



EAST AND SOUTH GREENLAND EXPLORER

Longyearbyen – Narsarsuaq

13th August – 02nd September 2025

On board *m/v Plancius*



M/V *Plancius* was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was named “Hr. Ms. *Tydeman*”. The vessel was completely rebuilt as a passenger vessel in 2009 and complies with the latest SOLAS-regulations (Safety Of Life At Sea). M/v *Plancius* is 89 m long, 14.5 m wide and has a maximum draft of 5 m, ice class 1D, 10,5 knots average cruising speed and has 3 Diesel- Electric engines.



Captain Evgeny Levakov (Russia)

and his international crew of 48 sailors

Chief Officer:	Matei Mocanu	[Romania]
Second Officer:	Ward Dekkers	[Netherlands]
Third Officer:	Piotr Filipkowski	[Poland]
Hotel Manager:	Volodymyr Cherednychenko	[Ukraine]
Asst. Hotel Manager:	Liliana van Moers	[Poland]
Head Chef:	Sachin Naiz	[India]
Sous Chef:	Oleksii Shvets	[Ukraine]
Ships doctor:	Beate Thier	[Germany]
Expedition Leader:	Pippa Low	[UK]
Asst. Exp. Leader:	George Kennedy	[Australia]
Expedition Guide:	Frigga Kruse	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Sven Joest	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Ursula Tscherter	[Switzerland]
Expedition Guide:	Aitana Forcen Vasquez	[Spain]
Expedition Guide:	Andrea Schwetz	[Germany]
Expedition Guide:	Pierre Gallego	[Luxembourg]

WELCOMES YOU ON BOARD!

Day 1 – Wednesday, August 13th, Longyearbyen, Embarkation

12h00 GPS Position: 78°16.0'N / 015°24.7'E

Wind: N2 • Sea: rippled • Weather: fog • Air: 8°C • Sea: 9°C

Travelers arrived from every corner of the globe—some having already spent nights soaking in the Arctic charm of Longyearbyen, others stepping off morning flights with anticipation still fresh in their eyes. By afternoon, the quay buzzed with excitement as we gathered beside the striking blue hull of *Plancius*, the vessel that would carry us towards and around Northeast Greenland for the next 20 days.

From four o'clock, the Oceanwide Expeditions team and crew greeted each guest with warm smiles and a sense of adventure that was contagious. Once cabins were discovered and bags unpacked, many gravitated to the lounge, where steaming cups of coffee and tea offered a comforting pause before the first official proceedings began.



The mandatory safety briefing quickly transformed from formality into adventure. Second Officer Ward led us out onto deck, where we stood in crisp Arctic air, clad in bright orange

lifejackets. Against the backdrop of rugged mountains and icy waters, we listened, half-distracted by the views, half-awed by the thought that this was only the beginning.



Then came the moment of departure. Lines were cast, and Plancius began her slow glide away from Longyearbyen. Guests gathered at the railings, cameras in hand, quietly marvelling as the settlement shrank into the distance and the wilderness unfolded before us.

Soon after, the lounge filled with the hum of conversation and clinking glasses. Captain Levakov raised a toast, joined by our Expedition Leader, Pippa, and his dedicated team, each promising the days ahead would be filled with discovery and wonder. Dinner followed—a generous buffet that introduced us to the talents of the restaurant team, and to each other.

As twilight lingered, many chose to remain on deck, wrapped against the chill, unwilling to tear their eyes away from the stillness of the Arctic evening. Excitement mingled with exhaustion as one by one; we drifted off to our cabins, carrying with us the quiet thrill that tomorrow, the true adventure would begin.

Day 2 – Thursday, August 14th: Day at sea towards Greenland

08:00 GPS Position: 78°01.3'N / 011°54.3'E

Wind: NE4 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Cloudy • Air: 8°C

The crossing from Svalbard westward to the east coast of Greenland is long. So we spent today at sea. We did use the time wisely, however, and got the mandatory briefings out of the way. Without the instructions on how to treat the Arctic and its inhabitants respectfully, how to get in and out of the zodiacs safely, and what to do in case of a polar bear sighting, we would not be allowed to land.



We were then invited to listen to two lectures. In the morning, Ursula introduced marine mammals, many of which we are hoping to see on our voyage. In the afternoon, Aitana presented an overview of sea ice, promising more information on glacier ice later in the trip.



The rest of the time was spent out on the deck or in the lounge, enjoying the calm marine scenery, albeit under a grey sky, and following the flight of the different species of birds, some of Pierre explained to us during the recap. In addition, George provided us with different definitions of the Arctic and talked us through the Icelandic claim of being of eight Arctic states.

Day 3 – Friday, August 15th, Arriving at the pack ice of Northern Greenland

08:00 GPS Position: 76°26.1'N / 009°40.3'W

Wind: NW4 • Sea: Moderate waves • Weather: Cloudy • Air: 2°C

The sailing through the Greenland Sea during the night was calm and smooth. The gentle movements of Plancius keeping us deep asleep. Especially as we got another extra night hour to account for the different time zone. As we had made very good progress, we had reached the pack ice edge in the early morning hours. What a beautiful moment to wake up and to look out of the window. And even more was the breakfast unique when sitting at the table while icebergs of all shapes passed by.

Even more as the sky was blue and the sun was shining. Soon after breakfast everybody was standing on deck taking in this exceptional beauty of the polar world. The ice was densely packed yet moving slightly up and down due to a gentle but visible swell. Captain Evgeny and his crew carefully steered Plancius into the ice pushing the shoals to the side. Occasionally the hull hit a piece too heavy to move easily which created a trembling movement and sound through the ship. From bow to aft.



As usual we were followed by numerous Northern fulmars sailing effortless through the air. Often at eyelevel allowing photographers to capture their unique beauty. Other birds like various skuas and guillemots were discovered. In the water harbour seals lifted their head out and small groups of harp seals swam in their typical manner while lying on their back.

Since the early morning hours, the crew and the guides were standing on the bridge and at deck to scan the white surface stretching towards the horizon. Behind we could see the dark and ragged coastline of Greenland. Of course, everybody was waiting that a polar bear was sighted. But scanning ourselves we realized how difficult it is to discover the almost white animal within the white ice spread flat on the water or piling up creating many invisible spots in the unique landscape.

Fortunately, it was quite warm. We were standing in awe and enjoyed every second. What a gift to experience. Later in the morning Andi offered an informative lecture about Kattalik, the country whose coastline was visible in the far distance.

After lunch we continued to scan while Plancius sailed southwards. Still close to the ice and despite great visibility none of the Kings of the North became visible. We enjoyed nevertheless

being out on deck especially as the hotel crew surprised us with a cup of hot chocolate, a shot of rum and whipped cream. Later the wind picked up, temperature fell, and fog moved in restricting the visibility to less than 100 m. Impressive to see how quickly things can change in the Arctic.



At recap, Pippa outlined the plans for tomorrow, Ursula presented the harp seals in more depth and Aitana explained how much effort and mathematical modelling is needed to create a weather forecast. Which is most likely wrong anyways. After dinner we had reached the south side of Shannon Island where we hoped to escape from the dense fog. But it was just the same as some hours ago. The fog was too dense. Oh well, we thought, the day has been unique and memorable leaving a good understanding how the home of the iconic polar bear looks like.

Day 4 – Saturday, August 16th, Myggbukta

08:00 GPS Position: 74°18.6'N / 018°04.4'W

Wind: N6 • Sea: Calm • Weather: Partly cloudy • Air: 1°C

All of us woke up in the morning feeling excited that today is the first day where we are going to set our feet on the soil of Greenland. But this needed to wait until the afternoon since we were still making our way towards the landing site. Nevertheless, to be fully prepared for our landing the expedition team handed for everyone Muck Boots out so all of us are well equipped to hike onshore. After everyone found the right pair of boots, it was time to join

Sven in the Observation lounge for a lecture about the geology of Greenland. Afterwards all of us enjoyed the views from the decks to the surrounding landscapes. Before lunch George gave a lecture as well about the Modern History of North-East Greenland. Before heading out all of us strengthened ourselves with a good lunch.

Then it was finally time to set foot on land at Myggbukta which translates to Mosquito Bay. At Myggbukta there is one of the oldest and best-preserved Norwegian trappers cabins you can find in North-East Greenland. It was built in 1922 and was used by various people through time. After arriving on shore we started to divide into groups of long, medium and short hikers. While the long hikers steamed off into the mountains everyone else had a look into and around the cabin before starting to walk. While everyone was hiking through the tundra some were lucky to spot up to four snow owls after gaining some elevation.





We were lucky to observe these birds for a longer period, and we assumed that there was a breeding pair with two juveniles. Others also had the chance to observe already on the first landing musk oxen from closer. While enjoying the great view from the upper plateau on the fluvial glacial plain below us we could feel the scale of the landscape we were walking in. As the time passed by it was time for us to return to the landing site. With many different first impressions of our first landing, we returned to the ship. After the recap we all went hungry to our well-deserved dinner as we sailed to our destination of the next day, Blomsterbugten.

Day 5 – Sunday, August 17th, Blomsterbugten & Maria Ø

08:00 GPS Position: 73°25.0'N / 023°46.7'W

Wind: W1 • Sea: Mirror calm • Weather: Cloudy • Air: 4°C

It was an unusually early wake-up call for a Sunday morning, owed to the busy programme ahead of us, but many people were up already to look at the awe-inspiring Teufelsschloss (“Devil’s Castle”) and the colourful layering of similar rock formations all around and high above us. Overnight, the ship had made its way into Kaiser Franz Joseph Fjord.

Low clouds and a light drizzle welcomed us at Blomsterbugten (“Flower Bay”). Not dispirited by the weather, all those who came ashore, anyone from leisurely walker to mountain goat, was rewarded with sightings of Arctic hare, musk ox, and for some also a rock ptarmigan. The musk ox calves looked at us with some curiosity, which made for lovely pictures and lasting memories to take away from this encounter.



During our scenic cruise through the gigantic fjord, the Danish Sirius Patrol came aboard to check Plancius’ papers and procedures. If the ship had not slowed down for this, we probably never would have spotted three polar bears – a mother and two older cubs – swimming along the shore before coming onto land and disappearing up into a large river valley. We can expect polar bears anywhere at any time.



By the afternoon, there had also been a big improvement in the weather. Our landing on Maria Ø (Maria island) was sunny and warm. Layers of clothing quickly came off as the different groups made their ways across the island. The sunlight on the mountainsides presented the many different hues of red and yellow we had been missing in the morning.

Day 6 – Monday, August 18th, Alpefjord & Segelsaellskapet

08:00 GPS Position: 72°42.2'N / 024°44.7'W

Wind: E1 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Clear • Air: 6°C

The sky was clear as we sailed into Alpefjord where we planned a morning zodiac cruise. Even though the sun was shining, the wind was blowing very strong and therefore everyone was advised to put on an extra layer of clothing. While we were having our breakfast the deck crew lowered, one by one, the zodiacs onto the water. Soon after, the zodiacs spread into the fjord towards the wall of ice reaching into the water. It is built by the Gully Glacier and the Sefström Glacier which merge into one some distance above. As we cruised deeper into the fjord, we observed the rugged ice front where countless vertical cracks and lines of sediment rich ice

created a unique appearance. The scenery of the surrounding mountains added an impressive scenery making us feel small. Especially due to the presence of the prominent Mount Pyramid reaching 2293 m into the sky. After a windy but stunning zodiac cruise we all went back onboard and sailed out of Alpefjord towards our afternoon destination in Segelskafetfjord.



