

## THE ARCTIC - ILULISSAT TO NARSARSUAQ



### INTRODUCTION

Embark on an epic adventure that will be full of ancient history, cultural legends and natural wonders. Explore humpback feeding grounds and learn more about Inuit culture and Norse history. This Arctic expedition cruise onboard the M/S Balto will cross the ice crowned north and then you'll explore the jagged mountains of the south. Experience a variety of stunning natural scenery, wildlife and culture. Your expert onboard team will share stories of the Norse settlers and Inuit people of this region which will give another dimension to the amazing landscapes you will see.

Your comfortable expedition vessel takes up to only 12 guests and this allows for more time ashore and flexibility. The ship is able to explore parts of the Arctic that larger vessels cannot. You will visit remote settlements and learn about their fascinating cultures and meet the people who live here. The M/S Balto is designed to explore the most remote fjord systems in the Arctic and the crew are experienced in exploring these waters. Enjoy true small ship cruising and the true adventure of an expedition.

### ITINERARY

#### DAY 1: Arrive Ilulissat, Greenland

We arrive independently to the town by the ice fjord, Ilulissat. As soon as we arrive, the breathtaking natural scenery captivates us, showcasing hills, glaciers, and a bay dotted with icebergs. The remoteness from our everyday life is obvious! In the afternoon we board M/S Balto. We are now on a voyage in true expedition style and our exact route is depending on weather and ice and the itinerary must be kept flexible!



#### TRIP CODE

ACPQBINQ

#### DEPARTURE

25/07/2025

#### DURATION

12 Days

#### LOCATIONS

Arctic, Greenland




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## DAY 2: Greenland Exploration - Day 2 to 11

We continue to explore the ice-choked Disko Bay area, before we head south. We are constantly on the lookout, since we are very likely to sail through humpback feeding grounds. We also pass the small and colourful houses of Aasiaat. As we continue via an inland passage towards Sisimiut, we sail amongst small islands, fjords and cliffs. We might pay a short visit to wander the streets, or we might opt for the surrounding wild fjords with an abundance of cod and various whale species. During hikes we might see reindeer, musk ox and foxes. As we now leave the ice-filled fjords behind, only random icebergs will pass our way. We pass by Sermersuut Island and might enter the magical Kangerlussuatsiaq fjord (the fjord of eternity), where huge mountains up to 2000 metres rise straight from the ocean. We then reach Nuuk. The capital's setting is stunning, and the bay is sometimes visited by minke and pilot whales. We pay a visit to the National Museum, Greenland's largest museum of cultural history. The collections come from all over the country, brought from various archaeological and small museum displays over recent years and the visit gives us great insight into the many different cultures of Greenland. Our journey continues south towards the fjords around Qaqortoq. En route we hope to stop by the abandoned mining town of Ivittuut - one of the few places in the world to have discovered naturally occurring cryolite. During a hike here we have good chances of seeing muskox. Nearby is the Ikka fjord. The legend says that the Inuit people drove invaders out onto the thin ice and when the ice gave way, the invaders died in the ice-cold water. If you look closely, you can catch a glimpse of their petrified remains on the bottom. The figures on the bottom are made of ikaite, an unusual form of chalk or limestone that is formed under an enormous pressure. Only about five other findings of ikaite have been observed around the world. The places we are travelling through on this voyage have many stories to tell. One is of the Inuit's great respect of and symbiotic relationship with environment and animals. During periods of weather change and animal numbers declining, amulets and fishing or hunting artefact became objects of great beauty and artistry. Of respect and love for the animals, who give themselves to sustain the Inuit life and culture, offerings are made to the Sea Goddess Sedna, to release the animals' souls. Still today, Inuit carry a small jug of fresh water when hunting seal. After a seal is killed it is given fresh water, so its spirit will not go thirsty. We will have many opportunities to learn about stories and legends, different eras and people that migrated to Greenland, conflicts and the ultimate demise of the once powerful Norse civilisation. We reach Qaqortoq, the largest city in Southern Greenland, beautifully situated on the mountain slopes and surrounded by fjords. We venture into Eriksfjord, named after Erik the Red, a Norse explorer believed to have founded the first settlement in Greenland. During a landing we visit Brattahlid, the estate he established at the end of the 10th century. We also hope to explore the hot springs of Uunarteq and enjoy a bath in these warm-tempered natural bathtubs, with breath-taking views of mountain peaks and drifting icebergs.

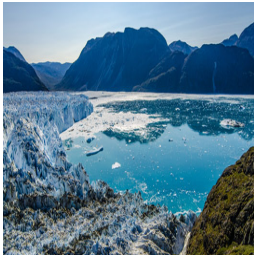


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DAY 12: Disembark in Narsarsuaq

At the end of Eriksfjord is Narsarsuaq, a small village with approx. 150 inhabitants. Here where we disembark, continue to the airport and begin our journey home. Please note: Our exact route will depend on ice, weather conditions and wildlife as well as permissions and restrictions from local authorities. The places mentioned are just examples of some of the many sites this region of Greenland has to offer. We always strive to maximize your experience. Please remember that flexibility is the key to a successful expedition!



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## INCLUSIONS & DETAILS

Accommodation	Cabin Onboard a Ship
Inclusions	<div> <b>INCLUSIONS</b>            Cabin accommodation on board ship.            All meals, tea, and coffee on board throughout your voyage.            All scheduled landings and excursions.            Guiding and leadership by expert exploration team and crew.            Passenger taxes and harbour/landing fees         </div> <div> <b>EXCLUSIONS</b>            Flights to/from embarkation and disembarkation point            Group transfers to/from hotel and ship            Any other pre or post land arrangements not mentioned above.            Passport and visa expenses.            Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above.            Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance—strongly recommended.            Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising, or any other gear not mentioned.            Voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for shipboard staff and crew.            Meals ashore unless otherwise specified.            Excess-baggage fees on international and domestic flights.            Laundry, bar and other personal charges unless specified.         </div>
Difficulty Rating	2 (light adventure)

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Single Surcharge	Available upon request. A supplement surcharge applies and is subject to availability. Single Cabins are available. Please <a href="#">contact us</a> for more information.
Notes	<p>Prices are based on per person, and vary from single to various twin/double cabins.</p> <p>Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time.</p> <p>All entrance fees are subject to change without prior notice.</p> <p>Please note this itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions*</p>
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

## SUSTAINABILITY

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