

THE ARCTIC - NORTH SPITSBERGEN BASECAMP | ORTELIUS



TRIP CODE

ACOWBNS

DEPARTURE

19/06/2026

DURATION

8 Days

LOCATIONS

Spitsbergen



INTRODUCTION

The North Spitsbergen Basecamp cruise allows you to explore and enjoy this Arctic region in a variety of ways. On this expedition, you can kayak, hike, snowshoe, and learn how to take stunning photos of polar flora and fauna.

Background information on Basecamp cruises: We strive to minimise wildlife disturbance on our Basecamp voyages by concentrating on land and near-shore activities. The expedition team will try to find wildlife opportunities whenever possible, if time and circumstances allow.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Largest town, biggest island

You touch down in Longyearbyen, the administrative center of Spitsbergen, the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago. Enjoy strolling around this former mining town, whose parish church and Svalbard Museum make for fascinating attractions. Though the countryside appears stark, more than a hundred species of plant have been recorded in it. In the early evening the ship sails out of Isfjorden, where you might spot the first minke whale of your voyage.



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DAY 2: Kongsfjorden & Blomstrandhalvøya

On the first day of our activity program, we will slowly ease into things. Blomstrandhalvøya is located on the northern side of the fjord, which will offer shelter and room to change plan in case the weather changes. In the afternoon, you visit Ny Ålesund, one of the northernmost settlements on Earth. Once a mining village served by the world’s most northerly railway – you can still see its tracks – Ny Ålesund is now a research center. Close to the community is a breeding ground for barnacle geese, pink-footed geese, and Arctic terns. And if you’re interested in the history of Arctic exploration, visit the anchoring mast used by polar explorers Amundsen and Nobile in their airships, Norge (1926) and Italia (1928). In the evening, we head north along the west coast and spend the night in the sheltered surroundings of Krossfjorden.



DAY 3: Exploring the North West

Next to our activities, we will next head toward Amsterdamoya, where you have the chance to hike past the remains of a 17th-century whaling station. You can also enjoy the beautiful panorama of Smeerenburgsleta. In the afternoon, we make for the islands around Fair Haven.



DAY 4: Rugged Raudfjorden

At Raudfjorden, on the north coast of Spitsbergen, you can take in an expansive fjord spilling with glaciers – and maybe even visited by ringed and bearded seals. The cliffs and shoreline of this fjord also support thriving seabird colonies, rich vegetation, and the possibility of polar bears. Here we will find the right balance between safe activities and wildlife watching.



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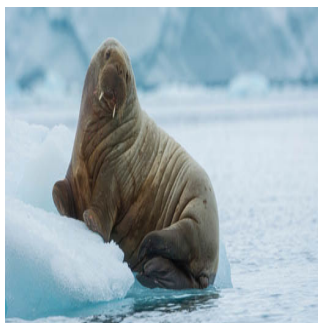
DAY 5: The stunning sights of Liefdefjorden

Depending on the weather, you could sail into Liefdefjorden and cruise within sight of the 5-kilometer-long (3.1 miles) face of Monaco Glacier. The waters in front of this glacier are a favorite feeding spot for thousands of kittiwakes, and the base of the ice is a popular polar bear hunting ground. If ice conditions prevent sailing here early in the season, we may use an alternate route along the west coast of Spitsbergen. Near the area of Texas Bar and Hornbaekpollen, there are also some great hikes.



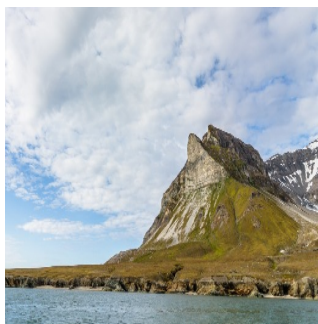
DAY 6: North Spitsbergen splendors

This is our reserve day for activities around North Spitsbergen. Weather and wildlife permitting, we will choose the right location for another day of splendid outdoor adventures.



DAY 7: Forlandsundet or St. Johns Fjord

Forlandsundet, between the main island of Spitsbergen and the narrow Prins Karls Forland, is a place of great beauty and fascinating wildlife. Walrus sometimes haul out here, and seabirds can be found around Fuglehuken. You may also see walrus populations around Sarstangen and Poolepynten. Alternatively, we might sail into St. Johns Fjord or south to the mouth of Isfjorden, landing at Alkhornet. Seabirds nest on these cliffs, Arctic foxes search below for fallen eggs and chicks, and reindeer graze the sparse vegetation. We will arrive in Longyearbyen later that night.



DAY 8: There and back again

Every adventure, no matter how grand, must eventually come to an end. You disembark in Longyearbyen, taking home memories that will accompany you wherever your next adventure lies.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin on board ship
Inclusions	<p>INCLUSIONS</p> <p>Voyage aboard the indicated vessel as indicated in the itinerary.</p> <p>All meals throughout the voyage aboard the ship including snacks, coffee and tea.</p> <p>All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac.</p> <p>Program of lectures by noted naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff.</p> <p>Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes.</p> <p>Transfers and baggage handling between the airport and ship only for those passengers on the group flights to and from Longyearbyen.</p> <p>All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme.</p> <p>AECO fees and governmental taxes.</p> <p>Comprehensive pre-departure material.</p> <p>EXCLUSIONS</p> <p>Any airfare, whether on scheduled or charter flights</p> <p>Pre- and post- land arrangements.</p> <p>Passport and visa expenses.</p> <p>Government arrival and departure taxes.</p> <p>Meals ashore unless otherwise specified</p> <p>Baggage, cancellation and personal insurance (which is strongly recommended).</p> <p>Excess baggage charges and all items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar, beverage charges and telecommunication charges.</p> <p>The customary gratuity at the end of the voyages for stewards and other service personnel aboard (guidelines will be provided).</p> <p>Additional overnight accommodation</p> <p>Adventure Options not listed in Included Activities</p> <p>Any items not mentioned as included</p>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge	Subject to availability upon request. No single supplement will apply if willing to share in selected cabins. Please contact us for more details.

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	Prices are based on per person, and vary from quad, triple, and twin cabins. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice. Please note this itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

SUSTAINABILITY

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