





Spitsbergen and Polar Bears - An Arctic Adventure

→ Longyearbyen - Longyearbyen

This cruise adventure on the nostalgic MS Nordstjernen is the essential Spitsbergen experience. Explore the extraordinary Arctic landscape, glaciers and bird cliffs. Being above the Arctic Circle you will enjoy the midnight sun, with long days and light nights. If you are really lucky you'll see the King of the Arctic; the polar bear.

Travel period - June - September 2017

Duration - 6 Days

Ship - MS Nordstjernen



Embark on a shorter expedition to the last frontier in the high Arctic
Explore the Midnight Sun and 24 hours of daylight in summer
Take advantage of the chance to see polar bears
Sail into the unknown wilderness as you cross 80° North

Explore the extraordinary Arctic landscape, glaciers and bird cliffs. Being above the Arctic Circle you will enjoy the <u>midnight sun</u>, with long days and light nights. If you are really lucky you'll see the King of the Arctic; the polar bear. We offer two different itineraries. Both voyages last six days, where one or two nights are spent on land and the remaining days are spent sailing along <u>the west coast of Spitsbergen</u>.

Itinerary 1: Monday to Saturday

The first days are spent checking out the two settlements Longyearbyen and the Russian Barentsburg. Then it's time to see some amazing fjords and the Monaco Glacier. If ice conditions are favourable we will sail past 80° North and towards Moffen, an island often host to walrus. The Kongsfjorden is the largest fjord on the North West coast, with landscapes varying from large tundra plains to alpine peaks with dramatic glaciers tumbling into the ocean. Calling on Ny-Ålesund you will see a former coal mining community that today is an advanced High Arctic research station. Before ending this adventure in Longyearbyen, we are sailing in the Isfjord. This is the most prominent fjord system on <u>Svalbard</u>, with large U-shaped valleys, carved out of the mountains by the giant glaciers that covered the area more than ten thousand years ago.

Departures:

Between 4 June 2017 - 16 September 2017

Itinerary 2: Thursday to Tuesday

You start this adventure with a guided sightseeing tour in Longyearbyen, followed by a visit to Barenstsburg, a Russian settlement. When we arrive in Magdalenefjord, there will be a Polarcirkel boat landing to see the remains of blubber ovens, as well as a graveyard from the 17th to the late 18th century. If we are lucky, the ice conditions permit us to to sail past 80° North and towards Moffen, a known haul-out for walrus. On the southern shore of Kongsfjorden you find one of only four permanent settlements on Svalbard: the old coal mining town of Ny-Ålesund - now the northernmost settlement in the world with facilities for permanent research institutes from ten countries. Our Spitsbergen adventure ends in Longyearbyen.

Departures:

Between 8 June 2017 - 12 September 2017

Price includes (Thursday departures):

- Cabin grade of your choice on a full board basis
- Transfer airport to hotel in Longyearbyen
- One hotel night in Longyearbyen before the voyage including breakfast and lunch
- Transfer hotel to ship in Longyearbyen including sightseeing
- Folklore show in Barentsburg
- Transfer ship to airport in Longyearbyen

Price includes (Monday departures):

- Cabin grade of your choice on a full board basis
- Transfer airport to hotel in Longyearbyen
- One hotel night in Longyearbyen before the voyage including breakfast and lunch
- Transfer hotel to ship in Longyearbyen including sightseeing
- Folklore show in Barentsburg
- Transfer ship to airport in Longyearbyen
- One hotel night in Longyearbyen after the voyage including light lunch, dinner and early morning snack
- Transfer hotel to airport in Longyearbyen

Price includes (Monday and Thursday departures):

- Landings with Polarcirkel and activities onboard and ashore
- Professional English speaking Expedition team that gives lectures as well as accompanying landings and activities

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

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. We offer two different itineraries. Both voyages last six days, where one or two nights are spent on land and the remaining days are spent sailing along the west coast of Spitsbergen.



June - September 2017 Departs From: Longyearbyen, Svalbard

DAY 1



The journey begins

Location: Longyearbyen

On arrival you will be taken to Spitsbergen Hotel or Coal Miners Cabins, where you will stay for the night.



The Russian settlement

Location: Longyearbyen and Barentsburg

Enjoy a sightseeing trip in Longyearbyen, ending at the pier where you will join the MS Nordstjernen. Our first stop is the Russian settlement Barentsburg, where there will be opportunities to visit the Pomor Museum (optional) and enjoy a lively folklore show. In the afternoon we continue out the Isfjord and head north along the Prins Karls Forland.



DAY 3

80° North or history of exploration

Location: Woodfjorden or Magdalenefjord Different itinerary depending on departure day

Itinerary 1: Woodfjorden, Liefdefjorden, Moffen and 80° North. The day will be spent cruising towards the Monaco Glacier, passing a number of small islets where eider ducks nest during the summer. If we are lucky, we may spot a polar bear searching for eggs. If the ice conditions are favourable we will sail past 80° North and towards Moffen, an island often host to walrus.

Itinerary 2: Magdalenefjord and the North West Corner. We arrive in Magdalenefjord in the morning, and will make our first Polarcirkel boat landing. This area has a long history of exploration. Experience a very important cultural heritage; the remains of four blubber ovens or furnaces found on Gravneset, as well as a graveyard containing about 130 graves dating from the 17th to the late 18th century.



DAY 4

Alpine peaks or 80° North

Location: Kongsfjorden or Woodfjorden Different itinerary depending on departure day Itinerary 1: Kongsfjorden and Ny-Ålesund. This is the largest fjord on the North West coast. We might also visit a large adjacent fjord called Krossfjorden. The landscape varies from large tundra plains to alpine peaks with dramatic glaciers tumbling into the ocean. At the end of the fjord you'll see the majestic Kongsbreen. Later we call on Ny-Ålesund. Previously a coalmining community, it now houses an advanced High Arctic research station.

Itinerary 2: Woodfjorden, Liefdefjorden, Moffen and 80° North. As we cruise towards the Monaco Glacier, we will pass a number of small islets where eider ducks nest during the summer. This is a great place for spotting polar bears hunting for eggs. If we are lucky, the ice conditions make it possible to sail past 80° North and towards Moffen, a known haul-out for walrus.



Exploring the fjords or Alpine peaks

Location: Isfjorden or Kongsfjorden Different itinerary depending on departure day

Itinerary 1: Isfjorden and Longyearbyen. Located in central Spitsbergen, the Isfjord is the most prominent fjord system on Svalbard. We will spend the morning sailing towards Longyearbyen. As we sail into the outer parts of the Isfjord, the landscape changes. Marvel at the large U-shaped valleys, carved out of the mountains by the giant glaciers that covered the area some ten thousand years ago. On arrival in Longyearbyen you have the rest of the day at your disposal. A farewell dinner will be served at the hotel.

DAY 5

Itinerary 2: Kongsfjorden and Ny-Ålesund. We sail into Kongsfjorden, a 26 km long inlet. From here you can see the two glaciers Kronebreen and Kongsvegen. On its southern shore you find one of only four permanent settlements on Svalbard: the old coal-mining town of Ny-Ålesund - now the northernmost settlement in the world with facilities for permanent research institutes from ten countries.



DAY 6

Return to civilisation

Location: Longyearbyen

The Spitsbergen adventure is over. After transfer to the airport it's time for the flight back home.



Location: Longyearbyen, Svalbard

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