

# THREE ARCTIC ISLANDS: EXTENDED PASSAGE

14 DAYS / 13 NIGHTS ON BOARD

REYKJAVIK TO LONGYEARBYEN

**Experience the Diversity of the Arctic in Svalbard, Greenland, and Iceland.** Your adventure begins in Reykjavik, one of Scandinavia's most vibrant capitals, before striking out for the wilds of East Greenland. Next, we venture up the coast to the friendly settlement of Ittoqqortoormiit, then enter Northeast Greenland National Park.

This is Earth's largest protected land area, where glaciers, blooming tundra, and sheer mountains rising from the icy sea create one of the Arctic's most spectacular landscapes. From the wilds of the National Park, we will cross the Greenland Sea to explore the breathtaking high Arctic islands of Svalbard, home to a vast diversity of Arctic wildlife, from walrus and reindeer to puffins and polar bears.

Marvel at the pioneering history of this archipelago, where scientists work hard to conserve this natural paradise. Our voyage finishes in Longyearbyen, Svalbard's bustling capital, and the northernmost city on planet Earth.

## HIGHLIGHTS

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

## EXPEDITION DATES ABOARD DISCOVERER

Board	Disembark
Aug 4, 2027	Aug 17, 2027

### Day 1, All aboard in Reykjavik!

Hallgrímskirkja Church towers over Reykjavik, one of Scandinavia's most hip capitals, world-renowned for Nordic cuisine, quirky museums, and lively shopping streets. Embark your expedition vessel in the heart of the city in the afternoon: after completing mandatory safety drills, join your Expedition Team on the outer decks and toast your departure from Iceland as we set sail towards East Greenland.

### Day 2, At sea, Crossing the Denmark Strait

Separating Iceland and Greenland is the Denmark



Strait, a turbulent stretch of chilly ocean which teems with rich marine life. Grab your binoculars and join your Expedition Team on the outer decks to watch for wildlife. When you need to warm up, join your team to discover insights on Arctic ecology, geology, and wildlife, as well as briefings preparing guests for Zodiac operations and polar bear safety in the wilderness of Greenland.

### Days 3, East Greenland

On the third day of our expedition, the rugged coast of Greenland comes into view. Your Expedition Leader and Captain will carefully plan their approach and aim to take guests exploring on the Zodiacs to experience the majesty of Earth's largest island first-hand, taking advantage of the best local conditions to find thrilling spots to explore. Grab your camera and binoculars and get ready to explore!

### Days 4, Ittoqqortoormiit

The only settlement in this region, Ittoqqortoormiit is among the most remote communities on Earth. While the establishment of the town by Danish authorities in 1925 was challenging, residents continue a subsistence hunting lifestyle, essential when supply ships arrive only once or twice per year. Ittoqqortoormiit is a town with 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 5-6, Northeast Greenland National Park

From Ittoqqortoormiit, we enter the Northeast Greenland National Park — the world's largest protected land area, spanning nearly a million square kilometres and encompassing the northernmost land

on Earth. The region was once home to nomadic Inuit hunters, but today is uninhabited save for a few small Danish military bases. Our voyage through the Park will be a true polar expedition: due to the unpredictable Arctic conditions and extreme isolation of the area, our exact destinations are flexible and dictated by weather, wind, sea, and ice.

#### **Day 7-8, Crossing the Greenland Sea**

The next step on our expedition lies across the vast and icy Greenland Sea. Here, the last gasp of the Gulf Stream mixes with cold currents drifting down from the Arctic Ocean, creating vast biological productivity – so be sure to grab your binoculars and join your Expedition Team on deck to watch for wildlife!

#### **Day 9, South Svalbard**

Closest to Greenland lie the green fjords of southwest Svalbard, such as Bellsund and Hornsund, nourished by balmy Atlantic currents. These valleys support reindeer, Arctic foxes, nesting seabirds, and drifting icebergs from nearby glaciers. Rich in wildlife and history, the area offers highlights like the historic sites of Calypsobyen and Bamsebu, as well as the bird cliffs of Gnålodden.

#### **Day 10, Northwest Svalbard**

Northwest Svalbard preserves a rich history of early Arctic exploration and whaling, and has been protected as a National Park since 1973. After centuries of whaling and hunting, the region has been reclaimed by nature and is once again a pristine wilderness haven thanks to being heavily protected in law, and holds a rich ecosystem of Arctic flowers, seabirds, walrus and polar bears amongst many other species.

#### **Day 11, Northeast Svalbard**

Next, we enter the icy wilderness of northeastern Svalbard — a stark polar desert where vast glaciers spill into ice-choked waters. The rugged shores appear barren but teem with life: arctic foxes patrol the coast, seabirds nest by the hundreds of thousands on the cliffs above, and walrus gather in the shellfish-rich shallows. Plans shift with the sea, wind, and ice, embodying the unpredictable essence of true polar adventure.

#### **Day 12, Kongsfjorden Region**

As the weak Arctic sun rises, we sail into the breathtaking Kongsfjord, a vast fjord system framed by the dramatic Three Crowns mountains and their creaking glaciers. Here we visit Ny-Ålesund — Earth's northernmost settlement, once a base for legendary polar explorers like Amundsen and Nansen, and now home to a plethora of international research stations.

#### **Day 13, West/Central Svalbard**

As we venture towards Longyearbyen, we will explore the sheltered bays and beaches of central Spitzbergen. Destinations may include Poolepynten, inhabited by herds of walrus who can be seen (and smelled!) from a distance. During the afternoon, we will venture towards Isfjorden, all the while on the lookout for wildlife and spectacular views as we return to civilization.

#### **Day 14, Longyearbyen: Disembarkation**

After bidding a fond farewell to the Expedition Team and Crew of Discoverer and your fellow Arctic explorers, enjoy some time exploring the world's northernmost city before making your way to Svalbard Airport to fly back to the Norwegian mainland- with memories to last a lifetime.