After lunch we reached the fjord sailing along a mountain called Berzelius Bjaerg. The 1500 metre rock face visible above the water is made of layers of various coloured sedimentary rocks creating a breathtaking scenery. Finally, we set foot on land and walked the short distance to the spot where the layered rocks entered the water. Reaching a depth of up to 600 m in the fjord and reappearing, although not as spectacular, on the other side.



The multi coloured striped looking sedimentary rocks of mudstone, limestone, sandstone and dolomite are part of the Eleonore Bay Supergroup Basin which was deposited 900 to 600 million years ago and is reaching at some places up to 14 km of thickness. By now we all became very captivated by the unique and beautiful geology. We had plenty of time to explore it while the long and medium hikers went to explore the surrounding areas. With a stunning view from the high point over the valley with the lake and mountains in the background some spotted a single musk ox as well. After our beautiful hikes we arrived back at the beach to go back onboard Plancius. The truly memorable day ended with a beautiful evening while we were making our way to Vikingbukta.

Day 7 – Tuesday, August 19th, Fleming Fjord

08:00 GPS Position: 72°12.2'N / 023°25.9'W

Wind: W3 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Partly cloudy • Air: 7°C

We woke up to a spectacular morning in Fleming Fjord, calm weather, crisp air, and blue skies that made the landscape shine. After breakfast, we went ashore for a beautiful walk. There were three options for the day: long, medium, and short hikes – all of which offered something special.

The terrain was open and welcoming, scattered with vibrant Arctic flowers in full bloom. The long hikers ventured further inland, where they were rewarded with breathtaking views of the river canyon, a striking feature carved through time. The canyon walls framed the landscape like a painting, and the light played beautifully on the layered rocks.

The medium and short hikes followed gentler paths along the ridges and moraines, offering peaceful views and a chance to appreciate the quiet detail of the tundra, tiny blooms, lichen-covered rocks, and the slow rhythm of the Arctic.



In the afternoon, we lifted the anchor and continued our journey northward. While underway, Pierre gave a fascinating lecture on **polar bears**, diving into their biology, behavior, and the challenges they face in a changing Arctic. George followed with a talk on the **modern history of Northeast Greenland**, tracing the human stories that have unfolded in this remote region over the last century – from hunting stations to scientific expeditions and territorial claims.

A day full of beauty, stories, and stillness, Fleming Fjord reminded us just how layered and alive this landscape is.

Day 8 – Wednesday, August 20th, Vikingbukta & Northwest Scoresby Sund

08:00 GPS Position: 70°23.3'N / 022°31.7'W

Wind: NE3 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Clear • Air: 8°C

The day began with sunshine spilling over the fjord as Pippa, our expedition leader, gently woke us for an early Zodiac cruise. Scoresby Sund, the world's largest fjord system, lay calm under the bright Arctic light. Before we entered the ice of the Brede Glacier, our eyes were caught by something extraordinary along the shore: the first columnar basalt formations. Created by the slow cooling and contraction of ancient volcanic lava flows, they rose in striking geometrical patterns, often hexagonal, forming surreal cliff walls that looked as though carved by the hand of a sculptor. The contrast of these dark volcanic columns against the shimmering ice set the stage for the wonders that would follow.

From there, we cruised deeper into the ice. The Zodiacs threaded their way through gleaming icebergs and clusters of brash ice that crackled softly under our hulls. It felt adventurous and raw, as if we were navigating through a frozen maze. Then came Pippa's voice over the radio—she had spotted a polar bear resting on the glacier's moraine. Hearts raced as all Zodiacs carefully gathered, engines silenced. The bear lay stretched out in regal stillness, its creamy coat glowing in the sun. Suddenly, another bear appeared, this one swimming powerfully among the ice floes. The sight of its massive body cutting through the freezing water left us in awe. From our position, we had a perfect view: the resting bear high above and the swimmer carving its way below.



After returning to the ship, lunch tasted all the better with the thrill of the morning still echoing in our minds. In the afternoon we cruised northward, weaving past monumental icebergs around Milne Land to the east. Their sheer scale and sculptural beauty were breathtaking. Later, Sven held a lecture on geomorphological phenomena, explaining how glaciers, erosion, and ancient volcanic activity have shaped this immense landscape.

The day closed with pure magic. As we finished dinner, the sun descended slowly, painting the icebergs in glowing gold and crimson. The mirrored waters caught every shade, enhancing the drama of the Arctic stage. We ended the day exhilarated and grateful, knowing we had witnessed nature's artistry in its rarest form.



Day 9 – Thursday, August 21st, Rypefjord & Harefjord

08h00 GPS Position: 70°58.5'N / 026°17.5'W

Wind: W4 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Clear • Air: 10°C

We began the day with a morning landing in Rype Fjord, under calm, warm conditions and endless blue skies. Once again, the weather was on our side, making the landscape glow with late summer light.

Hikers set off in all directions, with options for medium, long, and, today's special, a day hike crossing overland from Hype Fjord to our afternoon landing site in Hare Fjord. This full-day traverse offered an incredible experience: walking through untouched Arctic terrain, tracing the subtle shifts in geology and vegetation as the group moved from fjord to fjord.

Meanwhile, those who stayed on board enjoyed a stunning transit around the headland. The views from the ship were unbeatable, steep cliffs, dramatic rock faces, and a stillness that made every ripple on the water feel significant.



In the afternoon, we reunited in Hare Fjord, where the tundra was ablaze in autumn colour, deep reds, golden yellows, and rust-toned mosses, set against the backdrop of towering icebergs grounded in the bay. The contrast was almost surreal: warm, earthy tones on land and gleaming, frozen giants afloat just offshore.

To top it all off, we were lucky to spot a group of musk oxen grazing in the distance. Their shaggy silhouettes moved slowly across the hillside, perfectly framed by the afternoon light. It was a powerful reminder of the wildness and resilience of life in this remote landscape.

It was a day of movement, connection, and unforgettable beauty, crossing from one fjord to another by foot or by sea, under skies that felt painted just for us.



Day 10 – Friday, August 22nd, Bear Islands & Sydkap

08h00 GPS Position: 70°54.4'N / 026°56.0'W

Wind: W1 • Sea: Glassy • Weather: Clear • Air: 7°C

Today's expedition adventure started at the Bear Islands (*Nannut Qeqertaat*) where a polar bear has been shot during the East Greenland Expedition (1891-92) lead by Carl Ryder. The group of islands of various sizes and heights were creatively named I – XI. Majestic mountains created a scenic and impressive background for amazing photos. Especially the Grundvigskirken pinnacle whose vertical wall of crystalline rock raised 1977 meter into the air. The unique shape of the top reminded past visitors of the Grundvigs church in Kopenhagen, thus its name.

Soon after breakfast ten zodiacs left the gangway heading straight towards various gigantic icebergs whose surfaces sparkled in the morning sunlight creating artistic sculptures of ice and light only nature is capable of. Slowly gliding through the calm sea we got plenty of time to capture the various faces of the iceberg from various perspectives. These giants who have been quite likely broken off in the far North of Greenland have been carried south with strong currents eventually stranding in the fjord system.



Although wildlife was scarce, we did discover a few seals and an eider duck with its chick. The surfaces of the islands were mostly barren rocks although some hints of green suggested that vegetation is slowly growing at places protected from the harsh Arctic climate. We thoroughly enjoyed the zodiac cruise offering enough time to take in the beauty of the Bear Islands.

Back on board we shared experiences, views and emotions with each other. Looking at the various photos on the cameras' screens it was impressive how diverse they were considering that we had all visited the same place. As Plancius slowly headed north icebergs of various shape and sizes passed through the windows leaving a sense of surrealism.

After a relaxing break we landed at Sydkap where we first visited the amazingly well-preserved remains of several winter houses from the Thule people. Gathering around Frigga we got the information needed to read the depressions and raisings in the ground. Today covered in soil and grass. During our hike through the boggy and soft tundra we got to a small lake where a red throated diver landed near its chick. Unfortunately, it did not feed the fish it carried in its beak during our observation. From a higher viewpoint we could take in the huge space of Hall Bredning a wide part of the Scoresbysund. Here hundreds of large and small icebergs float or are stuck to the seafloor. Some remain here for years. The long hikers had gained even higher ground and encountered some musk ox.



Meanwhile the leisurelies explored the beach line where a rather unusual plant grows in great numbers. The green and thick leaves of the Roseroot (*Rhodiola rosea*) turn pinkish reddish in fall offering unique motives for plant photographers.

Before we headed back on board some brave guests among us ran into the cold Arctic water. Surely most of them got out just as fast if not even faster. Congratulations to you braves for your successful polar plunge.

Another unique day ended after a tasty diner in the lounge or on deck as the scenery around us remained breathtaking. Meanwhile Plancius sailed slowly through the still bright night to bring us to tomorrow's destination.

Day 11 – Saturday, August 23th, Ittoqqotoormiit & Hurry Inlet

8h00 GPS Position: 70°43.6'N, 024°21.1'W

Wind: E1 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Partly Cloudy • Air Temperature: 6°C



The morning was beautiful as we woke up and saw the first settlement of our journey after leaving Longyearbyen on Svalbard. On the rocky but gentle hill in front of us everyone saw the settlement of Ittoqqotoormiit. This remote settlement is the northernmost settlement on the east Greenland coast and has numerous colourful houses. After breakfast, we were shuttled towards the little harbour.

After arrival we could freely roam around the place and meet the local people in the community centre where we were also able to try musk oxen meat. Furthermore, a local family invited us for coffee and cake into their house which was a great and warm welcome. At 10 o'clock many attended the release of the weather balloon which is being done everyday. At 11 o'clock many attended the dog feeding and some cuddled with the husky puppies. Otherwise, it was a very relaxing morning with locals driving on their quad bikes. Otherwise, some of us looked inside the local church.

Around noon it was time to leave the settlement as we headed towards Hurry Inlet. While it initially did not look too good with fog around the fjord, we were lucky enough that our landing site was free of fog and low clouds. On the way to the shore, we saw already the sandy beach

followed by a hilly landscape. The long hikers went all the way into the backcountry and were lucky enough to spot two blue foxes. The medium hikers walked through the landscape was riddled with moors and large boulders. The leisurely group meanwhile were walking mainly along the coastline picking up a good amount of trash lying on the beach.

Furthermore, they spent in the end more time on the floor lying than walking. That was due to the excitement of using Ursulas magnifying glasses to explore the small plants and mosses on the ground. After the long and eventful day everyone was ready to go back to Plancius to enjoy a good dinner and some rest. As we were having dinner, we sailed to our next destination in the morning which was Rømer Fjord.

