



HURTIGRUTEN



Expedition to Three Arctic Islands

→ Spitsbergen - Greenland - Iceland

Dramatic landscapes, extreme isolation and unique wildlife. Embark on an adventure to the three largest islands in the Arctic - Spitsbergen, Greenland and Iceland. Prepare for a meeting with the elements of the Arctic wilderness, as we take you closer to the raw and untouched nature than anyone else with our expedition ship, MS Fram.

Travel Period - 24 Aug 2017

Duration - 14 Days

Ship - MS Fram



- ✓ Embark on an exclusive expedition to Greenland, Spitsbergen and Iceland
- 👉 Discover the largest National Park in the world with opportunities to see polar bears, musk oxen, polar hares, Greenland Falcon and polar wolves
- 🔭 Witness untouched landscape, deep fjords and high mountains
- 🌌 Take the opportunity to see the Northern Lights, a magical winter phenomenon

This expedition takes you to the biggest islands in the Arctic, Spitsbergen, Greenland and Iceland. This is an adventure that cannot be compared to anything else in this hemisphere.

See the Arctic Crown of Norway - Spitsbergen

After a short stop in Longyearbyen, the expedition starts by taking you through the magnificent North West Spitsbergen National Park. The area is characterised by big inland glaciers and a typical alpine landscape, and is filled with spectacular contrasts from lush areas to naked moraines, rocky ridges and glaciers diving into the sea. Kongsfjorden and Magdalenefjorden impress with their dramatic landscapes and interesting history. At 78° 55' N you visit Ny Ålesund, one of the world's northernmost year-round communities and an advanced High Arctic research station.

Sailing for days without seeing other people or vessels

As we start sailing along the coast of Greenland, you will start to realise that we are quite alone in this remote corner of the world. Once in the fjords of North East Greenland your sense of distance, size and shape of landscapes will be challenged. These are the largest fjords in the world and the surrounding alpine landscape, with hanging glaciers and dramatic vertical granite walls, reaches as far as the eye can see. The chances of meeting a polar wolf or a polar bear are far greater than meeting representatives of our own species.

The mythical Saga Iceland

From the Westfjords of Iceland we spend three days exploring untouched nature with cliffs and valleys, high waterfalls and pure streams. This includes seeing famous places like Grundarfjörður, Flateyri and Ísafjörður, before ending this extraordinary arctic voyage in Reykjavik.

Price includes:

- Cabin grade of your choice on a full board basis
- Longyearbyen – Reykjavik
- Economy flight between Oslo and Longyearbyen
- **One hotel night in Longyearbyen before the voyage including breakfast and lunch**
- Transfer from hotel to ship in Longyearbyen

Not included:

- International flights
- Travel insurance
- Luggage handling
- Optional excursions and gratuities

Note:

- Prices are in EUR (€) per person
 - All planned landings are subject to weather – and ice conditions
 - All itineraries are subject to change
 - Medical questionnaire mandatory
 - Free rubber boot rental service on board
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The Itinerary

This is an expedition where the elements rule, and the weather, wind and ice conditions will determine our schedule. Safety is paramount and the captain will decide the final sailing itinerary during the voyage. Hence, this itinerary is just an indication of what you can experience and why every expedition with Hurtigruten is unique.



24 August 2017

Departs From:
Oslo, Norway

DAY 1



The blue, the green and the city in between

Location: Oslo/Longyearbyen

Norway's capital Oslo is often referred to as "the blue, the green and the city in between". Forest, lakes, hills and a fjord surrounds this city. Downtown you will find a very varied architecture, a strong cafe and bar culture, top-notch restaurants, endless shopping possibilities, and a large and visible immigrant community who add their own colourful touch to the city. You leave Oslo in the evening, heading for the High Arctic - Spitsbergen.

DAY 2



Arctic landscapes

Location: Longyearbyen

The Svalbard Islands are located in the Arctic Ocean, halfway between Norway and the North Pole. In the midst of a mighty and wild nature you find the Norwegian settlement of Longyearbyen. After an overnight stay in one of our hotels you can join a sightseeing tour of Longyearbyen before embarking the MS Fram.

