

SPITSBERGEN - NORWAY'S WILD NORTH: LOFOTEN TO SVALBARD | OCEAN ALBATROS



INTRODUCTION

Sail from Norway's dramatic coastline to the wild Arctic frontier of Svalbard on this expedition voyage combining stunning landscapes, wildlife encounters and active exploration. Beginning in Bodø, this journey travels through the Lofoten Islands, Norway's fjords and Arctic coastal communities before crossing the Barents Sea to remote Bear Island and the High Arctic wilderness of Svalbard. Explore ashore, join Zodiac excursions, hike scenic landscapes and visit some of the North Atlantic's most important seabird colonies. Wildlife opportunities may include whales, seabirds, walrus, reindeer and, in Svalbard, the chance to spot the iconic polar bear. Expedition activities and flexible daily plans allow you to make the most of changing conditions and wildlife opportunities. With four days dedicated to exploring Svalbard's glacier-filled fjords, tundra landscapes and ice-covered coastlines, this voyage offers a comprehensive introduction to Norway's Arctic regions and some of the most rewarding wildlife experiences in the far north.

Please Note: From Price Listed Does NOT Include the Mandatory Flight Transfer Package (One-way Flight between Longyearbyen - Oslo and Group Transfer from the vessel to Longyearbyen Airport. \$500 USD p/p (approx **\$760 AUD**) is payable on top of the cost of the cruise in your chosen cabin. No discounts or promotions apply to mandatory charter flights.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE
ACPLNWNA
DEPARTURE
10/05/2028
DURATION
10 Days
LOCATIONS
Norway & Svalbard


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DAY 1: Embarkation in Bodo

Gateway to the Arctic and surrounded by dramatic peaks, Bodø is a lively coastal city where modern Norwegian life meets the edge of the wilderness. Just outside town lies Saltstraumen, one of the strongest tidal currents in the world, drawing seabirds and marine life to its churning waters. Your expedition vessel awaits in the harbor. After embarkation and a mandatory safety briefing and drill, join your Expedition Team on deck as we set sail north toward Norway's legendary Lofoten Archipelago, where your Arctic adventure begins.



DAY 2: Lofoten (Reine & Leknes), Norway

Wake to the dramatic landscapes of Norway's legendary Lofoten Archipelago, where towering granite peaks rise straight from crystal-clear fjords and colorful fishing villages cling to the shoreline. Our first stop is Reine, often regarded as one of the most beautiful villages in Norway, its postcard-perfect setting framed by jagged mountains and tranquil water. We continue to Leknes, the vibrant heart of the archipelago, offering a taste of local culture and coastal tradition, with white-sand beaches and incredible hiking waiting to be explored beyond the edge of town.



DAY 3: Tromso

The largest city in the Scandinavian Arctic, Tromsø is the unofficial capital of North Norway, a hub for transport, industry, education, and tourism alike. The city sits on an island, and majestic bridges cross the fjord to the suburbs on the surrounding hillsides, which hold attractions such as the Fjellheisen Cable Car and the Arctic Cathedral. The city has been the jumping-off point for many Arctic expeditions—a heritage visitors can discover at the Polar Museum, a stone's throw from the city's charming main square. With vast tracts of wilderness just outside town, rugged enough for even the most seasoned hiker, visitors are spoiled for choice!



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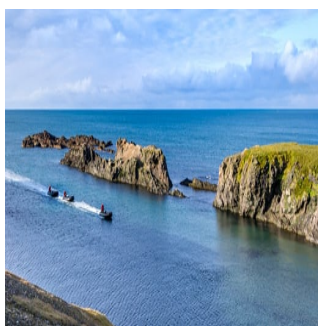
DAY 4: Gjesværstappan and Skarsvåg

Near the fishing village of Gjesvær is a collection of rocky skerries and islets famed throughout the world for their incredible birdlife. Grab your binoculars and join local boat captains to explore these incredible islands, home to everything from guillemots to white-tailed eagles. In the afternoon, we will come ashore at the tiny fishing village of Skarsvåg, the northernmost fishing village on Earth and gateway to the world-famous Nordkapp plateau—next stop, Svalbard!



