

# ARCTURUS

THE POLAR ARM OF FAR FRONTIERS TRAVEL

VOYAGES AND EXPEDITIONS  
2010-2011

Imagine **exploring** pristine icy waters by kayak, **driving** your own dog sled, **crossing** snowy mountain ranges, **landing** by helicopter in a volcanic crater, **eating** reindeer meat with herders in their yurt, **watching** brown or polar bears, **swimming** in a hot thermal river or **being serenaded** by your pack dogs in the evening...

...a world away from everyday life – the world of **ARCTURUS**



# ARCTURUS



We are delighted to present you with the 2010-2011 catalogue of **Arcturus**, the polar arm of **Far Frontiers Travel Ltd**. This year we have extended our range of expeditions with some new trips in Greenland, Kamchatka and Norway. We also include some of the smaller independently-owned ships offering voyages to the Arctic and Antarctic. Our strength in tailor-making itineraries is coming to the fore with an increasing number of clients extending their voyages to create an exciting grand finale to their trip.

All our voyages and expeditions are accompanied by excellent trip dossiers, so

here we just give you a taster of what we will be running over the next twelve months. Upon enquiry, we will send you a detailed itinerary which should help to answer any questions that you may have - but as our regular clients will know, we are always ready to discuss any aspect of your plans so do call us for a chat.

We are also delighted that Dr. Lorraine Craig continues on board to advise on polar matters, talk about her portfolio of private trips and to discuss client's requirements prior to booking.

**Fiona Brijnath, Director**

## ABOUT US

Arcturus, based in Devon, is a small niche travel company specialising in polar tours. In 2010, Arcturus will have been operating for over 30 years. As one of the foremost operators to the polar regions, we offer an unparalleled selection of extraordinary expeditions and voyages to the Arctic, Antarctic, Norway, Greenland, Iceland and some of the remotest parts of Russia. Now owned by and operating as the polar division of Far Frontiers Travel Limited, the company was, in its early days, one of the pioneers of wildlife tours in the Arctic. Our itineraries have their genesis in years of local research and experience and many of the contributions to the programmes we offer today were made by early travellers to these regions for scientific research, expeditions or simply for pure pleasure!

At Arcturus, we arrange our own expeditions, mostly camping, walking, dog-sledging and skiing, with an emphasis on enjoying wildlife and scenery in remote places. We also act as agents for selected operators for adventure voyages in the Antarctic and the Arctic.

The company is run by **Fiona Brijnath** who, with her life-long career in the travel business, has developed tailored travel itineraries for well over 15 years, many of them for clients who return time and again. She will be your first point of contact, ably assisted by **Dr. Lorraine Craig PhD** who was previously Head of Research and Higher



Education at the Royal Geographical Society and Director of the Cambridge Arctic Shelf Programme. In addition to being past president of the Arctic Club, Lorraine has led walking and skiing expeditions for Arcturus in North East Greenland. She is currently based at the Royal School of Mines, Imperial College London and, when she is not lecturing, continues to advise on all polar matters, lead tours and develop new destinations.

Fiona's travel to remote destinations has equipped her with unrivalled expertise in many countries around the globe and Far Frontiers Travel owes its success to her particular forte in arranging bespoke holidays and multi-country

itineraries. You are unlikely to find anyone who gives more attention to personal service and detail or who is better equipped to advise on how to make yours the trip of a lifetime.

### Prices

All the guide prices quoted here include international flights from London in economy class, internal transport, transfers to the embarkation point where it is possible to pre-book and accommodation based in twin rooms with meals as specified. Guide prices for voyages are based on twin or triple cabins with shared or private facilities and we can provide prices for single occupancy and superior cabins and suites (where available) on request. Trips are fully-guided either from the UK or locally. We also include fuel surcharges known at the time of going to print. Please note however, that in a climate of fluctuating fuel prices, we are bound to pass on any additional surcharges as we are informed of them.

### Pre and post-tour arrangements

Because we specialise in tailor-making holidays all over the world we are more than happy to make additional pre and post-tour arrangements on your behalf. For example, we can suggest some fantastic extended trips to Chile, Argentina or Ecuador and The Galapagos for those on Antarctic voyages, or if you are visiting Arctic

Russia, you could begin or end the trip marvelling at the fabulous sights in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Please call us to discuss your individual requirements.

### Your Financial Protection

The air holiday packages in this brochure are ATOL protected by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 9270. Please see our booking conditions for more information.

