



HURTIGRUTEN

EXPEDITION  
VOYAGES  
LIFE CHANGING EXPERIENCES



## Island Hopping in the North Atlantic

→ Greenland - Iceland - the Faroe Islands - the Shetland Islands - Norway

Embark on an exclusive expedition to Greenland, Iceland, the Faroe Islands, the Shetland Islands and Norway. The North Atlantic beckons active explorers with the promise of glistening glaciers, spectacular fjords and unique cultural experiences.

Travel Period : 20 August 2017

Duration - 14 Days

Ship - MS Spitsbergen



Learn more about the unique and distinct mentality of the local islanders



Relish in one of the most diverse expeditions



Take part in exciting excursions throughout the expedition



Engage in fascinating lectures on popular topics from our Expedition Team

This expedition takes you to [Greenland, the biggest island in the Arctic](#), the mythical Iceland and the smaller Faroe and Shetland Islands. This is an adventure that cannot be compared to anything else in the Northern Hemisphere.

## Explore Greenland's arctic wilderness

Greenland is the largest island on the planet and its frozen coastline has witnessed the birth of some of nature's most breathtaking creations. Here, the struggle for survival has engendered mankind with a healthy respect for the environment and we witness the unique interaction of man and nature as we sail through a landscape rich in culture, history and spectacular wildlife, into [the northern lands of the midnight sun](#).

## Wild and mythical islands

From Greenland, we sail east to visit [Iceland](#)'s historical capital, Reykjavik. Then, we cross the North Sea to experience the wild beauty of the Faroe and Shetland Islands. We end this adventure in [Bergen](#), Norway, the so-called 'Gateway to the Fjords'. We can certainly say that this is one of our most diverse expeditions!

#### **Your holiday price includes**

- Hurtigruten Expedition voyage in cabin grade of your choice on a full board basis
- Economy flight Copenhagen to Kangerlussuaq
- Transfer airport to ship in Kangerlussuaq
- 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.



**20 August 2017**

Departs From:  
*Copenhagen, Denmark*

### DAY 1



### The adventure begins

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*Location: Copenhagen / Kangerlussuaq*

Your flight from Copenhagen lands in Kangerlussuaq in the evening before departure. Before you embark the ship in the afternoon you spend the day in Kangerlussuaq and surroundings.



In the afternoon there will be a bus transfer to Kangerlussuaq docks, situated about 12 kilometres from Kangerlussuaq. There is no harbour in Kangerlussuaq that can accommodate MS Spitsbergen and therefore embarking the ship requires the use of the ship's PolarCirkel boats. Our Expedition Team will be at your disposal. It is advisable to bring rainproof jackets, trousers and mosquito repellent in your hand luggage to wear during the boat transfer to MS Spitsbergen. We recommend good footwear for that day.

After checking in to your cabin and the mandatory safety drill is executed, we set course towards Disko Bay where the first adventures await.

## **DAYS 2-4**



### **Exploring Northwest Greenland**

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*Location: Sisimut, Ilulissat and Itilleq*

Sisimiut is the southernmost town on the western coast of Greenland. We offer a variety of optional shore excursions here, including hikes, boat trips and sightseeing, as well as the chance to shop for local handicrafts and enjoy some Greenlandic specialities in a local restaurant.

Ilulissat is set in the stunning scenery of the Ilulissat Icefjord. The area was added to the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2004. Just outside the town, at the mouth of the fjord, you can often see enormous icebergs that have run aground. They

originate from the Jakobshavn Glacier, one of the most productive glaciers in the Northern Hemisphere. We offer a variety of optional shore excursions such as hikes, historic town walks and a boat tour to the Icefjord.

In Itilleq you will be invited for a “kaffemik” which means that you are welcome to visit a local home for coffee and cake. We might set up an optional kayak excursion for those interested in exploring the Arctic Circle area from the shore, and there will be a soccer game where the people from Itilleq play against guests and staff from MS Spitsbergen.

## DAY 5



### **The oldest town in Greenland**

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#### *Location: Nuuk*

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.

## **DAYS 6-7**



### **Exploring Southern Greenland**

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*Location: Paamiut, Qassiarsuk, Hvalsey and Greenland*

The Viking Eirik Raude settled down here, and named his new land “Greenland”. And southern Greenland lives up to its name; here you find green fields dotted with white sheep, lush vegetable lands and busy farmsteads. This forms a colourful contrast to the icescapes at sea. Towns and settlements are located relatively close together in the southern fjords, which opens for many landing and activity options. While in South Greenland we will attempt to land several places, some of them described below as examples. When conditions allow, excursions, kayaking, hikes or other activities on land and sea may be offered. Participation on any hike requires a good level of fitness, and that you are accustomed to hiking in uneven terrain. Safety is always the first priority and the final sailing schedule will be decided by the ship’s Captain during the voyage. Below we list some of our possible landing sites, the final itinerary will be introduced during daily briefings.