Day 12 – Sunday, August 24th, Rømerfjord

08:00 Uhr GPS-Position: 69°48.0'N, 022°00.6'W

Wind: NE5 • Sea: Slight • Weather: Overcast • Air: 2°C

This morning, we were woken up by our expedition leader Pippa as we had entered Rømerfjord, a fjord system South of Scoresby Sund. The day was overcast and there was a little bit of wind, but that did not stop our expedition team from heading out early in 4 zodiacs to scout the fjord for possible polar bears. And sure enough they found a mother and a cub on a hillside. Pippa then decided to start our day with a zodiac cruise in order for all our guests to see these bears. After we had all embarked our zodiacs, we moved towards the location where the bears had been sighted and we were able to observe them as they climbed the hill and disappeared in the distance. What an incredibly good start of the day. We had already sighted so many polar bears in Greenland.

We then continued our zodiac cruise to the end of the fjord where we saw the glacier. After that Pippa decided to do a short perimeter landing on the hot springs site. The guides created a perimeter around the landing site and we were able to walk around freely to observe the beautiful rock formations, some of them made up of basaltic structures, as well as the hot springs and the interesting vegetation. This is a popular hunting site for the local inhabitants, as we could see by the many bones scattered all around the landing site.



We then all returned back to Plancius for our delicious lunch, and the afternoon was spent repositioning our ship further South, as we still had a long way to cover for our next activities on the next day. The sea was a little rough so we spent most of the afternoon inside listening to very interesting lectures, until it was time again for our daily recap, followed by our dinner. Another amazing adventurous day on our East Greenland trip.



Day 13 – Monday, August 25th, Nansen Fjord

08h00 GPS Position: 68°21.1'N / 027°59.7'W

Wind: NE5 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Rain • Air: 4°C

We began our day shrouded in mystery. In the early morning hours, thick fog blanketed Nansen Fjord, casting a ghostly silence over the still waters. Named after the legendary Norwegian explorer Fridtjof Nansen—scientist, diplomat, and pioneer of Arctic exploration—the fjord is flanked by soaring, rugged mountains that rise abruptly from the sea. As *Plancius* cautiously made her way deeper into the fjord, the fog began to lift, slowly revealing a dramatic landscape of towering peaks, glacial valleys, and scattered sea ice.

Then came the moment we'll never forget. Just before breakfast, a polar bear was spotted on the ice. It was calm, even regal in its slow movements. Cameras clicked, binoculars shifted, and a hushed reverence fell over everyone on deck. For two and a half magical hours, we watched in hushed awe as this iconic predator—serene and seemingly unbothered by our presence—shifted, stretched, and occasionally glanced our way.





By late morning, we began to leave the fjord, and as we did, the weather rewarded us with a breathtaking show. Veils of fog parted to reveal the colossal scale of the mountains and the snouts of distant glaciers, all glowing in angled Arctic light. It was hard to look away.

Later, as we sailed southward in open waters, just as lunch was being served, the excitement flared again: orcas! A pod appeared alongside the ship, their sleek black fins cutting effortlessly through the waves. We rushed out to the decks to watch as they surfaced, breathed, and vanished again in elegant rhythm. Seeing such powerful, intelligent creatures in the wild was a stirring experience.

To round off the day, Ursula gave a fascinating talk on Arctic Whale Ecology—made all the more powerful after witnessing two apex predators in their natural environment: the polar bear and the orca.

What a day. The kind of day that reminds us why we came to this remote corner of the world in the first place.

Day 14 – Tuesday, August 26th, Tasiilaq

08h00 GPS Position: 66°17.8'N / 034°07.6'W

Wind: NE2 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air: 5°C

Today we transited by ship towards Tasiilaq during the morning. We entered the beautiful, protected bay with very calm waters from where the name Tasiilaq comes from, which means „like a lake“. At about 11 am we disembarked, and Pippa welcomed us at the pier of Tasiilaq. From there, there were many things we could visit. Some of us went straight to the local museum which was located in a building which looked like a little church on the top of the first hill. There, we were able to go through the past history of Tasiilaq and to see old traditional hunting artifacts, as well as narwhal and walrus tusks. There was also a small souvenir shop where some of us bought postcards, local jewelry, or even the typical Tupilak. The weather was overcast, and it rained a little bit every now and then, but it was still very enjoyable to walk around in this little town and to see what everyday life looks like in a Greenlandic town.



We were able to visit the community centre, the local supermarket which seems to be the local hub, and we could see the local school and kindergarten. Some of us went back to the ship in between to have some savoury snacks during the afternoon, but most of us made it back out to go to the 5 pm cultural event at the community centre. There, the local community welcomed us and we witnessed an amazing performance by the local choir, as well as drums and dance. During the day some of us also went to the dog kennel where we saw the local Greenlandic dogs and there were also puppies that everybody wanted to take back to the ship.

After the cultural event, we all made our way back to the ship where we had our daily recap and our lovely dinner. Another wonderful day in Greenland.



Day 15 – Wednesday, August 27th, Nansen Bugt & Umiivik

08h00 GPS Position: 64°38.1'N / 039°10.9'W

Wind: W2 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Rain • Air: 6°C

Today was not just another day of Arctic exploration—it was a day rooted in polar history. Our mission was clear and inspiring: to follow in the footsteps of the legendary Norwegian explorer Fridtjof Nansen, whose daring 1888 expedition across the Greenlandic ice cap became a milestone in polar exploration.

We sailed into Nansen Bugt, a bay named in honour of Nansen, located along the rugged southeastern coast of Greenland. Early in the morning, the expedition team called us to board the Zodiacs for a cruise around the glacier front. The conditions were ideal: crisp air, calm water, and the sun illuminating the icy landscape.



Not long after we set off, the team spotted a minke whale, one of the smaller baleen whales, gracefully surfacing near the boats. We paused to watch it swim among the scattered sea ice—an unforgettable moment. From there, we cruised through towering icebergs, sculpted into fantastical shapes by wind and water, on our way to the glacier front of Storstrømmen Glacier, one of the major glaciers draining the Greenland ice cap into Nansen Bugt.

After returning to Plancius for lunch, the day's second chapter unfolded. The team had planned two historic landings. First, we landed at a site where we could physically touch the Greenland Ice Cap—a massive, ancient body of ice covering roughly 80% of the island. It was a surreal experience to stand at the edge of this vast, frozen world.

The second landing was even more symbolic. We stepped ashore at Umiivik, the remote bay from which Nansen and his team of five men launched their pioneering crossing of the ice cap. In the afternoon, George gave a fascinating lecture about Nansen's journey, providing context to the courage, planning, and endurance it took to undertake such an expedition in 1888.

Both landings offered stunning views into the fjords and ice-covered plateaus beyond.



As the day came to a close, we gathered in the lounge for our daily recap, reflecting on the significance of where we'd been. Over dinner, the conversations lingered on Nansen, ice, and history—memories we will carry far beyond Greenland.

Day 16 – Thursday, August 28th, Skjoldungen Fjord & Dronning Marie Dal

08h00 GPS Position: 63°44.7'N / 039°56.1'W

Wind: N6 • Sea: Moderate • Weather: Overcast • Air: 5°C

That morning, we enjoyed the rare luxury of being able to sleep in — a true indulgence on an expedition cruise. The silence of the early hours was gently broken by the cheerful voice of our expedition leader, Pippa, calling us to start the day. Rested, we left our cabins and stepped outside to marvel at the majestic fjords of Skjoldungen.

Skjoldungen, an uninhabited island off the southeast coast of Greenland, unfolded before us in a panorama of hanging glaciers and jagged peaks. These steep fjords had been shaped over millennia by the retreating ice and now form a dramatic backdrop where the raw power and elegance of nature meet. The water was mirror-smooth, reflecting the snow-covered cliffs like a perfect mirror. We spent the entire morning on deck, in awe of the landscape, cameras clicking and binoculars scanning every ridge and crevice.



After a hearty lunch and a brief midday briefing, we got ready for a hike in the Dronning Marie Dal area, a remote valley at the northwestern tip of Skjoldungen Island. It was a wonderful feeling to be walking on the tundra again — the springy moss beneath our feet, scattered wildflowers, and ancient rocks under our boots. Many of us discovered the tart, earthy taste of crowberries, easily plucked from the low shrubs. A true Arctic delicacy!



Later, during our daily recap as we cozily reflected on the day's experiences, we were suddenly interrupted — not by radio interference, but by Pippa's excited announcement. The captain had spotted something extraordinary. We rushed to the outer deck and arrived just in time to see a mother polar bear with her two cubs climbing up a steep slope. Against the stark backdrop, their creamy fur glowed in contrast to the rocks. It was a moment of silent awe and untamed wilderness — a rare and humbling encounter.

This sighting was a spectacular conclusion to a truly unforgettable day in Greenland.

Day 17 – Friday, August 29th, Timmiarmiit Ø

08h00 GPS Position: 62°49.5'N / 041°14.9'W

Wind: N3 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Overcast • Air: 1°C

Today, we were once again blessed with beautiful weather—clear skies over Timmiarmiit Ø, a rugged island group on the remote southeast coast of Greenland. As so often in this wild and unpredictable region, we didn't know what the day would bring. But soon the expedition team picked us up, and it turned out we were in for an exciting combination of landing and Zodiac cruise.

First, we landed on one of the islands, where we visited the remains of the Thule culture. The Thule people, ancestors of today's Inuit, lived in the Arctic between the 9th and 15th centuries. They were expert survivalists, known for their ingenuity, tools, and deep connection with nature. The visible stone foundations and traces of ancient settlements offered a fascinating glimpse into their way of life.

Afterward, we continued by Zodiac into an adventurous landscape of ice, filled with shimmering icebergs and crunching sea ice. The silence and beauty of the surroundings created a peaceful, almost meditative atmosphere.

Another highlight came as we sailed out of the bay: we spotted three humpback whales moving gracefully and calmly between the drifting ice. It was a quiet, majestic moment that left us all in awe as we stood on deck.

We enjoyed lunch, followed by a fascinating lecture from Pippa on whaling in the Arctic—a subject that links past to present. She spoke about the history of commercial whaling, the devastating effects on whale populations, and the cultural significance of whales in the Arctic.



As if the day hadn't already offered enough, the team soon spotted a large group of pilot whales near the Plancius. These highly social toothed whales swam calmly around our ship, allowing for close and unforgettable observation.



But the true highlight came as we sailed out of the bay: we spotted three humpback whales moving gracefully and calmly between the drifting ice. It was a quiet, majestic moment that left us all in awe as we stood on deck.

In the evening, we gathered in the lounge for our daily recap, sharing stories and reflections. Then we sat down to dinner, grateful for another extraordinary day in Greenland, filled with nature, history, and the unexpected magic of the Arctic.