Total Payment Protection (TOPP) Policy cover: In compliance with the UK Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 and the Civil Aviation (Air Travel Organiser's Licensing) Regulations 1995, an insurance policy has been arranged with Travel & General Insurance Company plc to protect customers' prepayments paid in respect of: flight inclusive packages commencing and returning to the UK, non-flight inclusive packages commencing and returning to the UK, the ground handling aspects of packages where the customer is responsible for arranging travel to the destination and accommodation-only holidays offered in this brochure (and subject to the terms of the insurance policy), for: a refund of such prepayments if customers have not yet travelled, making arrangements to enable the holiday to continue if customers have already travelled or repatriation of customers to the UK in the unlikely event of our financial failure.



## ARCTURUS

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Far Frontiers Travel specialises in tailor-making bespoke travel to Central Asia, China and Mongolia, East Africa, the Far East, Indian Subcontinent and the Himalayas, Indochina, Middle East, North Africa and Europe, Russia, South America and the Antarctic. We pride ourselves on providing a friendly and professional service at all times.

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# EXPEDITIONS

Arcturus has over 30 years' experience in leading expeditions for small groups of people and can cater for varying levels of fitness.

By day we take long or short hikes on foot, snow shoe or ski or explore by boat, and at night we camp in comfort. You will make friends and share priceless experiences to treasure for a lifetime.

## ARCTIC NORWAY Dog-Sledging THE LOFOTEN ISLANDS AND THE SAMI

Early spring is a beautiful time of year in the Arctic and travelling by dog-sledge is to experience its true spirit. The silence is only broken by the hiss of the sledge runners and the panting and padding of the dogs. In the valleys of Northern Norway, trees stand stark against the snow and by day the low sun suffuses the snow-covered landscape pink whilst, at night, the Northern Lights are vivid when the sky is clear.

### Explore Dividalen

Dog-sledding, dog-sledging, dog driving or mushing: there are many ways to describe travelling with a dog team but everyone agrees on how exhilarating it is, standing on the runners of your sledge whilst the dogs take the strain. They are well-trained, very friendly and need no encouragement to trot all day. One of the delights is to get to know your own dog team and the trails of individual dogs. These expeditions in the mountains and high plateaux of **Northern Norway** have been organised and led by our Norwegian friends for over 15 years. After a day on the trail you may enjoy a sauna or sit in a hot tub before relaxing around a log fire. Your hosts have a fund of stories about life in the north. They are excellent cooks and their menus feature the local products of reindeer, elk and salmon.

In early spring the days are rapidly lengthening and the rays of the low sun in the early evening produce some beautiful colours on the snow-covered mountains. At night there is still the possibility of seeing the Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights and, snow and weather conditions permitting, you will make daily dog-sledging trips through beautiful snow-scapes in Dividalen before returning each night to your cosy cabin.

- » dates « 22 – 27 January 2010  
9 – 14 March 2010
- » price « £1,630 per person
- » leader « Local Norwegian leader
- » key info « Group size 4-6. No previous experience required

### Explore the mountains of Arctic Norway

**Dividalen** is a true wilderness and is incredibly peaceful. This expedition combines extensive exploration of the dramatic scenery of mountains, lakes and high plateaux with the luxury of spending each night in a different mountain hut. Our route will depend on the weather and snow conditions. In the evenings we shall relax in the comfort of the huts over meals made with local produce, discussing the day's journey. As we will be moving from

hut to hut each day, some previous experience of dog sledging is necessary.

- » dates « 27 February – 6 March 2010  
21 – 28 April 2010
- » price « £2,170 per person
- » leader « Local Norwegian leader
- » key info « Group size 4-8. Some previous experience required



### The Kings Way: Crossing Norway into Sweden

This dog-sledging expedition takes us along the **King's Way** from the dramatic high peaks and rock faces of Norway to the vast open plateaux and lakes of Sweden. There will be opportunities to dog-sledge along frozen rivers and lakes and to explore the varied countryside around **Kiruna**. Accommodation is in mountain huts and our journey may involve some camping and long days of sledging. The expedition ends near **Jukkasjarvi**, location of the **Ice Hotel**. Made using ice from the **Torne River**, it is the largest igloo in the world and features ice sculptures, a cinema and the Absolut Ice Bar carved entirely from ice. We can organise a night in the Ice Hotel for those who would like to experience this unique accommodation!

