

## SVALBARD: NORTH TO THE MIDNIGHT SUN

8 DAYS / 7 NIGHTS ON BOARD

LONGYEARBYEN TO LONGYEARBYEN

**The best of Svalbard on our classic 7-night expedition cruise.** Join us aboard the Ocean Albatros on an unforgettable Arctic expedition through Svalbard's breathtaking wilderness, cruising among whales, walrus, polar bears, and millions of seabirds. This ice-class vessel is specially built to navigate the polar pack ice, allowing exploration of remote and pristine environments. Experience the high summer in the Arctic, when reindeer and Arctic foxes prepare for winter and seabird cliffs teem with life. This expedition aims to sail as close as possible to the northern pack ice, the favoured summer habitat of polar bears, while also visiting accessible locations along Svalbard's west coast kept navigable by the warm Gulf Stream. From wildlife hotspots to eerie historical sites, glittering icebergs to breathtaking glaciers, this voyage offers a true immersion into nature's high-Arctic paradise, blending staggering scenery, wildlife-watching, and historical discovery.

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Our classic Svalbard expedition, tried and tested by generations of explorers
- Visit the world's northernmost community, the scientific town of Ny-Ålesund
- See charismatic wildlife, including walrus, reindeer, and polar bears
- Venture into the Arctic pack ice – next stop, Alaska!
- Explore on foot, by kayak, and by Zodiac – see Svalbard from every angle!
- Experience the vibrant high Arctic town of Longyearbyen

### EXPEDITION DATES ABOARD OCEAN ALBATROS

| Board        | Disembark     |
|--------------|---------------|
| May 24, 2026 | May 31, 2026  |
| June 5, 2026 | June 12, 2026 |
| Jul 22, 2026 | Jul 30, 2026  |
| May 18, 2027 | May 25, 2027  |
| May 25, 2027 | Jun 1, 2027   |
| Jun 1, 2027  | Jun 8, 2027   |
| Jun 26, 2027 | Jul 3, 2027   |
| Jul 3, 2027  | Jul 10, 2027  |
| Jul 10, 2027 | Jul 17, 2027  |
| Aug 8, 2027  | Aug 15, 2027  |
| Aug 15, 2027 | Aug 22, 2027  |
| Aug 22, 2027 | Aug 29, 2027  |



### Day 1, All aboard in Longyearbyen!

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!

### Days 2-3, Northwest 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 4, 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 5, 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.

### Days 6, Into the Ice

The Arctic ice pack north of Svalbard is a vast, ever-changing 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 7, 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 8, Longyearbyen disembarkation

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.