Day 18 – Saturday, August 30th, Prins Christian Sund & Herjolfsnes

08:00 Uhr GPS-Position: 60°54.7'N / 042°06.6'W

Wind: W2 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Clear • Air: 8°C

Prins Christian Sund, too, was an entirely new place for the Plancius to sail through. So the captain entered the long and narrow fjord at daybreak to supplement the bridge's array of navigational instruments with the invaluable power of eyesight. And to be fair, who wants to investigate a new place without being able to see anything! Ahead of us lay a 100-km long ship's cruise with towering mountains made of granite and polished by ceaseless glaciers into invitingly rolling rocky ridges. At its narrowest, the sound was 500 m wide while at the same time looking down on us from height of around 1300 m. Far from sailing in a straight line, the officers needed to navigate a few surprisingly sharp bends, behind each of which could lie a hanging glacier, large bearded seals sunbathing on small pieces of floating ice, a hitherto unseen bird species... or all of the above.



As the sun rose, we spotted navigational marks, a few hunting cabins here and there, a small sailboat travelling at the same speed and in the same direction as us. After all those days on the scantily inhabited east coast, we were definitely nearing the busier west coast. A last turn around the tiny island Nunarssuaq and we caught our first glimpse of the Labrador Sea.

During lunch the modern settlement of Frederiksdal came into view but the destination for our afternoon landing lay across the bay to the west. The attractions at Herjolfsnes (Ikigait) were the ruins of an early Norse settlement founded by Herjolf Bardsson in the late 10th century. It is believed to have lasted some 500 years. We could easily discern the former church and church yard eroding into the western shore. We were also quick to make out the ruins of the large longhouses, before we set off on our various hikes. The unexpected heat and the zillions of flies were getting to us, as we traversed the richly vegetated valley. So we were all the more thankful for the strong, if somewhat chilly wind on the rocks along the shore that did away with the insects. At least for a short while.



Day 19 – Sunday, August 31st, Alluitsq & Unnartoq

08:00 Uhr GPS-Position: 60°03.6'N / 045°12.7'W

Wind: SE2 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Fog • Air: 5°C

A small handful of people was out and about when the sun began its climb behind the mountain chain framing the fjord, witnessing vibrant colours in an otherwise dark sky. Ahead of Plancius were a few electric lights, and we wondered if this was already Lichtenau (Alluitsq), of which we had been told that it may be entirely deserted. We passed the lights. It was not yet Alluitsq.

When we did land in the beautiful natural harbour at the foot of a decidedly green slope sprinkled with buildings in various states of decay, we were alone. The original German mission founded in 1774 by a Moravian missionary and five families was for a time the biggest permanent settlement in Greenland and played a central part in the colonization of Greenland. In 1900, the mission was surrendered to the Lutheran Church of Denmark and the place gradually lost importance until the population was encouraged to settle elsewhere in the 1990s. The last of its permanent inhabitants died in 2022. He is buried in the local graveyard. In three different hikes, we explored the material remains of a long, dynamic human history while at the same time valuing the quiet that holds the area captive today.



After lunch and a short transit further, the landscape and scenery had changed yet again from the lush slope that was somewhat difficult to walk to the more open tundra at Unnatoq – “the hot place”- the site of hydrothermal activity and hot springs. Upon arrival in the fjord, we spotted two eagles. After separating into the usual three hikes, some of us were lucky to get a better view of the impressive birds of prey in full flight. All three hikes had the opportunity to pass by the hot springs, which were at a very pleasant temperature, and to spend a lengthy amount of time relaxing in the pool or at least at the edge of it. Whether we were in the water or not, the hotel management had thought one step ahead, prepared some hot chocolate to be taken ashore and treating everyone who wanted to some Bailey’s and whipped cream as well. Meanwhile, large icebergs were slowly making their way out of the fjord and provided that special detail in everyone’s photographs of the jovial event.



We felt the first drops of rain on the shore and the weather was clearly taking a turn for the worse. Nevertheless, the joviality continued on the back deck, where the galley and the stewards had once more prepared a BBQ. The keen dancers among us could not wait for the first tables to be cleared out of their dancing ways.

Day 20 – Monday, September 01st, Itilleq & Igaliku & Qassiarsuk-Brattahlíð

08:00 Uhr GPS-Position: 60°34.8'N / 046°27.4'W

Wind: SE2 • Sea: Smooth • Weather: Fog • Air: 5°C

Rain! If one word were to describe our morning, it would be rain. Pippa had forecasted it during yesterday's recap, but after the good weather we had been having all trip long, we were not quite willing to believe it. The initial light drizzle got increasingly heavier as those who wanted to walk from our landing below the cattle and sheep farm of Itilleq along the 3.8-km long King's Road (so called after the visit of the Danish king back in the 1950s) toward Igaliku. Not everyone stayed dry or warm, but the detrimental weather did not dampen our spirits.



The attraction at Igaliku are the ruins of Gardar, the former seat of the Norse bishopric and the site of Greenland's first Christian cathedral dating back to the early 12th century. A local guide called Bent – also not thrown off by the relentless rain – joined the walk across the headland and gave us a tour of the beautiful modern church (thankfully from the inside), the original house and graves of the founders of today's settlement and, of course, the archaeology of the old bishopric and cathedral. By the time he got to the cow byre – large because meant to show off – Pippa suggested a swift return to Plancius in order to dry out and warm up. It was great to experience this part of the Kujataa cultural landscape, a designated UNESCO World heritage site, but it was also great to have a hot drink back on board.

There were barely any dry spots on our outer garments to be seen yet, when the next adventure was waiting for us in the afternoon. Not surprisingly, some opted to stay in the cosy lounge close to the coffee machine, but the majority very much enjoyed their walk around the settlement of Qassiarsuk. Again, this is a place of global historical importance and also part of the UNESCO World Heritage site. At so-called Brattahlíð, Old Norse for Steep Slope, Erik the Red founded his home stead and his wife Thjodhild converted to Christianity. Accordingly, reconstructions of a Norse longhouse and Thjodhild's church dating to 1000 AD can be visited. Since the rain had somewhat subsided – or maybe we had just got used to it – we were also at leisure to wander around the original stone ruins or walk up to the statue of Leif Erikson, who naturally looks towards the East American coast. The little café and souvenir shop was open and gave us welcome chance to purchase a fitting memento on our last full day of the trip.



We also visited the Otto Frederiksen Museum, named after a local historian who preserved knowledge about Norse and Inuit life in the region. The exhibits offered a deeper look into the cultural layers of this unique place.

Back on Plancius, we returned our beloved muck boots, gathered in the lounge for the Captain's Farewell, and enjoyed our final plated dinner.

What a journey it has been.

Day 21 – Tuesday, September 02nd, Final Farewell – Disembarkation Day aboard Plancius, Narsarsuaq

08h00 GPS Position: 60°57.6'N / 045°39.7'W

Wind: SE2 • Sea: Rippled • Weather: Clear • Air: 3°C

We woke for the last time to the familiar sound of Pippa's voice over the intercom, a voice that had become part of our daily rhythm over the past three weeks. Outside our cabin doors, our bags waited silently to be carried ashore by the expedition team. As we gathered for one final breakfast, the air was filled with quiet conversation and reflective glances—no one quite ready to let go.

We shared heartfelt goodbyes with the dining room crew, whose warm smiles had greeted us each day, then made our way down to the gangway. Stepping off *Plancius*—our floating home for the past 21 unforgettable days—was surreal. The ship had carried us safely through some of the most remote and breathtaking corners of the planet. And now, it was time to part not only from the vessel, but also from the new friendships that had formed on deck, in Zodiacs, and over dinner.

How can one begin to describe all that we've witnessed? The endless ice, the towering cliffs, the stillness of polar silence. Whales, glaciers, geological wonders, and stories—etched forever in our memories. We've had the rare privilege of traveling to the far edge of the world, where nature rules in all its raw, unapologetic beauty.

Perhaps the words of Sir David Attenborough come closest:

"It seems to me that the natural world is the greatest source of excitement; the greatest source of visual beauty; the greatest source of intellectual interest. It is the greatest source of so much in life that makes life worth living."

As we stepped ashore and looked back one last time, it wasn't just a ship we were leaving—it was a chapter of our lives, now closed, but impossible to forget.



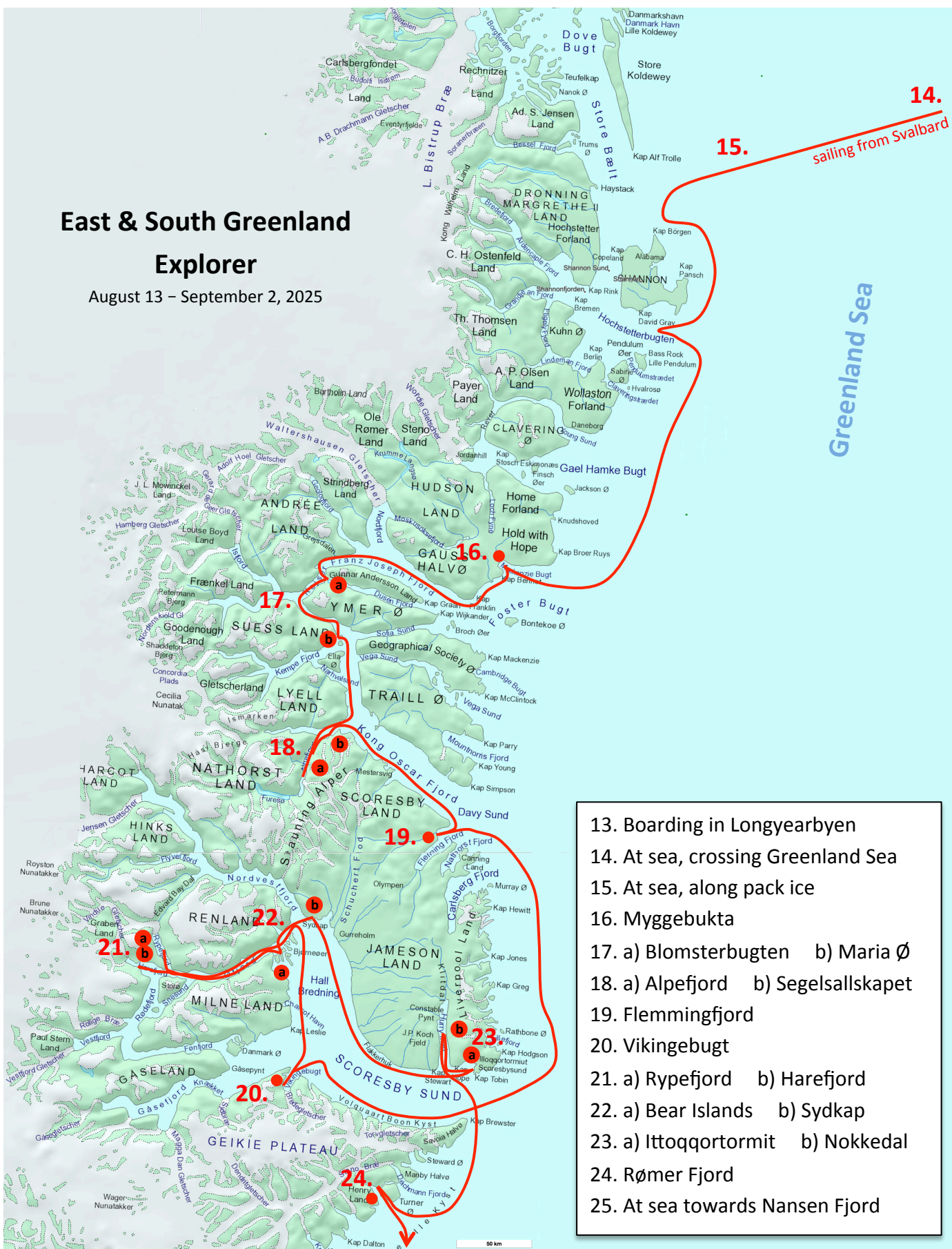
Total distance sailed on our voyage: **2913.4 NM (3352.6 Miles\ 5395.6 km)**

On behalf of Oceanwide Expeditions, the Captain, Crew and Expedition staff we would like to thank you for travelling with us, it has been a pleasure travelling with you.

