



HURTIGRUTEN



1/3: Explore icebergs near Qassiuarsuk Photo: Kate Jordahl

## Greenland to Svalbard Expedition

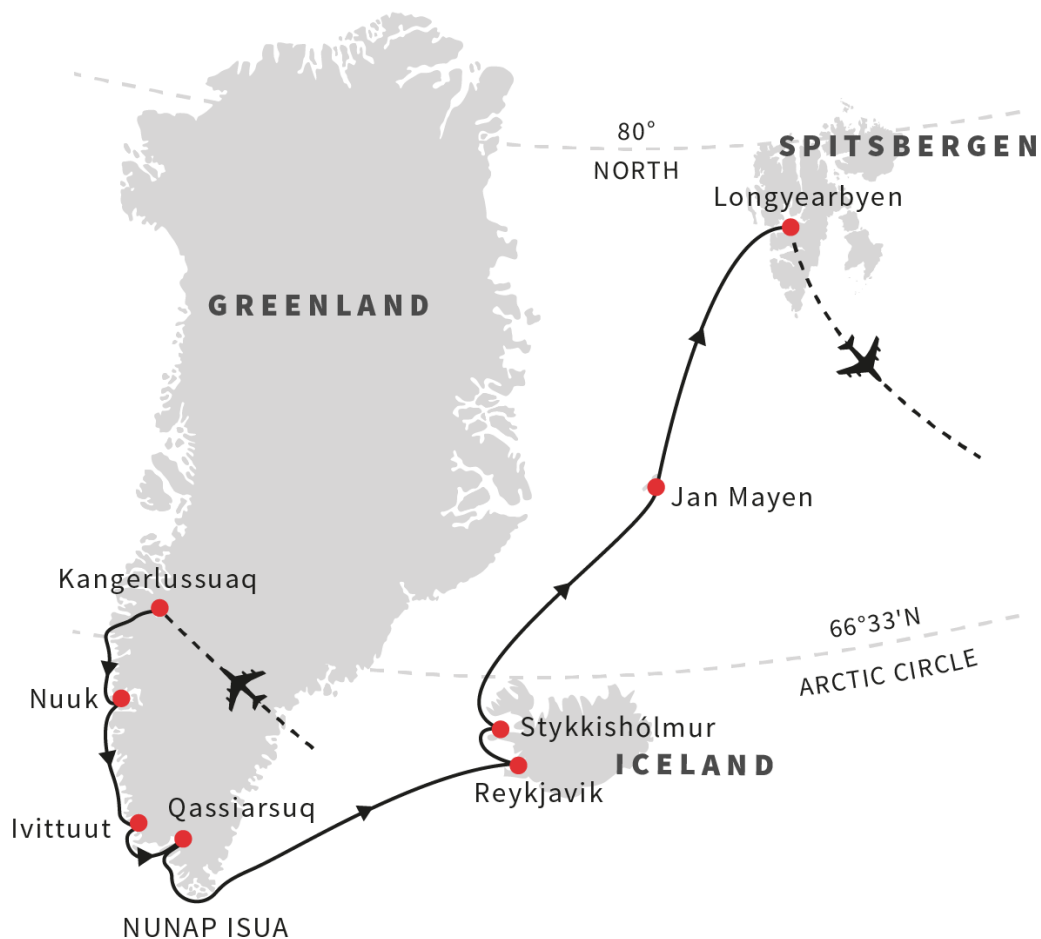
→ Greenland - Iceland - Jan Mayen - Spitsbergen

Set out on an Arctic expedition to four remote and uniquely different islands. Explore the largest of them all, Greenland, the small and isolated Jan Mayen, stunning Iceland and the Arctic crown of Norway, Spitsbergen. Sailing through spectacular landscapes steeped in history, culture and an amazing wildlife makes this nothing but an extraordinary expedition.

Travel Period - 22 June 2017

Duration - 13 Days

Ship - MS Fram



Discover Norse heritage in Greenland, Jan Mayen, Iceland and Spitsbergen all in the same journey



See a number of spectacular large fjord systems in Greenland and on Spitsbergen



See the amazing and varied Arctic wildlife in each destination



Enjoy a summer expedition under the Midnight Sun

Enjoy a variety of islands in the Arctic. Explore the largest of them all, [Greenland](#), the small and isolated Jan Mayen, stunning [Iceland](#) and [the Arctic crown of Norway, Spitsbergen](#).

