

Spitsbergen Adventure Voyage

Tuesday 11.06.2012 –16.06.2012

Embark on an unforgettable adventure voyage to the Arctic. Over six days you will explore the stunning landscape of the Spitsbergen archipelago. From the comfort of the Hurtigruten ship, MS Nordstjernen, you will experience the impressive landscape of the Arctic up close.

Here above the Arctic Circle we will experience the midnight sun, with long days and light nights. If we are really lucky we might just see the King of the Arctic; the Polar Bear.



Ports of call:

Monday: Longyearbyen
Tuesday: Longyearbyen and Barentsburg
Wednesday: Woodfjorden and Liefdefjorden, Moffen (80 degrees North),
passing Magdalenefjorden at night
Thursday: Krossfjorden and Kongsfjorden, Ny-Ålesund
Friday: Longyearbyen
Saturday: Longyearbyen



Monday 11.06

Arrival Longyearbyen

We will have one night overnight stay in Longyearbyen before our journey starts.

Overnight in [Radisson Blu Polar Hotel Spitsbergen](#).

Tuesday 12.06

Longyearbyen and Barentsburg

After breakfast and some free time, you will be picked up by a bus at 12:00 noon and driven to the pier where you will embark the MS Nordstjernen.

The voyage starts in the Norwegian settlement often referred to as the capital of Svalbard. Here you'll find all the amenities of a modern small town – situated in a fantastic Arctic landscape. The history of Longyearbyen is filled with a tradition of coal mining, and remnants from the early mining ventures can be seen everywhere. In the Russian settlement in Barentsburg, there will be opportunities to visit the Pomor Museum (optional) and a lively folklore show. After this visit we will continue out of the Isfjord and head north along the Prins Karls Forland.

Barentsburg

Our first stop is the Russian settlement of Barentsburg. Svalbard is Norwegian sovereign land; however, due to the Svalbard Treaty of 1920 all signatory states have equal right to establish themselves with activity in Svalbard. This Russian “company town” has existed since 1935, but you can go back even further in time and find history of coal exploration in Grønfjorden (Green Harbour) where Barentsburg is situated. The town is constructed around the entrance of the coal mine and you will find an exotic collection of old Russian artefacts and architecture.

Wednesday 13.06*Woodfjorden and Liefdefjorden*

These large fjords in North Spitsbergen offer a strikingly varied landscape – from the largest flat plain on Svalbard; Reinsdyrflya (the reindeer plain), to the red stone of Devonian geology, remnants of volcanoes and even the northernmost hot spring on earth. 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 here. Be on the lookout for the arched back of the occasional minke whale and bearded seals sunbathing on ice floes close to the glacier front. If the ice conditions are favorable we will sail past 80°North and towards Mofen, an island which is often host to walrus. We are passing Magdalenefjorden at night

Thursday 14.06*Kongsfjorden*

Also known as King's Bay, this is the largest fjord on the North West coast of Spitsbergen. A large side fjord called Krossfjorden may also be visited during this day. The landscape varies from large tundra plains to alpine peaks with dramatic glaciers tumbling into the ocean. Look out for the mountain Mitra – named for a 'Mitre' or a catholic bishop's hat – located on the northern shore of the entrance to Kongsfjorden. In the end of the fjord you see the majestic Kongsbreen (King's Glacier) with the three characteristic nunataks: Nora, Dana and Svea – named after the three Scandinavian countries.

Ny-Ålesund

At 78° 55' N, Ny-Ålesund is one of the world's northernmost year-round communities. Previously a Coal mining community, Ny-Ålesund is now an advanced High Arctic research station. In the age of early polar exploration Ny-Ålesund was the starting point for numerous expeditions towards the North Pole. Names like Amundsen, Ellsworth and Nobile are strongly linked to this place and you can still see the mast that the airship "Norge" was moored to before her departure on the first ever transpolar flight. A number of countries run their own national research stations here, and there is a lot of activity here in the summer.

Friday 15.06*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.

One of the most prominent mountains in the outer part of the fjord is Alkhornet, where thousands of Brünnich's Guillemots nest during the summer season. As we sail into the inner 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 we collect you from the pier for a guided sightseeing including Svalbard Museum. This fantastic museum is really worth a visit as it will provide you with a great deal of background information on all of that which have now experienced from the ship. The rest of the day is at your own disposal and you will be served both lunch and dinner at Spitsbergen Hotel.

Saturday 16.06*Longyearbyen*

The Spitsbergen Adventure Voyage is over and it is time to say good bye. You will have an early morning transfer to the airport for your return flight. The dream has become reality, and you will have fantastic memories to take with you.

The program may be changed due to ice and weather conditions.