East & South Greenland

Explorer

August 13 – September 2, 2025



Map generated from: <https://data.geus.dk/geusmap/>

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Angmagssalik (Tasiilaq)

Nansens Fjord

Umiivik (Nansen Bugt)

Skjoldungen

Dronning Marie Dal & Qoornoq

Prins Christian Sund & Herjolfsnes

Alluitsog & Unnartog

Narsarsuak Ittileq & Qassiarsuk

English Name	Latin	German	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	1
Great Northern Diver	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Eistaucher				X	X				X	X						X				
Red-throated diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Sterntaucher	X														X		X			
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	Eissturmvogel	X	X	X	X			X	X				X	X		X	X	X	X	X	
Pink-footed Goose	<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	Kurzschnabelgans																				
Barnacle Goose	<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	Weisswangengans	X					X	X				X									
White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>	Blässgans																				
Common Eider	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Eiderente			X			X		X	X	X	X	X			X	X				
King eider	<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	Prachteiderente																				
Gyrfalcon	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>	Gerfalke						X					X								X	
Peregrine	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Wanderfalke																		X		
Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Eisente				X		X										X				
Rock Ptarmigan	<i>Lagopus mutus hyperboreus</i>	Alpenschneehuhn					X															
Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	Sandregenpfeifer					X		X									X				
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	Sanderling											X									
Purple Sandpiper	<i>Calidris maritima</i>	Meerstrandläufer											X									
Red Knot	<i>Calidris canutus</i>	Knutt			X				X													
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	Alpenstrandläufer											X									
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	Steinwälzer										X			X		X	X				
Pomarine Skua	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	Spatelraubmöwe		X	X										X							
Arctic Skua	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	Schmarotzerraubmöwe			X	X	X		X				X									
Long-tailed Skua	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	Falkenraubmöwe		X	X	X				X												
Great Skua	<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	Skua			X																	
Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Eismöwe				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Common Gull	<i>Larus canus</i>	Sturmmöwe																				
Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	Silbermöwe																				
Lesser black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Heringsmöwe																				
Great black-backed Gull	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Mantelmöwe											X			X		X	X		X	
Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Dreizehenmöwe	X	X	X	X	X			X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Ivory Gull	<i>Pagophila eburnea</i>	Elfenbeinmöwe								X					X							
Arctic Tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Küstenseeschwalbe					X	X		X		X	X	X	X		X	X				

[illegible]

[illegible]

Pippa Low – Expedition Leader



Pippa has worked as a marine guide and skipper for 15 years, primarily in Scotland, Australia, New Zealand and the polar regions. A marine scientist specialising in marine mammal research and conservation, she splits her time between the hemispheres, and loves showing the public the marine world and all it has to offer.

Growing up on the coast of the incredible Moray Firth sparked a love for the marine world and its inhabitants. Spending every spare minute in, on or under the water; professional life reflected this love from a young age, becoming an instructor in various marine disciplines and going on to study Marine biology at university in Scotland, then later, Australia.

Upon completion of her degree, Pippa has worked as a marine mammal observer, scientific diver and research assistant on various research projects; including photo ID, migration, distribution and behavioural studies on a range of marine mammals. She has developed a keen interest in marine mammal conservation through outreach and research.

After working in the Ross Sea region of Antarctica as a research assistant, she fell in love with Antarctica. Pippa now works as a full-time guide and Expedition Leader in both the Arctic and Antarctica. In-between seasons, she still finds time to work on research projects – most recently completing a masters research degree specialising in Humpback Whale physiology.

Deutsch

Pippa arbeitete 7 Jahre als Guide und Skipper, vornehmlich in Schottland, Australien und Neuseeland. Es fand eine wissenschaftliche Spezialisierung auf marine Säugetiere und deren Schutz statt. Dafür verbringt Sie je die Hälfte des Jahres auf den unterschiedlichen Hemisphären und zeigt Menschen mit Begeisterung die Meereswelten und was diese zu bieten haben. An der Küste vom wunderschönen Moray Firth aufgewachsen begeisterte sich Pippa schon früh für die marinen Lebensräume und deren Bewohner. So verbrachte Sie jede freie Minute auf, im und unter Wasser, was dazu führte, dass Pippa Meeresbiologie an der Universität Schottland und später Australien studierte. Über Ihren Abschluss hinaus, arbeitete Pippa in australischen Forschungsprojekten zur marinen Lebewelt, als Beobachter mariner Säugetierarten, wissenschaftlicher Taucher und Forschungsassistent. Nach der Rückkehr nach Schottland baute Pippa eine Agentur für Bootstouren und Beobachtung in Ihrem Heimatort Findhorn auf und arbeitete die letzten 6 Sommer in Schottland, um Begeisterten die Einmaligkeit dieses Küstenstreifens näher zu bringen. Die Wintermonate verbrachte Sie auf der Südhalbkugel und arbeitete in marinen Forschungsprojekten, sowie der Foto-Identifikation und Verhaltensforschung mariner Säugetiere. Damit einher ging ein wachsendes Interesse am Schutz und Erhalt dieser Ökosysteme. Die letzten Jahre verbrachte Pippa im Gebiet der Ross Sea auf eine neuseeländischen Schiff für Ökoforschung und realisierte sich somit einen Traum, in der Antarktis zu arbeiten zu können. Während dieser Zeit half Sie, grundlegendes Datenmaterial hinsichtlich dieses grössten, geschützten marinen Lebensbereiches zu generieren.

Geef ons een Engelse versie en een versie in elke andere taal die u spreekt en schrijft vloeiend. Stuur alleen een WORD-kopie, geen PDF-versies.

George Kennedy – Ass. Exp. Leader



George is an Australian social scientist specialising in polar geopolitics. He completed a Masters in Anthropology at Monash University in 2016 and a Graduate Diploma in Antarctic Governance at the Australian Institute for Marine and Antarctic Science in 2021. Since completing his studies, George has worked within the policy office of the Australian Antarctic Division, collaborating with other Antarctic Treaty Parties to develop sustainable tourism practices, environmental protection frameworks and fisheries management strategies.

Prior to his political studies, George worked as an ALS Paramedic in Australia, as well as a community development coordinator for conservation organisations in Latin America. George has a passion for travel, boats, and motorcycles. Over a three-year period, he rode a motorcycle from Patagonia to Mexico, exploring Latin America on two wheels. It was during his time in Patagonia that his passion for the Polar Regions developed, working closely with conservation organisations in Tierra del Fuego and visiting Antarctica

for the first time in 2017. George has been guiding in Antarctica and the Arctic since 2019, sharing stories of its incredible wildlife, landscapes and, of course, its unique politics!

Deutsch

George ist ein australischer Sozialwissenschaftler mit Spezialisierung auf polare Geopolitik. Er absolvierte 2016 einen Master in Anthropologie an der Monash University und 2021 ein Aufbaustudium in Antarktislicher Regierungsführung am Australian Institute for Marine and Antarctic Science. Seit dem Abschluss seines Studiums arbeitet George in der politischen Abteilung der Australian Antarctic Division. Dort kooperiert er mit anderen Vertragsparteien des Antarktisvertrags, um nachhaltige Tourismuspraktiken, Rahmenwerke zum Umweltschutz sowie Strategien für das Fischereimanagement zu entwickeln.

Vor seiner politischen Laufbahn war George als ALS-Notfallsanitäter in Australien tätig und arbeitete außerdem als Koordinator für Gemeinwesenentwicklung bei Naturschutzorganisationen in Lateinamerika. George hat eine große Leidenschaft für Reisen, Boote und Motorräder. Über einen Zeitraum von drei Jahren fuhr er mit dem Motorrad von Patagonien bis nach Mexiko und erkundete Lateinamerika auf zwei Rädern. Während seiner Zeit in Patagonien entwickelte sich auch seine Begeisterung für die Polarregionen, als er eng mit Naturschutzorganisationen in Feuerland zusammenarbeitete und 2017 erstmals die Antarktis besuchte. Seit 2019 arbeitet George als Guide in der Antarktis und der Arktis und teilt dort Geschichten über die beeindruckende Tierwelt, atemberaubende Landschaften und natürlich die besondere politische Situation dieser Regionen.

Frigga Kruse - Expedition Guide



Frigga comes from the beautiful county of Schleswig-Holstein in northern Germany. She makes her living as an archaeologist, geologist, and guide.

When she travelled to the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula in 1999, there was nothing to suggest that the polar regions would become her place of work.

In 2008, she first visited Svalbard to carry out archaeological fieldwork as part of her PhD research on the British mining history of the Arctic Archipelago, which resulted in the book *Frozen Assets* (2013). She has since become a regular. Her current research focuses on 420 years of natural-resource exploitation (whaling, sealing, fur-hunting, and mining) in and around Svalbard and Jan Mayen and the lasting impact on Arctic marine and terrestrial ecosystems.

Since 2015, she has been sharing her broad polar knowledge and a knack for story-telling as a guide and lecturer on Oceanwide's expedition cruises. You can

approach her in German, English, and Dutch.

Deutsch

Frigga stammt aus dem herrlichen Holsteinland in Norddeutschland. Sie verdingt sich als Archäologin, Geologin und Guide.

Als sie 1999 die Südshetlandinseln und die antarktische Halbinsel besuchte, ließ noch nichts vermuten, dass die Polarregionen später ihr Arbeitsplatz werden würden. 2008 reiste sie das erste Mal nach Spitzbergen, um archäologische Feldarbeiten für ihre Doktorarbeit in der britischen Bergbaugeschichte des Archipels auszuführen, was zu dem Buch *Frozen Assets* (2013) führte. Seitdem gehört sie zum arktischen Inventar.

Ihre derzeitigen Forschungen konzentrieren sich auf 420 Jahre Rohstoffausbeutung in Spitzbergen und Jan Mayen. Welchen bleibenden Umwelteinfluss hatten Wal- und Robbenfang, Pelzjagd und Bergbau? Seit 2015 teilt sie ihr breitgefächertes Wissen und ein Händchen zum Geschichtenerzählen als Guide und Lektorin auf Oceanwide's Expeditionskreuzfahrten. Ihr könnt sie auf Deutsch, Englisch und Niederländisch ansprechen.