- » dates « 28 March – 4 April 2010
- » price « £2,175 per person
- » leader « Local Norwegian leader
- » key info « Group size 4-8. Previous experience required

## Trips and extensions

We can arrange short-term visits to Dividalen where the Aurora Borealis can be seen on clear nights from September to April and you can explore the valley, walking in summer and dog-sledging, skiing and snow-shoeing in winter. You might visit the Sami people in their summer or winter camps or venture further afield to the Lofoten Islands (minimum two people, up to five days). There you can see stone-age dwellings, cave paintings and bird colonies (in spring) as well as hike, fish, sail and whale and seal watch. A day visit to Tromso would include the Polar Museum and the Northern Lights Planetarium or 'Polaria'. Please contact us for further information and prices.

### A day out with the Sami people

We take you by skidoo to visit the Sami (Lapp) people, traditionally a nomadic community, who have farmed reindeer for centuries, following them along their grazing corridors from winter to summer pasture and back again. We will spend the day at their camp where you can see them at work with their animals and enjoy a thrilling ride by reindeer sledge, as well as accepting their rich hospitality and sampling some of the local delicacies – such as reindeer tongue, heart and blood pancake.

### Lofotens and Summer Island

The coastal scenery of Arctic Norway is just breathtaking and we strongly recommend adding two or three days to your dog-sledging experience to allow us to show you this extraordinary sea coast. The turquoise waters, idyllic coves and glorious sandy beaches of the Norwegian Sea make a picturesque backdrop to the brightly painted cabins and craggy hillsides which are strewn with berries in autumn and thick with snow in winter. The coastline is dotted with seabirds, ducks, offshore seal colonies and the occasional minke whale. **Summer Island** is one and a half hours' drive and the **Lofoten Islands** are five hours' drive from **Skjaerhaugen**. Both islands offer cosy and comfortable cabin accommodation.





Our expeditions in Greenland are more than simply dog-sledging or skiing experiences, since we travel and live with Inuit hunters and spend some time in their village, Ittoqqortoormiit (Scoresby Sund), where some of its inhabitants still make their living by hunting seals.



## GREENLAND Dog-Sledging and skiing

### Icebergs of Greenland by dog sledge

This is a new itinerary for those who are really fascinated by icebergs and desire to see them close up, taking time to study and photograph these extraordinary ice formations. From Iceland you will travel by plane to Greenland and then by helicopter and Greenland dog sled to Hurry Fjord and the world's biggest fjord system, Scoresby Sund where we will start our search. Iceberg size can be estimated according to water depth, so this is a good place to begin. At night we will camp on the ice and our dogs will keep watch for polar bears. By day we will have plenty of time to explore and photograph the icebergs and, with the aid of our sea map and laser range finder, we will be able to chart water depth and take readings above the sea ice. On our return journey we may encounter and photograph seals and musk oxen before enjoying a farewell dinner at our host's home.

- » dates « To suit during April and May 2010 (Friday – Tuesday)
- » guide price « £2,785 per person
- » leader « Local Greenland leader
- » key info « Based on minimum of two. Previous experience not required. Winter gear will be provided

### Cross-country skiing in Southern Liverpool Land

Liverpool Land is one of the most beautiful regions of Greenland. It was named by the whaler and explorer William Scoresby Jr. who wrote "... Nothing that I have seen equals it in bold grandeur and interesting character". Very

few people have visited this country in spring when the sea is frozen and the land is covered with snow. Our previous expeditions discovered that this is a superb area for ski-touring due to the excellent weather and wonderful mountain and coastal scenery. The combination of 1,000-1,400m peaks and long valleys leading from glaciers to the sea-ice of deep fjords makes this expedition a fascinating prospect for cross-country skiers who are seeking a true wilderness experience without being over-extended. As a bonus we may see arctic hares, foxes and possibly a polar bear.

- » dates « 2 – 11 April 2010
- » guide price « £3,195 per person
- » leader « Dr Lorraine Craig
- » key info « Group size 6-8. This is exploratory cross-country skiing sleeping in tents. Our Inuit hunter friends will carry our baggage and tents on the dog sledge and find us routes through the mountains and sea ice

### Dog sledging around Liverpool Land with Inuit hunters

The east coast of Greenland is known as the land of rock and ice with mountains and glaciers dominating the view. For our adventure we'll leave the small hunting village of Ittoqqortoormiit (Scoresby Sund) located at the mouth of the largest fjord system in the world and head due north to explore Liverpool Land. Here we'll see sheer cliffs dropping down to meet the sea ice, deep valleys that beg to be explored and experience the silence of the High Arctic. This is a journey of contrasts: To the west lies Jameson Land, known for its low rolling hills



and steady numbers of musk ox, while to the east lies Liverpool Land where it's mostly glaciated land breeding icebergs. We will pass through both areas using routes followed by generations of hunters. Along the trip we will see countless signs of snow hares, lemmings and polar foxes and we may be lucky enough to see that elusive Arctic traveller, the polar bear. Our guides are local mushers with a wealth of knowledge about the area and how not just to survive the cold but to fully enjoy it. Two nights are spent in a local guest house in Ittoqqortoormiit and ten days sledging.