### **Paamiut**

Paamiut is an area where people have been living since around 1500 BC. The name Paamiut means “the people who live at the mouth”, a reference to its location at the mouth of the Kuannersooq Fjord. Strolling around in Paamiut is about appreciating the beauty in simple experiences, and meeting the friendly locals. Make sure you visit the church, one of the finest in Greenland, built in 1909 from wood in the Norwegian style. Stop along the colourful bridge in the town centre. Tour the old neighbourhood to observe picturesque buildings. Paamiut is known for its soapstone artists and their extraordinary national costumes of sealskin and thousands of beads. You can still see examples of these art forms as you walk around in the settlement. The white-tailed eagle is plentiful in Paamiut, and the townspeople feel a strong connection with it. It is said that good luck will come to anyone who sets eyes on this king of the sky. Join the Expedition team for a hike to the mountain peaks. On the way back to the ship, stop to pick the angelica that grows wild on the hillside.

### **Qassiarsuk**

Qassiarsuk is a small community with a population of 56 people, known for the settlement of the Viking Eirik Raude, Brattahlid. He was banished from Iceland and escaped to the land he called Greenland. Eirik settled in Qassiarsuk because the area was according to him the richest and best site in Greenland when he arrived in 982. In Qassiarsuk, a boat trip and settlement walk are among the optional excursions we arrange for you.

### **Hvalsey**

In Hvalsey you find some of the best preserved ruins from the Norse period; the former ‘Austurbygd’ which was left in 1408 approx 500 years after it was established. Here you find the remains of the church where the last known Viking wedding took place. Landing in Hvalsey is conducted by our Polarcirkel boats. Once ashore you may stroll around and explore ruins and surrounding area by yourself.



## DAY 8



### **The southern shores**

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#### *Location: Nunap Isua*

Greenland's southern shores contain some of the most culturally and scenically diverse regions on this giant island. Conditions permitting, we will try to sail through the narrow, 70-mile-long channel Prins Christian Sund, which crosses the southernmost point of Greenland, and enjoy the breathtaking scenery. If the channel is blocked with ice, we will sail around Nunap Isua (Kap Farvel).

## DAY 9



### Heading east

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#### *Location: Denmark Strait*

While crossing the Denmark Strait towards Iceland we follow in the wake of the great Norse settlers who left the shores of Iceland and Norway more than 900 years ago. Spend the day relazing or join the variety of lectures by Expedition Team to sum up and give further enlightening to the time spent in Greenland.

## DAY 10



### **The capital of Iceland**

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*Location: Reykjavik, Iceland*

Reykjavik was one of the first known Viking settlements and is now the modern capital of Iceland. The surrounding area offers fantastic natural beauty spots; geysers, mountains, glaciers and geothermal bathing.

## DAY 11



### Sailing towards the Faroe Islands

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#### *Location: The Arctic Seas*

The open water between Iceland and the Faroe Islands awaits us. Historically, sailing these treacherous waters was a challenging and scary undertaking - even for the Vikings. They were famous for going on "Vesterled", a westbound sailing from Norway to the Arctic islands. Now, however, we're going in the opposite direction as we sail east towards the Faroe Islands.

Enjoy a relaxing day at sea with onboard lectures and explore the facilities on our brand new explorer ship, MS Spitsbergen.

## DAY 12



**The Volcanic Island**

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*Location: Tórshavn, Faroe Islands*

The Faroe Islands are a group of 18 volcanic islands in the middle of the North Atlantic, half way between the Shetland Islands and Iceland. Tórshavn is one of the smallest capital cities in the world, with only 15,000 inhabitants. It was founded in the 10<sup>th</sup> century, and might very well be the oldest original capital in northern Europe. Since the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Tórshavn has grown rapidly, and is now the economic, cultural and administrative centre of the Faroe Islands. The town is a charming blend of old and new with small houses in nearly every colour.



## DAY 13



### Exploring the Shetland Islands

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#### *Location: Lerwick, Shetland Islands*

Lerwick is the main port in the Shetland Islands, and by far the northernmost town of Scotland. It was founded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century as a fishing port, and fishing is still the main industry on the island, in addition to the ferry and oil industry. Today, whilst most of Shetland remains isolated, Lerwick is a bustling, cosmopolitan seaport with all the modern services and amenities found on the British mainland. The old waterfront is packed with visiting yachts and working fishing boats. In the surrounding area, you will find some of Shetland's most attractive scenery and an extraordinary concentration of archaeological sites, including two remarkable Iron Age villages and Europe's best-preserved broch, a drystone dwelling dating from this period.

## DAY 14



### Return to civilisation

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*Location: Bergen*

Our arrival in Bergen signals the end of this expedition. However, we recommend that you take the time to explore this charming city before you head home. Stroll through the picturesque streets and enjoy the well-known and famous UNESCO World Heritage site 'Bryggen' (the Wharf) and the fish market.



**2 September 2017**

Location:

*Bergen, Norway*