Sven Joest – Expedition Guide



Sven is an arctic enthusiast from Bonn, Germany, with a passion and expertise in the area of geomorphology. During his undergraduate study in geography at the University of Bonn, it was his semester abroad in Joensuu, Finland, that sparked his interest in the wilderness of the north and the arctic.

Since then, he has pursued his enthusiasm for adventure through several trips to northern Norway and is currently continuing his academic journey with a master's degree specialising in Peace and Conflict

Transformation, at the Arctic University of Tromsø, Norway, which is the most northern university in the world. From here he is able to pursue his passion for the outdoors and the cold by skiing, hiking, and exploring these vast and remote environments.

As an enthusiastic hobby photographer, and an increasingly keen birder since volunteering at a bird nature reserve on the island of Fehmarn, you'll most likely find him out on deck taking snaps of the

landscapes and the wildlife in his spare time during the voyage.

Excited to continue expanding his knowledge and experience in all aspects of the polar expanses, he welcomes you to chat at any point during the adventure about any questions you may have or your own polar interests and stories.

Deutsch

Sven ist ein Arktis-Enthusiast aus Bonn, Deutschland mit einer Leidenschaft und Expertise im Bereich der Geomorphologie. Während seines Grundstudiums der Geographie an der Universität Bonn war es sein Auslandssemester in Joensuu, Finnland das sein Interesse an der Wildnis des Nordens und der Arktis weckte.

Seitdem hat er seine Begeisterung für Abenteuer durch mehrere Reisen nach Nordnorwegen weiterverfolgt und setzt derzeit seine akademische Reise mit einem Masterstudium mit Schwerpunkt Friedens- und Konflikttransformation an der Arktischen Universität in Tromsø, Norwegen fort, der nördlichsten Universität der Welt. Von hier aus kann er seiner Leidenschaft für die Natur und die Kälte nachgehen, indem er Ski fährt, wandert und diese weiten und abgelegenen Gebiete erkundet.

Als begeisterter Hobbyfotograf und zunehmend begeisterter Vogelbeobachter, seitdem er ein Praktikum in einem Vogelschutzgebiet auf der Insel Fehmarn absolviert hat, werden Sie ihn in seiner Freizeit während der Reise höchstwahrscheinlich an Deck finden, um Fotos von der Landschaft und der Tierwelt zu machen.

Er freut sich darauf, sein Wissen und seine Erfahrung in allen Aspekten der polaren Weiten zu erweitern und lädt Sie ein, während der Reise mit ihm über Ihre Fragen oder Ihre eigenen polaren Interessen und Geschichten zu sprechen.

Ursula Tscherter – Expedition Guide



I grew up far from the oceans in landlocked Switzerland when in the 70s, when exploitative whaling was still happening, the dream of my childhood evolved; to meet whales in their natural environment. It came true in 1993 and changed my life radically. I gave up my original profession as a teacher for Craft and Art and spent the next 20 summers in Eastern Canada studying whales. As the director of the Swiss-Canadian ORES Foundation I combined scientific research and education for international audiences leaving deep imprints in many peoples' lives.

I am a true minke whale enthusiast. I thousands of hours I observed these mind-blowing whales and studied their habitat use, hunting and breathing ecology using photo-identification. At 50 years I obtained my Master in Marine Mammal Science at the University of St Andrews (Scotland). I nourished my urge to learn more from the oceans and whales in various research projects in Australia, New Zealand or South Africa. In 2008 I started to work as an expedition guide and lecturer in Antarctica and later in the Arctic. When at home I produce life-sized

foldable animals, which I carry to schools and ships. Visit my lectures to meet some of them.

Just as strong as my urge to learn and explore is my need to share my knowledge and fascination with others to raise environmental awareness. Please join or approach me at any time, as I love to answer questions and to be on deck on the lookout for wildlife.

Deutsch

Ich bin weit weg von den Ozeanen in der Schweiz aufgewachsen, als in den 70er Jahren der Hoch-Zeit des Walfanges, der Traum von meiner Kindheit entstand; Wale in ihrer natürlichen Umgebung zu sehen. Dieser wurde 1993 wahr und veränderte mein Leben radikal. Ich gab meinen ursprünglichen Beruf als Lehrerin für Handwerk und Kunst auf und verbrachte die nächsten 20 Sommer in Ostkanada, um Wale zu studieren. Als Direktor der schweizerisch-kanadischen ORES Foundation kombinierte ich wissenschaftliche Forschung und Bildung für internationales Publikum und hinterließ tiefe Spuren im Leben vieler Menschen.

Ich bin ein echter Zwergwal-Enthusiast. Ich beobachtete tausenden von Stunden diese geistesreichen Wale und untersuchte ihre Lebensraumnutzung, Jagd und Atemökologie mittels Foto Identifikation. Mit 50 Jahren erwarb ich meinen Master in Marine Mammal Science an der University of St Andrews (Schottland). Ich nährte meinen Drang, in verschiedenen Forschungsprojekten in Australien, Neuseeland oder Südafrika mehr von den Ozeanen und Walen zu lernen. 2008 begann ich als Expeditionsführer und Dozent in der Antarktis und später in der Arktis zu arbeiten. Zu Hause produziere ich lebensgroße faltbare Tiere, die ich zu Schulen und Schiffen mitbringe. Besuchen Sie meine Vorträge, um einige von ihnen zu treffen.

Genauso stark wie mein Drang zu lernen und zu erforschen ist mein Bedürfnis, mein Wissen und meine Faszination mit anderen zu teilen, um das Umweltbewusstsein zu schärfen. Bitte kommen sie zu mir bei Fragen oder Schließen sie sich an, ich liebe es Fragen zu beantworten und an Deck auf der Suche nach Wildtieren zu sein.

Aitana Forcén-Vázquez — Exp. Guide



Aitana is a Spanish–New Zealand oceanographer who feels most at home in cold, remote places where the sea tells the story. With a PhD in Physical Oceanography and years of experience working from the Southern Ocean to the Arctic, she brings both scientific insight and field-tested grit to her role as a polar guide.

She's studied deep ocean currents, led research voyages, forecast weather for the America's Cup, and occasionally teaches at university when she's not out chasing ice. Off duty, she's into long-distance swimming, adventurous road trips, and knitting, usually in places no one expects to find yarn.

Aitana ist eine spanisch-neuseeländische Ozeanografin, die sich in kalten und abgelegenen Gegenden am wohlsten fühlt, wo das Meer die Geschichten erzählt. Mit einem Dokortitel in physikalischer Ozeanografie und jahrelanger Erfahrung vom Südlichen Ozean bis in die Arktis bringt sie sowohl wissenschaftliche Tiefe als auch praxiserprobtes Know-how in ihre Rolle als Polarguide ein.

Sie hat sich mit tiefen Meeresströmungen beschäftigt, Forschungsreisen geleitet, das Wetter für den America's Cup prognostiziert und unterrichtet gelegentlich an Universitäten – wenn sie nicht gerade irgendwo dem Eis hinterherjagt. In ihrer Freizeit schwimmt sie gern lange Strecken, geht auf abenteuerliche Roadtrips und strickt, meistens an Orten, an denen man Wolle nicht unbedingt erwarten würde.

Andi Schwertz – Expedition Guide



Andi was born in Budapest and grew up in Germany. Andi has always been fascinated by animals and nature, especially marine mammals ever since she was a child. She wanted to be a whale researcher, became a whale expert, without studying at a university, but through passion. She initially graduated in sociology, but then ran her own cocktail bar for 10 years. However, her enthusiasm for sea creatures never left her and she began to travel the world to be close to these fascinating animals and to observe them.

As a scuba and freediver, she was able to get particularly close to many whale species and experience adventures. For example, she has already swum with orcas three times in arctic Norway. She came to Oceanwide because she wanted to share her passion with heart and enthusiasm. She was already able to gain experience as a trainee in Antarctica in the spring of 2023. The polar regions with their special fauna exert a very special attraction on her. She is also interested in landscape photography and has great tips for successful mobile phone photography. Another passion of hers is

yoga, which she also practices as a yoga instructor. She speaks English, German, Hungarian, and a little bit of Spanish and French. Andi is looking forward to more great adventures as a team member of Oceanwide!

Deutsch

Geboren in Budapest, aufgewachsen in Deutschland war Andi als Kind schon immer von Tieren und Natur fasziniert gewesen, besonders Meeressäuger hatten es ihr angetan. Sie wollte Walforscherin werden, wurde zu einer Walexpertin, zwar ohne Studium an einer Universität, aber mit Passion. Sie widmete sich in ihrem früheren Leben dem Studium der Soziologie und betrieb 10 Jahre lang ihre eigene Cocktailbar. Ihre Begeisterung für die Meeresgeschöpfe liess sie dennoch nie los und sie begann die Welt zu bereisen um diesen faszinierenden Tieren nahe zu sein und sie zu beobachten.

Als Taucherin und Freediverin konnte sie vielen Walarten besonders nahe kommen und Abenteuer erleben. Zum Beispiel ist sie im arktischen Norwegen bereits dreimal mit Orcas geschwommen. Weil sie ihre Leidenschaft mit Herz und Begeisterung teilen möchte, kam sie zu Oceanwide. Sie konnte bereits im Frühjahr dieses Jahres Erfahrungen sammeln als Trainee in der Antarktis. Die polaren Regionen mit ihrer speziellen Fauna üben eine ganz besondere Anziehung auf sie aus. Sie interessiert sich ausserdem für Landschaftsfotographie und hat tolle Tips für gelungende Handyfotos. Ausserdem ist eine ihrer weiteren Leidenschaften Yoga, was sie auch als Yogalehrerin praktiziert. Sie spricht englisch, deutsch, ungarisch und ein wenig spanisch und französisch. Andi freut sich auf weitere tolle Abenteuer als Teammitglied von Oceanwide!

Pierre Gallego – Expedition Guide



Pierre is a veterinarian specialised in marine mammal medicine. He has been working in the field of marine biology for 18 years, and has been organising marine mammal research internships around the world since 2004. He represents the Government of Luxembourg at the International Whaling Commission and CCAMLR, and works with numerous international NGOs to promote marine mammal conservation and to fight cetacean captivity.

He is currently carrying out his PhD with the Oceanology Lab of the University of Liege, Belgium. His PhD thesis deals with pollutants and stable isotopes in humpback whales off Ecuador and Mozambique.

He is a keen birdwatcher and enjoys photography. The ocean is his passion, and water is his element!

Deutsch

Pierre ist Tierarzt und hat sich auf Meeressäuger spezialisiert. Er arbeitet im Gebiet der Meeresbiologie seit 18 Jahre und organisiert Ausbildungen über Meeressäuger rundum die Welt seit 2004. Er vertritt die Regierung Luxemburgs an der Walfangkommission und CCAMLR, und arbeitet mit mehreren internationalen Umweltschutzorganisationen um die Erhaltung von Meeressäuger zu promovieren und deren Gefangenschaft zu bekämpfen.