## Unique culture and breathtaking nature

This expedition starts in Greenland where the Arctic wilderness offers us some of the most spectacular and unspoilt scenery on earth. Join us as we sail under the [midnight sun](#), through a landscape that is rich in culture and history, and features spectacular wildlife. Our Expedition Team includes locals, to give you an authentic experience of the true Greenland.

## Discover the true meaning of isolation

Jan Mayen is the most isolated island in the Northern Hemisphere. This exotic outpost has no permanent settlers, except for the 18 people working at the Norwegian radio and meteorological station.

## From lush nature to dramatic tundra

Reykjavik is ideal for recreational activities. The dramatic, rugged landscape features volcanic craters, caves, lava fields, geothermal waters and hot springs. A variety of restaurants, museums, churches, lighthouses and festivals add a surprisingly rich cultural offering. Iceland's unspoiled landscapes feature stunning waterfalls, green meadows, volcanic craters, caves, lava fields, geothermal waters and hot springs form a lush contrast to the stops to come. The dramatic tundra [nature in Spitsbergen](#) is no less impressive with the magnificent Isfjord, majestic mountains and impressive wilderness only inhabited by birds, seals, walrus and polar bears.

### Your holiday price includes

- Hurtigruten Expedition voyage in cabin grade of your choice on a full board basis
- Economy flight Copenhagen to Kangerlussuaq and Longyearbyen to Oslo
- Transfer airport to ship in Kangerlussuaq
- Transfer ship to airport in Longyearbyen
- Wind- and water-resistant jacket
- Landings and activities on board and ashore
- Professional English-speaking Expedition Team that gives lectures as well as accompany landings and activities
- Free tea and coffee

### 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
- Rubber boots rental service on board free of charge

## 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.



**22 June 2017**

Departs From:

*Copenhagen, Denmark*

### DAY 1



**From the big city to the Arctic wilderness**

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*Location: Copenhagen/Kangerlussuaq*

This expedition starts with a flight from Copenhagen. Less than five hours later you reach the settlement of Kangerlussuaq in Greenland. This small airstrip is the

main gateway to Greenland, and on arrival your transfer to MS Fram will be waiting for you.

Kangerlussuaq is the main gateway to Greenland and a settlement in the Sisimiut community. Slightly less than 600 people live and work in Kangerlussuaq (the long fjord). The airport was built by the Americans during World War II and was operative as an American base until 1992. Today, Kangerlussuaq is a commercial airport. Kangerlussuaq is situated only 40 kilometers from the immense Greenland Ice Cap. This indescribable waste land of ice stretches 2,500 kilometers from North to South and nearly 1,000 kilometers from East to West at the widest part of the country. The tallest point of the Ice Cap is 3,200 meters above sea level. The unpaved road goes through a wide variety of the most beautiful natural scenery from Arctic desert to tundra with low growing shrubs, and through hilly terrain with a grand view of the edge of the Ice Cap.

## DAY 2



**The Oldest Town in Greenland**

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### *Location: Nuuk*

Nuuk is the capital and the oldest town in Greenland. Today, old and new traditions meet here, from picturesque old buildings in "Kolonihaven" to the modern building of the Greenland Home Rule. The town is located on the tip of a

large peninsula, at the mouth of one of the largest and most spectacular fjord systems in the world.

The capital of Greenland houses about 16,000 people and holds the political and social centre of Greenland. Nuuk is the oldest town in Greenland founded by the Danish-Norwegian missionary Hans Egede in 1728. The name Nuuk means peninsula, an accurate description of the city's location, on the tip of a large peninsula at the mouth of one of the largest and most spectacular fjord systems in the world. Today the town is a place where old and new traditions meet, from picturesque old buildings in "Kolonihaven" to the building of the Greenland Home Rule. Being the capital, Nuuk also houses university, a teachers training college, churches and the Greenland National Museum where the mummies from Qilakilsoq are to be found.

### DAY 3



**The Abandoned Mining Town of Ivittuut**

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*Location: Ivittuut*

The abandoned mining town of Ivittuut, which means "grassy place", is today a stronghold for musk oxen. It is near Cape Desolation in southwestern Greenland,

located on the ruins of the former Norse Middle Settlement. The area was settled by about twenty farms of vikings, a district called the "Middle Settlement" by modern archaeologists from its placement between the larger Western and Eastern settlements. It is the smallest and least well known of the three, and no written records of its residents exist today.

