACPLSVEX

DEPARTURE

08/06/2027, 14/06/2027, 20/06/2027

DURATION

7 Days

LOCATIONS

Spitsbergen

INTRODUCTION

Experience Svalbard's stunning beauty on our "express" Arctic adventure cruise aboard the Ocean Albatros. Encounter whales, walruses, polar bears, and countless seabirds in their natural habitat. Embark on a six-day journey through icy waters and rugged landscapes, exploring the unique ecology of this heavily glaciated archipelago up close. Witness Arctic wildlife, from giant whales to tiny snow buntings, and delve into the region's storied history. Join us for an unforgettable voyage on one of the few ships built to navigate pack ice and polar seas. Discover the raw beauty of the southern Svalbard region, with its spectacular scenery and rich biodiversity, warmed by the Gulf Stream's influence.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive Longyearbyen & Embarkation



Begin your journey in Norway and arrive in Longyearbyen, Svalbard; the northernmost town on Earth. Despite its remote Arctic location, Longyearbyen offers warm Nordic hospitality. Upon arrival, you're greeted by crisp polar air, dramatic mountain views, and a polar bear warning sign reminding visitors of their wild new location. Your expedition ship Ocean Albatros awaits you in the harbour; toast your departure from civilization as you sail into the Arctic wilderness, on course for adventure!

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DAY 2: Nothwest Svalbard

Northwest Svalbard, a National Park since 1973, preserves a rich history of early Arctic exploration and whaling. First visited by William Barents in 1596, the area became a hub for Dutch and English whalers. Their haunting remnants, such as the blubber ovens, and graves of young sailors at Smeerenburg, remain visible. Now heavily protected, the region has been reclaimed by nature, hosting Arctic flowers, seabirds, walrus, and polar bears, making it once again a pristine wilderness and haven for wildlife.



DAY 3: Northeast Svalbard

In the morning, the expedition enters the icy wilderness of northeastern Svalbard, a stark polar desert shaped by the absence of warming ocean currents. Here, vast glaciers descend into ice-choked waters, surrounding rugged landscapes which appear barren but teem with life. Arctic foxes prowl the chilly shores, while hundreds of thousands of seabirds nest on cliffs above. The cold coastal waters are rich in shellfish, attracting the walrus, which are common in the area. Our exploration plans depend on rapidly changing sea, wind, and ice conditions, embodying the dynamic and unpredictable essence of true polar adventure.



DAY 4: North Svalbard

Next, we strive for some of the northernmost pieces of land on Earth; stark landscapes almost permanently beset by ice. With luck, we may reach the polar desert island of Nordaustlandet, or the smaller islands of Sjuøyane in the far north of Svalbard. The almost vegetation-free, rocky islands are located around 1000 km further north than mainland Norway’s famous Nordkapp. Weather permitting, we will land and walk upon these most northern landmasses. The high Arctic islands are quite barren, and only moss and lichens cover the stones. The birdlife is rich in this area, with flocks of grazing geese and nesting terns and skuas - keep your binoculars handy! At the end of the day, we will start cruising towards the Arctic ice pack which stretches from Svalbard to the North Pole and beyond.



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DAY 5: Into the Ice

The Arctic ice pack north of Svalbard is a vast, everchanging wilderness stretching to the North Pole and beyond to Alaska and Siberia, forming one of Earth's largest and most dynamic habitats. Though it appears barren at first, this icy realm conceals abundant wildlife; from tiny cod-like fish and seabirds to seals, belugas, bowhead whales, and the elusive polar bear, the region's apex predator. As Ocean Albatros navigates narrow ice channels, the expedition offers a rare glimpse into this mysterious, shifting environment where nature's secrets unfold with patience and care.



DAY 6: Kongsfjorden area

During the Arctic "night," we sail into the stunning Kongsfjord, a vast fjord system framed by glaciers and the dramatic Three Crowns mountains. Here we will visit Ny-Ålesund, Earth's northernmost settlement, known for its scientific stations and historic role as a base for legendary polar explorers like Amundsen and Nansen. This remote outpost continues to support vital research amid its breathtaking surroundings, blending the frontiers of science and exploration.



DAY 7: Disembarkation in Longyearbyen

On the final morning of our expedition, we arrive back in Longyearbyen. Even this small town will feel like a metropolis after days of isolation in the wilderness of the Arctic! After exploring Longyearbyen and bidding a fond farewell to the crew and fellow Arctic explorers, return to Svalbard Airport and join your flight back to the Norwegian mainland- with memories to last a lifetime.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board a ship

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Inclusions

INCLUSIONS

Accommodation onboard the Ocean Albatros in booked cabin category
All meals on the ship (full board): breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks
"Welcome" and "Farewell" cocktail parties
Complimentary house wine, beer, and soft drinks at dinner (selected labels and brands)24-hour access to tea, coffee, and 'Grab and Go' comfort food
500MB WiFi card for use on your personal devices
Expedition Parka, yours to keep
Use of rubber style muck boots, on loan for the duration of your expedition
English-speaking Expedition Team
Briefings and educational lectures by the Expedition Team
All scheduled landings and excursions
Citizen Science program
Photography Coach available throughout the voyage
Participation in the Polar Plunge
Access to onboard medical clinics
Access to onboard fitness centres
All port taxes and landing fees
Digital Expedition Memento, including a curated selection of photos, videos, expedition log and map, and wildlife list

INCLUDED ON BALCONY SUITE (B) AND ABOVE
Wine and fruit on arrival
In-room mini-bar refilled once daily with non-alcoholic beverages
Complimentary laundry service
In-room espresso machine

EXCLUSIONS

Mandatory Transfer Package: Flight from Oslo to Longyearbyen, and Group Transfer to the ship **at extra cost of USD$1000 per person**
International or internal flights other than specified
Airport transfers, taxes and excess baggage charges unless specified
Meals other than those specified in the pre-departure information
Pre or post cruise travel expenses other than specified
Visa (if applicable) and passport fees
Travel insurance (compulsory)
Fuel surcharge may be applied to all bookings
Paid adventure options and all personal expenses
Tobacco, or selected premium beverages
Miscellaneous extras
Laundry and communication charges on board, except as listed in inclusions
Gratuities for Expedition team and crew
For minors under 16 years of age at time of travel; life jackets, waterproof outer shell jacket, and boots
For guests who require larger sizing; Waterproof outer shell jacket and rubber boots

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Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Available upon request, a supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Please Contact Us for more information.
Notes	Prices are based on per person, and may be based on quad/triple/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. **Mandatory Transfer Package:** Flights between Oslo - Longyearbyen - Oslo and Group Transfer between Longyearbyen Airport and the vessel. To be booked 11 months prior departure at additional cost. No Discount applies to Optional Transfer Package 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.
Price Dependent upon	Departure Date, Fuel Surcharges, Cabin Category, Currency Fluctuations, Seasonality & Availability.

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SUSTAINABILITY

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