Er macht gerade eine Doktorarbeit am Ozeanologie Lab der Universität Lüttich in Belgien. Seine Doktorarbeit beschäftigt sich mit stabile Isotopen und Schadstoffen in Buckelwalen aus Mosambik und Ecuador.

Er ist ein eifriger Vogelbeobachter und hat viel Spass an Fotografie. Das Meer ist seine Leidenschaft, und Wasser ist sein Element.

WELCOME ABOARD!

Luggage will be delivered to your cabin. Please make check to make sure you have received all your luggage. If any of your luggage is missing or you have any extra luggage in your cabin – please notify a crew member.

*** * Tea and coffee are always available in the Observation Lounge on deck 5 * ***

- ±1715 **Welcome & safety briefing** - Please join us in the **Observation Lounge** (deck 5, forward) for a welcome to your new home from the Hotel Manager, followed by a **mandatory** safety briefing and lifeboat drill.
- ±1800 **Departure from Longyearbyen.**
The bridge will be closed during these operations.
- 1830 **Captain's Welcome & Expedition Introduction** – Please join us in **The Observation Lounge** (deck 5) for the Captain's toast, an introduction to the expedition, and to meet your Expedition Team.
- 1930 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room** (deck 3).

Time change: Tonight, our Plancius ship's time will change back 1 hour. This means we will have one additional hour over night – remember to change your clocks and enjoy an extra hour's sleep.

Tonight, we will sail into open sea and the ship may move – please secure your belongings and be careful when moving around the ship. Take your seasickness medication before we head out into open sea- the doctor will be available in the lounge after dinner to assist.

"Adventure is just a romantic name for trouble" – Roald Amundsen

Time change – remember to set your clocks back 1 hour during the night.

Today we will spend the day at sea, sailing Southeast towards Greenland. We will be keeping a look out for wildlife along the way, please enjoy some time on the outer decks, or up on the bridge as conditions allow. We will also run through some mandatory briefings, offer a lecture program and hand out your muck boots.

- 0745 **Wake up call** – Good Morning
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room** (deck 3).
- 0930 **Mandatory briefings** – Please join us in the **Observation Lounge** (deck 5) for our **mandatory** Zodiac operations, AECO and Polar Bear Safety briefings. Everyone must attend these briefings.
- 1130 **On the Look Out: Introduction to Marine mammals of the Arctic:**
Please join **Ursula** in the **Observation Lounge** (deck 5) for her lecture about the cetaceans and various pinniped species of the Arctic. This lecture will be in English and translated into German.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room** (deck 3).
- 1330 **Muck Boots** - We will **call you by deck** to collect your Muck boots from the boot room on Deck 3, forward. ***Please listen for announcements.***
- 1600 **Ice Ice Baby!** Please join **Aitana** in the **Observation Lounge** (deck 5) to hear about all things ice; glaciers, icebergs and sea ice. This lecture will be in English and translated into German.
- 1815 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room** (deck 3).

“With friends like these, one might endure, I would say, under any circumstances”

– Andre Solomon, Swedish Expeditioner



East & South Greenland Explorer
Friday 15th August 2025
Pack Ice Expedition Day,
Approaching Greenland

Time change – remember to set your clocks back 1 hour during the night.

Expedition Day in the Pack Ice!

Today we will be approaching the Eastern shores of Greenland. We expect to encounter the sea ice along the Northeastern coast at some point during the morning – standby for announcements.

- 0745 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning.
- 0800 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room** (deck 3).
- 0930 **Greenland, An Introduction** – Please join Andi in the Observation Lounge (deck 5) to learn about the nation of Greenland.

We hope to spend the day sailing amongst the sea ice, enjoying this unique and beautiful landscape. We will be keeping a look out for wildlife throughout the day. Please join us to spot wildlife, and out on deck.

Remember: if wildlife is spotted, please keep noise to a minimum and move slowly and carefully on the outer decks.

- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room** (deck 3).
- 1845 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** (deck 5) for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1930 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room** (deck 3).

"No one goes so far as he who knows not where he is going."
— Unknown, possibly Oliver Cromwell



East & South Greenland Explorer
Saturday 16th August 2025
At Sea & Myggebukta
Northeast National Park
Greenland

- 0715 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning
- 0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.
- 0830 **Muckboots** – we will **call you by deck** to collect your rubber boots from the boot room on deck 3 forward.
- 0915 **Greenland Geology** – Please join **Sven** in the **Observation Lounge** to go on a journey through the geological history of Greenland. This lecture will be in English and translated into German.
- 1115 **Modern History of Northeast Greenland** – Please join George in the Observation Lounge to learn about the human history of Northeast Greenland - contested space, Norwegian trapping and enduring Arctic communities.
- 1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.
- This afternoon we hope to land at Myggebukta ("Mosquito Bay"). A shallow bay found on the Hold with Hope Peninsula in the Northeast National Park of Greenland, the landing is a glacial outwash plain, once central to Norwegian Arctic expansion. Here we hope to stretch our legs on a range of hikes to take in our first impressions of Greenland. We also hope to visit the old Norwegian trapping station – part of Norway's claim to Greenland.*
- +/-1400 **Long Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3).
- +/-1415 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3).
- 1815 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
- 1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

"Adventure is just bad planning."
— Roald Amundsen



East & South Greenland Explorer
Sunday 17th August 2025
Blomsterbugten & Maria Ø
Northeast National Park

In the early morning, around we will sail into the Western reaches of Kaiser Franz Joseph Fjord to Teufelsschloss or “Devil’s Castle” – an ominous rock fortress and a stunning sight we hope to witness from the ship.

0645 **Wake up call – Good Morning**

0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This morning, we hope to land at Blomsterbugten, or “Flower Bay”. Here we hope to offer a range of hikes at this beautiful, sheltered bay. Home to a surprising array of Arctic Flora, notable for Arctic poppies, Saxifrage & Moss Campion. We often see Arctic Hare and Musk Oxen here.

0815 **Long Hikers** please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3).

0825/30 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon we hope to land at Maria Ø, a small, rugged island near the entrance to the majestic King Oscar Fjord System. Named after the daughter of Danish explorer Jens Arnold Knudsen, is surrounded by dramatic fjord landscapes, shaped by glaciers and tectonic forces. Here we hope to offer a range of hikes to view this spectacular scenery, as well as hope to spot the bird life common here, and keep a look out for Arctic Fox.

1600 **Long Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3).

1610/15 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1900 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1930 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

"Victory awaits him who has everything in order."

— Roald Amundsen



East & South Greenland Explorer
Monday 18th August 2025
Alpefjord & Segelsällskapets
Northeast National Park

0715 **Wake up call** – Good Morning

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This morning, we hope to go for a zodiac cruise in Alpefjord; offering dramatic alpine scenery of the glaciated peaks of the Stauning Alps, as well as two major glaciers that descend into one of the most spectacular arms of King Oscar Fjord. We hope to cruise amongst brash ice and icebergs, keeping an eye out for marine and bird life.

0830 **Zodiac Cruise Boarding** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon we hope to land in Segelsällskapets Fjord, one of East Greenland's most visually arresting fjords. We hope to land at Skipper Dal, and offer a range of hikes amongst the surrounding dramatic striped mountains and surreal, vividly coloured sedimentary rock formations.

1430 **Long Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1440 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1815 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

"Difficulties are just things to overcome, after all."
— Sir Ernest Shackleton



East & South Greenland Explorer
Tuesday 19th August 2025
Fleming Fjord &
At Sea towards Scoresbysund

- 0715 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning
0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

Change of Plan – Due to deteriorating weather conditions, we will be heading to Fleming Fjord instead of Antarctic Havn. This morning, we hope to land at Fleming Fjord, a remote and stunning spot in the Eastern reaches of Kong Oscar Fjord. Known for its dramatic cliffs and 200-million-year-old fossil beds, this area offers a rare glimpse into both ancient history and Arctic beauty. We'll explore the rugged landscape and hope to spot local flora & fauna.

- 0900 **Long Hikers** please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3).
0910 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area** (deck 3).
1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon we will sail out of King Oscar Fjord and back out to open water, making our way South to Scoresbysund. We will enjoy some time by a window, on the outer decks or bridge, keeping an eye out for wildlife along the way.

- 1430 **A human history of North East Greenland (Part II)** – Please join **George** in the **Observation Lounge** for part II of his lecture exploring the emergence of the North East Greenland Sled Patrol and the establishment of Ittoqqortoormiit in Scoresby Sund.
1630 **Polar Bear** – Please join **Pierre** in the **Observation Lounge** for his lecture on the King of the North: the Polar Bear. This lecture will be in English & translated into German.
1815 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.
1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

"By endurance we conquer."
— Sir Ernest Shackleton

0645 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning.

0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This morning, we hope to take you for a zodiac cruise in Vikingbukta. Here we hope to cruise amongst towering cliffs of columnar basalt and icebergs of all shapes and sizes. A striking example of Greenland's Volcanic past; and an opportunity to spot marine life amongst the ice.

0800 **Zodiac Cruise Boarding** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon we will sail Northwards in Scoresby Sund. We will pass Milne land to the East, and likely encounter immense icebergs, calved from the fjord systems' largest glaciers.

1530 **Geomorphological Phenomena** – Please join Sven in the Observation Lounge to hear about the many peri-glacial landforms we often see across Greenland.

1815 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

"Go as far as you can, and then farther still."
— Knud Rasmussen



East & South Greenland Explorer
Thursday 21st August 2025
Rype Fjord & Hare Fjord
Northeast National Park

0645 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning

0700 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This morning, we hope to land at Rype Næs, a dramatic point within Rype Fjord, named after the ptarmigan. Surrounded by towering peaks and glacier-carved landscapes, this site offers a chance to explore Greenland's ancient geology and tundra terrain. Look out for Arctic hare and ptarmigan as we walk.

All day hikers – We will begin the day long hike from here. Please bring your water, sunscreen, lunch and clothing layers with you. Reminder: Please only come for this walk if you signed up for it.

0830 **Long & Medium** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

0840 **Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

0845 **All day Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon we hope to land in the tranquil Hare Fjord, one of the most sheltered and scenic branches of Scoresby Sound. Surrounded by steep basalt cliffs and glacier-fed valleys, this area offers peaceful tundra walks with chances to spot Musk Ox, Arctic foxes, and late season wildflowers.

1445 **Long & Medium Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1455 **Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1815 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Special Arctic Dinner** - Please join us on deck 3 aft for dinner - Dress warmly :)

*"There is no mercy in the North — only truth."
— Børge Ousland*

0715 **Wake up call** – Good Morning

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This morning, we hope to take you for a zodiac cruise around Bjørne Øer (Bear Islands). Here we hope to encounter icebergs amongst the towering island landscape.

0830 **Zodiac Cruise Boarding** - Please listen for announcements.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon, we hope to land at Sydkap; a place of natural beauty. Archaeological intrigue and incredible views. We hope to observe the remarkably intact Thule-era Inuit winter houses, constructed using stone walls and whale bone roof arches. We hope to hike amongst the Arctic Tundra and keep a look out for Musk Oxen, Arctic Hare & Arctic Fox.

