FOUR ARCTIC ISLANDS : THE NORTHBOUND JOURNEY

13 DAYS / 12 NIGHTS ON BOARD

REYKJAVIK TO LONGYEARBYEN



Experience the vast wilderness and diversity of Iceland, East Greenland, Jan Mayen, and Svalbard, on this thrilling voyage to four Arctic islands. We begin in Reykjavík, the ideal gateway to Iceland's land of ice and fire, before crossing the Denmark Strait to East Greenland and into Scoresbysund – Earth's largest fjord system. With immense glaciers, blooming tundra, and mountains rising straight out of the icy sea, it is one of the most spectacular locations anywhere in the Arctic.

We also call at Ittoqqortoormiit, one of the most remote communities on Earth, before sailing to Jan Mayen, an isolated island crowned by Mt Beerenberg, the world's northernmost volcano.

Finally we reach Svalbard, home to walrus, reindeer, puffins, and polar bears, where our voyage concludes in Longyearbyen, the northernmost town on Earth.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience four vastly different Arctic islands
- Visit Ittoqgortoormiit, remote Inuit town in East Greenland
- Far into Scoresbysund, world's greatest fjord system
- Zodiac cruises in the fiords and nature walks on the tundra

EXPEDITION DATES ABOARD OCEAN ALBATROS

Board	Disembark
September 2, 2028	September 14, 2028

Day 1: All aboard in Reykjavik

Hallgrímskirkja Church towers over Reykjavik, a vibrant city known for Nordic cuisine, unique museums, and excellent shopping. Such a bustling capital will welcome you to your expeditions across the Arctic! Your expedition ship Ocean Albatros awaits you in the harbor; toast your departure from civilization as you sail into the Arctic wilderness, on course for adventure!

Day 2: At Sea, En Route to East Greenland

Leaving Iceland, Ocean Albatros sets course across the Denmark Strait toward the wild coast of East Greenland. These productive waters, where currents from the Arctic mingle with the northern reaches of the Gulf Stream, are rich in seabirds and marine life, so keep watch from the deck for fulmars, whales, and the first drifting icebergs. Settle into life aboard as the Expedition Team begins its program of lectures, or simply relax in the spa, sauna, or panoramic hot tubs as you sail toward the world's largest fjord system.

Day 3: Blosseville Coast

The Ocean Albatros will sail south along Greenland's Blosseville Coast, a rugged landscape shaped by volcanic activity around 50 million years ago. First surveyed by explorer Ejnar Mikkelsen, this area has long been navigated by the Inuit. If conditions allow, we may land in this now-uninhabited region of breathtaking beauty.

Day 4: Expedition Scoresbysund

Venturing deep into the maze of fjords and islands that comprise Scoresbysund, it is easy to see why this region is spoken of with awe by even experienced explorers! The exact locations we visit in Scoresbysund will be dictated by Mother Nature – this far north, all human activity is subject to wind, sea, and ice conditions. Options include the Bjørne Islands, a labyrinth of skerries which trap vast icebergs in their rocky net, the sweeping basalt mountains of Cape Brewster, and the abandoned remains of European and Inuit settlements.

Days 5: Ittoqqortoormiit

The only settlement in this region, Ittoqqortoormiit is among the most remote communities on Earth. The town has a strong sense of community and traditional culture, hosting an excellent museum, a beautiful traditional church, and locals often welcome visitors wearing colourful traditional costumes. Ittoqqortoormiit is the perfect introduction to the culture and lifestyle of Greenland.

Day 6: At Sea, En Route to Jan Mayen

From Scoresbysund, Ocean Albatros will sail on towards Jan Mayen. Cold currents drifting down from the Arctic Ocean mix with the last gasp of the Gulf Stream, creating vast biological productivity. During sea days, guests can enjoy fascinating lectures, indulgent spa

treatments, or simply relax and watch seabirds from the ship's hot tubs.

Day 7: Jan Mayen

The active volcanic island of Jan Mayen is on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, the 'spine' of the Atlantic Ocean. This enigmatic and isolated island is the only active volcano in Norway, and the northernmost active volcano on Earth. Jan Mayen is inhabited by only around 18 people, a mixture of scientists and Norwegian troops. The volcanic origin is visible all over with cinder cones, lava flows, and the Fuji-esque peak of Beerenberg looming above, while creeping tundra plants and squabbling seabirds eek out a living in the rugged cliffs.

Day 8 & 9: At Sea, En Route to Svalbard

Leaving Jan Mayen behind, Ocean Albatros sets a northeasterly course across the Greenland Sea toward the high Arctic archipelago of Svalbard. Join the Expedition Team for lectures on the wildlife and history ahead, take part in citizen science, or relax in the spa and panoramic hot tubs as the polar seascape drifts by and Svalbard's snow-crowned peaks draw near.

Day 10: Expedition South Svalbard

On our final day on Svalbard, our expedition enters the greener, warmer fjords of Bellsund and Hornsund, nourished by Atlantic currents. These fertile valleys support reindeer, Arctic foxes, nesting seabirds, and drifting icebergs from nearby glaciers. Rich in wildlife and history, the area offers highlights like Alkhjornet's bird cliffs and the historic sites of Calypsobyen and Bamsebu, making it one of Svalbard's most diverse and captivating regions.

Day 11: Expedition Northwest Spitzbergen

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. 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 12: Kongsfjorden Area

During the Arctic "night," we sail past Prins Karls Forland to the stunning Kongsfjord, framed by glaciers and the dramatic Three Crowns mountains. Our next and last stop is 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.

Day 13: Disembarkation in Longyearbyen

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. After a hearty breakfast, it is time to bid a fond farewell to the Crew and Expedition Team, and descend the gangway back to dry land with memories of the voyage of a lifetime.