- » dates « 13 – 25 April 2010
- » guide price « £3,885 per person
- » leader « Local Greenlander
- » key info « Weather and snow conditions determine final itinerary. All equipment provided. One or two guests per sledge. You will overnight in tents or cabins



North east Greenland at latitude 75 degrees North is a remote and dramatic part of the High Arctic and is known as 'The Arctic Riviera' because of its fine settled weather. Conditions are near perfect for camping and we amble at a leisurely pace to enjoy the scenery and wildlife or make more vigorous ascents of mountains to get better views.

*"The fascination of watching an Inuit hunter communicate with his dog team provides a life-time memory... not to mention their cooking of local food!"* Dr. Lorraine Craig



## Hiking and Kayaking

### Fjords of Scoresby Sund, North East Greenland

The longest fjord system in the world, **Scoresby Sund** extends 350km inland and offers a perfect setting for exploring the region. Its enclosed waters are calm and navigable during the brief summer, which is remarkably warm with long periods of fine weather. This eight-day hiking trip, escorted by local Greenlanders, makes use of a local boat to cover a wide area and takes us around the island of **Milne Land** which dominates inner Scoresby Sund. We will sail close to 1,000m high basalt cliffs interspersed with glaciers and visit the site of the winter quarters of Ryder's 1891-2 Danish Scientific Expedition on **Danmark Island**. By visiting Eskimo sites, some of which date back 4,500 years, we will

be able to envisage a life dominated by the need to survive by hunting. The boat covers distance rapidly, allowing us plenty of time to explore and hike on land, with longer hikes for the energetic. With 24-hour daylight we can choose to hike, boat or admire the view as we wish. Nights will be spent ashore in very comfortable campsites with a large mess tent for dining.

- » **dates** « 3 – 15 September 2010
- » **guide price** « £4,685 per person
- » **leader** « Frank Ryding
- » **key info** « Group size 7 maximum. Those who prefer not to walk can stay with the boat

*"Icebergs floating in the world's largest fjord enhanced the beauty of the short Arctic summer. Our time on the boat was equally as fantastic as walking on colourful tundra. The Inuit guides were fascinating to travel with."* Dr. Lorraine Craig

### Sud Kap base camp kayaking

This guided trip follows the coastline in **Hurry Fjord** at 70 degrees North. We sail with the boat and kayaks from **Constable Point** to **Sud Kap** where we stay for the next six days, exploring the area on foot and by day trips with kayaks. We visit Eskimo ruins and search for archaeological sites. At Sud Kap we are likely to find different kinds of seals, musk oxen and might even spot narwhal if we are lucky.

Arctic char are common and the area is richly populated by snow hares and arctic foxes. Rich fauna, blue and blackberries and arctic mushrooms can be found in late August. Sud Kap is also the local people's hunting ground.

During your six days of kayaking and hiking you will experience fantastic East Greenlandic nature, arctic wildlife and places of great historical interest including several of the sites named by the whaler William Scoresby back in 1822. This is an easy kayak expedition with day tours led by an experienced guide.

- » **dates** « To be confirmed
- » **guide price** « Please enquire
- » **leader** « Local expert leader
- » **key info** « Suitable for experienced kayakers and novices alike. Both single and double kayaks are available. Accommodation is in tents





## Hiking and dog packing adventure in Jameson Land

**Jameson Land** is a peninsula in eastern Greenland bounded to the south west by **Scoresby Sund**, the world's biggest fjord system. The nearest town is **Ittoqqortoormiit**, located in the south of the peninsula, the most remote inhabited community in the western hemisphere. The 44 mile (70km) Jameson Land hike follows the traditional winter musk-ox hunting route taken by hunters and their dog teams. Jameson Land contains some of the richest fossil plant deposits of the Triassic-Jurassic age in the world – potentially holding the key to solving the mysteries of tumultuous events of 200 million years ago when lava flooded large areas of the Earth's surface. Your local guide will bring a Greenland dog which acts as a vital deterrent against predatory polar bears while you sleep. Expect to see

musk oxen grazing on moist summer vegetation together with lemmings, arctic hare and arctic fox. A likely treat is to see a ptarmigan with her chicks. River crossings at this time of year are nothing more than negotiating strong streams. Hiking conditions vary from easy to moderately difficult terrain over seven miles (12 km) per day.