At the end of the afternoon landing we would like to offer you the chance to polar plunge in the beautiful waters of Scoresby Sund. Please wear your swimming clothes under your landing clothes. We will provide the towels – please do not bring the towels from your cabin.

1515 **Long Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1520 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1900 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1930 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

*"I must go — for the Arctic calls."
— Fridtjof Nansen*

0715 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning.
0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This morning, we hope to visit the settlement of Ittoqqortoormiit, one of the most isolated communities in the world. Located at the mouth of Scoresby Sound, this colourful village offers a rare glimpse into traditional Greenlandic life. Guests are invited to explore the settlement at their own leisure, visit the shop & church, and walk to the viewpoints.

Reminder: Please respect local inhabitants homes and personal space. Do not approach any dwellings that are not the tourist shop, community centre or church. Do not take photos of local people without permission – a hesitation means no.

***At the community centre you can find local information, knitting, and musk ox tasting.
The dogs will be fed at 11am, near the landing site.***

+/-0900 **Ittoqqortoormiit town visit** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon, we hope to land at Nokkedal, a stunning glacial plain located on the eastern shore of Hurry Fjord. During our hikes we hope to enjoy the beautiful Arctic tundra and towering mountains of the region, as well as good chances for Arctic hares, Musk Ox and, with some luck, foxes.

1515 **Long Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1520 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1845 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1930 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

"The journey is long, but the reward is silence."
— Peter Freuchen

0715 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning.

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This morning, we hope to land at Romer Fjord – a beautifully rugged fjord where we can find rare hot springs, hanging gardens, and towering cliffs.

0845 **Romer Fjord Zodiac Boarding** – Please standby for announcements.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon, we will be heading back out to open sea and sailing southwards towards Nansen Fjord. We expect some swell as we leave Romer Fjord – please secure your belongings and prepare yourself if you have any worries about seasickness.

1530 **Changing Arctic Peoples** – Please join **Frigga** in the **Observation Lounge** to hear about the people of the North who have become the unintentional poster child of global resilience.

1800 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

"The land looks like a fairytale."
— Roald Amundsen



East & South Greenland Explorer
Monday 25th August 2025
Nansen Fjord

0715 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning.
0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

Expedition Morning – Nansen Fjord

This morning, we hope to enter Nansen Fjord. Named after famed Polar explorer Fridtjof Nansen, the fjord is flanked by steep mountainous terrain rising sharply from the sea. It is a relatively shallow but dramatic fjord, often filled with icebergs from Christian IV Glacier at its head, as well as sea ice remnants. We hope to sail the ship in to this rarely visited fjord, and if conditions allow, we hope to take you for a zodiac cruise. Please standby for announcements.

+/-0830 **Zodiac Cruise Boarding.**

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon, we will be heading back out to open sea and sailing southwards towards Tasiilaq. We expect some movement as we leave – please secure your belongings and prepare yourself if you have any worries about seasickness.

1430 **Narsarsuaq Information** - Please join Pippa in the **Observation Lounge** for information about activities that will be available on the day of disembarkation in Narsarsuaq.

1600 **Arctic Whale Ecology** – Please join **Ursula** in the **Observation Lounge** for her lecture to learn about their lives and fascinating feeding strategies.

1800 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

"Keep cool, but do not freeze."
- Hellmann's Mayonnaise

No Wakeup call – Pastries & Fruit will be available in the Lounge.

1000 **Brunch** will be served in the **Dining room**.

This morning, we hope to visit the town of Tasiilaq, Greenland's largest eastern, where we will enjoy the regions beautiful scenery, as well as the famous East Greenlandic hospitality. During our visit, you are free to move throughout the town at your leisure, but please do not leave the town limits due to risk of polar bear.

+/- 1100 **Zodiac Boarding for Tasiilaq**

Please remember:

- *Public toilets can be found at the Church, Municipality Office & Community House*
- *Most stores accept credit card or Danish crowns. However, if you require cash, an ATM can be found in the communities' largest supermarket.*
- *Here, you may purchase items from the Supermarket*
- *Please do not enter homes or private property and do not take photos of people without permission – remember, a hesitation means no.*
- *Zodiac's will be available for shuttles to and from Plancius throughout the day.*
- *Sweet and savoury afternoon snacks will be available in the lounge from 1600*

During your visit, we recommend visiting:

- **Tasiilaq Museum**, offering complimentary admission – Open 1000-1600
- **Stunk Souvenir shop** and workshop – Open 1000-1700
- **Post office** located above the towns largest supermarket – Open 1000-1400

In addition, we invite you to the following events provided through our local partners:

1400 **Greenland Dog Feeding and Sled Handling** – Please join Rasmus and his dog sled team above town near the cemetery.

1700 **Community Choir, drum and dance recital** – Please join Tasiilaq's finest musicians for a special recital – Location to be confirmed.

1800 **Last Zodiac From the Jetty to Plancius**– Don't be late :)

1830 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

2000 **Daily Briefing** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** to hear our plans for tomorrow.



East & South Greenland Explorer

Wednesday 27th August 2025

Umiivik

Nansen Bugt

0715 **Wakeup call** – Good morning

0730 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining room**.

This morning, we hope to visit and explore Nansen Bugt (bay). It was here in 1888, that Fridtjof Nansen and his five man team began the first successful crossing of the Greenland ice sheet. The area is surrounded by glacial landscape, and where the Greenland ice sheet slopes close to the coast. We will spend the morning exploring the area of Nansen Bay together by zodiac on an exploratory zodiac cruise.

+/- 0830 **Zodiac Boarding** for exploratory cruise of Nansen Bugt.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining room**.

After lunch we hope to make a landing at Umiivik – the site of Nansen’s camp and starting point for the first successful crossing of the Greenland icesheet. Umiivik is not a large area, we anticipate having a perimeter landing here with beautiful views over Nansen Bay.

+/-1400 **Zodiac Boarding** for perimeter landing at Umiivik.

TBC **Fridtjof Nansen’s Crossing of Greenland** – Please join George in the Observation Lounge to hear the life and story of the first crossing of Greenland.

1845 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1930 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

“I demolish my bridges behind me...then there is no choice but to move forward”
— Fridtjof Nansen

0745 **Wakeup call** – Good morning

0800 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining room**.

This morning, we plan to cruise the stunning Skjoldungen fjord aboard Plancius, surrounded by towering glaciars and 2000m high mountains. As we cruise, we hope to encounter icebergs, seals and whales in the icy waters. Please enjoy the stunning views from the outer decks, the bridge or the windows of the observation lounge.

1100 **Morning Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** to discuss our plans for this afternoon at Dronning Marie Dal.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining room**.

After lunch we hope to land at Dronning Marie Dal, a beautiful sheltered valley in the South Western corner of Skjoldungen fjord. Here we hope to offer hikes up onto the Arctic tundra, exploring the beautiful landscapes and hoping for views of Musk Ox, Arctic fox and the beautiful flowers along the rolling slopes

1400 **Long Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1410 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1815 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

"Have you not succeeded? Continue! Have you succeeded? Continue!"
- Fridtjof Nansen

0715 **Wakeup call** – Good morning

0730 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining room**.

This morning, we plan explore Timmiarmiit Ø, a beautiful island surrounded by towering peaks of Southeast Greenland. This region has a long history of human presence, including sprawling Thule communities across its southern shore, as well as more modern European and Greenlandic hunters. During our landing, we hope to enjoy evidence of life on the island, as well as the stunning ice filled waters of the surroundings fjord system.

0930 **Zodiac Boarding** for our landing at Timmiarmiit Ø.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining room**.

This afternoon we will make our way southwards towards Prins Christian Sund and the Southern tip of Greenland. We will be back in open water, please take care when moving around the ship.

1600 **History of Arctic Whaling** – Please join Pippa in the **Observation Lounge** to hear stories of how Arctic Whaling came to be and where it is now.

1815 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.



East & South Greenland Explorer
Saturday 30th August
Prins Christian Sund &
Herjolfsnes

0745 **Wakeup call** – Good morning

0800 **Breakfast** will be served in the **Dining room**.

This morning, we hope to sail through Prins Christian Sund onboard Plancius. A 100km long Fjord with towering mountains and glacial landscapes throughout the fjord. Please join us on the outer decks, on the bridge or by a window to enjoy one of Greenland's most spectacular Fjords.

1230 **Lunch** will be served in the **Dining room**.

This afternoon we hope to land at Herjolfsnes, an Eastern Norse settlement established by Herjolf Bardsson in the late 10th Century. We hope to offer a range of hikes as well as a visit to the foundation remains of the long house, church and graveyard.

+/-1500 **Long Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

+/-1510 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1845 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1930 **Dinner** is served in the **Dining Room**.

0715 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This morning, we hope to land at Alluitsoq. Formerly a Moravian missionary settlement named Lichtenau, it is now (mostly) abandoned. Here we hope to explore the abandoned town and offer a range of hikes in the area. Please be respectful when exploring as some houses are still utilised.

+/-0900 **Long Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

+/-0910 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon, we hope to land at Unnartoq – ‘The Hot Place’. Here we hope to offer a range of hikes on this small island surrounded by the beautiful fjord scenery of Southern Greenland. At the end of our walks, we hope to offer you the chance to swim in a naturally geothermally heated pool there. Please wear your swimming clothes under your clothes for landing or carry them with you to change in to (small basic hut for changing available). Please do not bring the towels from your cabin – we will provide towels. For those who do not wish to swim in the hot springs, we will enjoy the area around the hot springs at the end of your hike.

+/-1400 **Long Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

+/-1410 **Medium & Short Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1830 **Daily Recap** - Please join the expedition team in the **Observation Lounge** for our daily recap and briefing.

1900 **Special South Greenland Dinner** – Dress warm!

0715 **Wakeup call** – Good Morning

0730 **Breakfast** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This morning, we hope to land at Itilleq – a small farming community where we hope to enjoy the coastline and flowers. For those who are keen and able, we will walk from Itilleq to Igaliku (8km round trip) along a gravel road. At Igaliku we hope to visit the World Heritage site of Gardar Cathedral, remains of the old Norse settlement and a local modern Greenlandic Settlement with small café.

+/-0830 **Igaliku Hikers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

+/-0840 **Itilleq Walkers** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1230 **Lunch** is served in the **Dining Room**.

This afternoon, we hope to land at Qassiarsuk-Brattahlid – the first Norse settlement in Greenland, founded around 985 by Erik the Red after his exile from Iceland. Today it is a tiny sheep-farming village of around 50 residents, with huge historical significance. We hope to visit reconstructions of Erik the Red's longhouse and his wife Thjodhild's church. There is also a small coffee shop that also sells local souvenirs (accepting card & cash).

+/-1420 **Qassiarsuk-Brattahlid Landing** - please come to the **zodiac boarding area**.

1730 **Muckboot collection** – we will call you by deck to collect back your boots to the boot room (deck 3)

1815 **Captains Farewell** – Please join us in the Observation Lounge for a toast to the voyage with the captain and the trip slideshow.

1900 **Dinner** – will be served in the dining room.