DAY 3



Submerged in alpine landscapes

Location: North West Spitsbergen National Park

The first national park we visit covers the northwest corner of Spitsbergen. The area is characterised by big inland glaciers and a typical alpine landscape contrasted by green areas and moraines. We continue into Kongsfjord and Magdalenefjord, offering spectacular scenery and interesting history. At 78° 55' N we visit Ny-Ålesund, the starting point for numerous expeditions towards the North Pole in the old days. Today it is home to an advanced High Arctic research station.

DAY 4



Sailing the Arctic Seas

Location: Fram Strait

After exploring the Spitsbergen shore our course is set for the isolated coast of North East Greenland. We approach Greenland by crossing the fittingly named Fram Strait that divides Spitsbergen and North East Greenland. The area is aptly named so because this is where the original Fram of Nansen came into open seas after having been beset in the Arctic Ocean from 1893 to 1896. During the crossing, we will begin our lecture series on popular topics and enjoy sights of wildlife from deck.

DAYS 5-11



The world's largest national park

Location: North East Greenland National Park

As we arrive in the largest national park in the world, you will start dwelling upon the thought that we are quite alone in a far corner of the globe. Apart from some abandoned trapping stations, a weather station and the traditional Sirius sled patrol there are absolutely no signs of humans here.

Within the borders of North East Greenland National Park there are only about 30 souls that overwinter. In the very short summer season, when the waters around are not frozen, 500 expedition cruise guests visit the park.

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As well as terrestrial wildlife like musk oxen, arctic fox, hare and wolf, we may see a variety of sea birds. And remember, where there is ice there might be polar bears!

The very isolated weather and research station, Danmarkshavn is one of the places we visit en route. Sailing into fjords like Kaiser Franz Josef Fjord or Alpefjord will give you an experience of a lifetime. The majority of our landings are performed as pure wilderness expeditions.

We might meet the Sirius Patrol (The Danish Navy) that supervises the park using traditional methods, mushing dogs. Before the Danes acquired sovereignty of this area, the Norwegians claimed it. A natural place to attempt a landing is Myggbukta (Mosquito bay), where the legendary Governor of North East Greenland had his base.

During this expedition you will have ample amount of time to get the feeling of being in one of the most isolated places on earth. Still you will feel totally safe aboard one of the most fitting expedition vessels. Our expert guides and lecturers will safely guide you on hikes and small boat trips in addition to briefings and lectures about the places we go.

DAY 12



The most isolated town in Greenland

Location: Ittoqqortoormiit (Scoresbysund)

Ittoqqortoormiit or Scoresbysund is our last call in North East Greenland. This is the most isolated town in Greenland. The trappers living in this town are the only ones that are allowed to hunt within the North East Greenland National Park and you will probably observe that outside their houses they are drying animal skins and are storing their dog-sleds.

Spend your time visiting the museum, church, photo exhibition and even a launch of a weather balloon, all with local guides. You are also welcome to walk around on your own, and see the places of interest.

DAY 13



Iceland in a nutshell

Location: The Westfjords of Iceland

We set course towards the Westfjords of Iceland. The area has a feel of untouched nature with cliffs and valleys, high waterfalls and crystal-clear streams. Grundarfjörður is located at the Snæfellsnes peninsula, often called “Iceland in a nutshell”. Enjoy the sights of lava and rock formations, glaciers, volcanic activity, hot and cold springs as well as an abundance of bird life and picturesque landscapes.

Flateyri has been a trading post since 1792 and was a base for shark hunting and whaling operations in the 1900s. Today Flateyri is dependent on tourism. There is a nice sandy beach on the other side of the fjord, and although the sea might be

colder for bathing than most people prefer, the sand is great for building sand castles. We will offer optional excursions to explore the area.

Ísafjörður is the capital of the Westfjords region. Take a stroll around this cosy town and enjoy its diverse architecture. You'll find the country's oldest dwelling here, along with fine examples of timber houses built by wealthy foreign traders in the 18th century. Our optional excursions offer a variety of experiences from hikes to tastings of local food.

DAY 14



The Capital of Iceland

Location: Reykjavik

Iceland's capital offers a lot to tempt the curiosity of its visitors. Relatively close to Reykjavik you find glaciers, waterfalls, geysers and mountains. Reykjavik has also a vast selection of restaurants, museums and shops. We will arrive in the morning hours, and here our voyage ends.



6 September 2017

Location:

Reykjavik, Iceland