#### DAY 4



#### The Hillsides of Qassiarsuk

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##### *Location: Qassiarsuk*

A little over a thousand years ago (985 A.D.), a group of Norsemen left Iceland to settle in Greenland. Their leader Erik the Red named his chieftain's seat Brattahlíð, meaning "steep hill" in Old Norse. Soon afterwards, the Norsemen established a flourishing community in the fjord. Farming is still the main occupation in Qassiarsuk and the sheep farmers in the area cultivate the same fields, and let their animals graze on the same hillsides. Enjoy a guided walk through the village and see the reconstructions of Erik the Red's farm and Tjodhilde's Church.

## DAYS 5-6



### Sailing Nunap Isua and the Denmark Strait

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#### *Location: Denmark Strait*

We leave Greenland behind and sail around the southernmost point of Greenland called Nunap Isua (Cape Farewell) before travelling across the Denmark Strait on our way to Iceland. The Denmark Strait connects the Greenland Sea to the Irminger Sea. This crossing is the one the Vikings had to use while migrating from Iceland to South Greenland some 1000-years ago. As clever as they were, the Viking would look at the direction of the flight of the sea birds to find land.

The Denmark Strait was also a battle ground during WW2 between ships of the Royal Navy and the German Kriegsmarine on the 24th of May 1941. The British battle ship HMS Prince of Wales fought the largest German battle ship Bismark which was attempting to break in to the North Atlantic to attack allied merchant marine. During these days at sea the expedition team will be at your disposal and will share their knowledge during interesting lectures.



## DAY 7



### The Capital of Iceland

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#### *Location: Reykjavik*

Reykjavik is the world's northernmost capital city. Norwegian settlers named the place Reykjavik (meaning "Smoky Bay") after the columns of steam that rose from the hot springs in the area and made such a profound impression. The surroundings offer fantastic natural beauty with geysers, mountains, glaciers and geothermal baths.

## DAY 8



**The Sagaland**

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*Location: Stykkishólmur*

As we reach the west region of Iceland, you will understand why this area is dubbed “The Sagaland”. Take your time to explore Stykkishólmur’s diversity with lava and rock formations, glaciers, volcanic activity, and hot and cold springs. Participate in a range of exciting excursions such as kayaking, hiking and horse riding.

## DAY 9



**Heading north**

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### *Location: Greenland Sea*

Following the Mid-Atlantic Ridge that divides the North American and the Eurasian continental plate, we enter into the Greenland Sea on this crossing. The Greenlandic Ocean borders to Greenland to the west and the Svalbard archipelago to the East. The complex water current system was first described in detail in 1909 by Fridtjof Nansen. This area was also a popular whale-hunting ground for 300-years until the beginning of the 20th century. The remaining whales of the area have been protected since 1911. The expedition team will share their knowledge during the lectures as we set sail towards Jan Mayen.

## DAY 10



### **An extreme rarity**

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#### *Location: Jan Mayen*

Jan Mayen is the most isolated island in the Northern Hemisphere. It is home to the Beerenberg Volcano, the northernmost active volcano on earth. Tourists visiting and actually landing on the shores of Jan Mayen are extremely rare. We will do our best to make it possible to set foot on this exotic outpost. This will be an experience of a lifetime.

## DAY 11



### **Sailing for Spitsbergen**

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#### *Location: Sailing the Barents Sea/Arctic Ocean*

Enjoy a day with lectures from the Expedition Team as we sail towards Spitsbergen and Longyearbyen. We cruise through the rather shallow shelf with an average depth of only 230 metres. Part of the Arctic Ocean, the Barents Sea has a high biological production due to similar seas at a comparable latitude. The Sea was named after the Dutch explorer, Wilhelm Barents, who on one of his expeditions to find the Northern sea route, happened to sight Spitsbergen - a name he gave due to the alpine mountains he observed.

## DAY 12



### **The most prominent fjord system**

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#### *Location: The Isfjord & Longyearbyen*

The Isfjord is the most prominent fjord system on Svalbard, and we will sail through it on our way to Longyearbyen. We will arrive at this unique and exotic settlement during the night.

Longyearbyen is the Norwegian administrative centre of Svalbard. This is a small community of only 2000 inhabitants that have an atmosphere that resembles it being a part of a much larger city. You will find cafés, hospital, several excellent restaurants and hotels – a university and more sports equipment outfitters than anywhere else on earth if you make it relative to population.

## DAY 13



### The adventure ends

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*Location: Longyearbyen/Oslo*

As we have reached the end destination for this expedition, you will probably sense that time has passed faster than expected. Lingering is the subtle exhilaration of having spent time on top of the globe, just a few hundred miles from the Geographical North Pole. An early morning transfer takes you to the airport for your flight back to Oslo.



**4 July 2017**

Location:

*Oslo, Norway*