DAY 5: Bear Island

Despite its name, polar bears are only rare visitors to Bear Island (Bjørnøya in Norwegian)—but don't let that put you off! The precipitous sea cliffs on the island are home to enormous colonies of seabirds, especially fulmars, kittiwakes, and guillemots. Prowling Arctic foxes patrol the flatter areas of the island, so these birds cluster on the rocky cliffs, carefully tending their precious eggs and jostling for space. Join your Expedition Team aboard the Zodiacs to explore this magnificent sight from the water.



DAY 6: South Svalbard

Our first landfall in the magnificent archipelago of Svalbard will be amid the lush green fjords of the south. This area is incredibly rich in wildlife and holds numerous historical sites, such as Bamsebu and Calypsobyen. Grassy tundra meadows, such as those found at Vårsolbukta, offer food for herds of diminutive Svalbard reindeer and other grazers, such as barnacle geese. With a variety of destinations to visit, our knowledgeable Expedition Leader and Captain will ensure that wherever we visit offers a breathtaking introduction to the High Arctic.



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DAY 7: Northwest Svalbard

Comprising the mountainous northwestern coast of the island of Spitsbergen and countless fjords, islands, and skerries, this region seems almost purpose-made for exploring! Incredibly, this wild coast was once among the most degraded environments on Earth—English and Dutch whalers and Russian and Norwegian trappers once ran rampant here, slaughtering whales, walruses, bears, and foxes at sites such as Smeerenburg to make their fortune—often not surviving long enough to collect. Thankfully, nature has rebounded, and the whole region is now protected within Northwest Spitsbergen National Park, making it one of the most stunning, wildlife-rich regions in the Arctic.



DAY 8: Into the Ice

To the north of Svalbard lies the enormous, ever-shifting Arctic sea ice, one of Earth’s largest habitats, which stretches from Svalbard to Siberia and Alaska. It may seem barren and empty at first glance, but look closer and the wonders of this shifting seascape reveal themselves—from tiny cod-like fish flickering between flakes of ice to flocks of fulmars, eiders, and guillemots, all the way up to snoozing seals and maybe even the King of the Arctic—the legendary polar bear. Bundle up, grab your camera, and join your Expedition Team on deck as we venture into the ice at the top of the world.



DAY 9: Kongsfjorden Region

With the midnight sun high in the morning sky, we sail into breathtaking Kongsfjorden—a vast and dramatic fjord system backed by the Three Crowns mountains. The only settlement in this region is the research town of Ny-Ålesund, one of the world’s northernmost year-round communities. Once a coal-mining settlement, Ny-Ålesund has been the base for legendary polar explorers, including Roald Amundsen and Umberto Nobile, and the research carried out here today by international scientific stations is critical to understanding the changing face of the polar regions in the modern world.



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DAY 10: Disembarkation in Longyearbyen

On the final morning of our expedition, we arrive in the charmingly unusual town of Longyearbyen, one of Earth’s northernmost communities. Everything here feels superlative—including the excellent local shops, cafés, and restaurants. After a fond farewell to the Expedition Staff, Officers, and Crew of Ocean Albatros, spend some time exploring this remarkable town with your fellow explorers before returning to the airport and the Norwegian mainland with memories of the Arctic adventure of a lifetime. Upon disembarkation, you will be transferred to the airport in time for your flight to Oslo.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board a ship
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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
 1GB 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 (A) 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 Flight Transfer Package (One-way Flight between Longyearbyen - Oslo and Group Transfer from the vessel to Longyearbyen Airport. \$500 USD p/p (approx \$760 AUD) **at extra cost**
 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
 Gratuities for Expedition team and crew
 Smaller puffer jackets, outer parka jackets and muck boots **may not be available** for minors, depending on size requirements. Additionally, a lifejacket that meets our safety standards is mandatory for all minors 15 years and under and **must be provided by the parent/guardian**. Please contact your booking agent for details.

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Inclusions

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Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Contact Us for details. Single occupancy cabins are available with a surcharge or for those willing to share you can be matched with someone of the same gender in selected cabins and pay the twin share price. Subject to availability.
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. From Price Listed Does NOT Include the Mandatory Flight Transfer Package (One-way Flight between Longyearbyen - Oslo and Group Transfer from the vessel to Longyearbyen Airport. \$500 USD p/p (approx \$760 AUD) is payable on top of the cost of the cruise in your chosen cabin. No discounts or promotions apply to mandatory charter flights. 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