- » dates « 16 – 25 July 2010  
6 – 15 August 2010
- » guide price « £3,295 per person
- » leader « Local Greenland leader
- » key info « Group size 4 minimum.  
Be prepared for mosquitoes in August and for snow at any time. We sleep in tents each night and cook our own meals

*“Nothing quite prepares you for the emotion of seeing a whale for the first time, and the moment I first saw a polar bear out on the ice is one that is etched on my memory forever”. Dr. Lorraine Craig*

## Wildlife Liverpool Land wildlife with Ann Harding

Join this fantastic trip in spectacular **Liverpool Land** if you are interested in the birds and wildlife of the Arctic. Ann Harding, a research biologist with several years of experience in arctic birdlife, will join as our tour leader.

The group will travel by dog sledge, a traditional, quiet way of travel which is ideal for observing wildlife, and will sleep in tents and local hunting cabins. The journey and

schedule will be flexible, and tailored according to individual interests and the activity and timing of the birds. We will spend time walking out to the open water polonia at **Kap Tobin**, watching the feeding activity of Brunnich's guillemots and little auks that breed locally in large numbers. We should also see black guillemot, northern fulmar, glaucous gull and the common eider. There is a good chance

of spotting ivory and Sabine's gull. In addition to birds, we hope to see ringed and bearded seals, walrus, polar bear and narwhal at the ice edge. Continuing over the glacier to the large little auk colony at **Kap Hoegh** we will stay in a hunting cabin. Although the trip is focused on seabirds and marine mammals, there are also good opportunities of seeing arctic hare.

- » dates « 7 – 16 May 2010
- » guide price « £4,495 per person
- » leader « Ann Harding
- » key info « Group size 5 minimum.  
Six days will be spent sledging and two in a local guesthouse



North East Greenland's wildlife includes over 100 species of flowering plants, including arctic poppies, many kinds of saxifrage and delicate alpine gentians and speedwells. Birds include knots, dunlins, sanderlings, barnacle and pink-footed geese, red throated divers, snow buntings and long-tailed and arctic skuas.

There are musk oxen, which can sometimes be approached quite closely, arctic foxes, hares, Greenland lemmings, stoats and, possibly, wolves which are re-occupying the area from the North, having been hunted out in the last century.



## ARCTIC RUSSIA: SOLOVETSKI ISLANDS AND THE WHITE SEA



Arctic Russia covers a vast sweep of land from the Norwegian and Finnish borders eastwards across northern Siberia to the Chukotka and Kamchatka peninsulas. Much of it is tundra dotted with countless lakes and pools through which the vast north-flowing rivers wend their way to the Arctic Ocean. During the short intense summer these areas are the nesting sites for numerous birds, including the red-breasted goose, Siberian crane and Ross's gull. Wild flowers brighten the ground and musk oxen, bears, reindeer lynx, wolverine, wolves and foxes roam. The mountain ranges in Taymyr, Chukotka and Kamchatka and the volcanoes in Kamchatka are absolutely spectacular. There are many indigenous people still making their living by herding reindeer or hunting.

Arcturus has organised many expeditions to the Russian Arctic. We shall return to the White Sea in June at the time of the 'white nights' – a period of continuous daylight, and will use a small boat to transport us amongst the islands of the Solovetski archipelago.

### Solovetski Islands

Situated in the **White Sea**, 150km south of the Arctic Circle, the **Solovetski Islands** are one of the jewels of Russia. First settled by monks in the 1430s, the archipelago has six large and nearly 100 smaller islands, some of them covered by tundra and others with a groundcover of blueberry and crowberry. They abound with lakes, wildflowers and nesting birds and, in summer, beluga whales gather to calve in the shallow waters around the archipelago.

On the largest island, surrounded by enormous stone walls, stands the legendary 16th Century **Solovetski Monastery**. It has a fascinating history and in the 20th Century was one of the most feared and infamous prison camps, described by Solzhenitsyn in his book 'Gulag Archipelago'. Now that the monks have returned, it is possible to visit the beautiful cathedral, church, refectory and other buildings enclosed by the great 'kremlin'

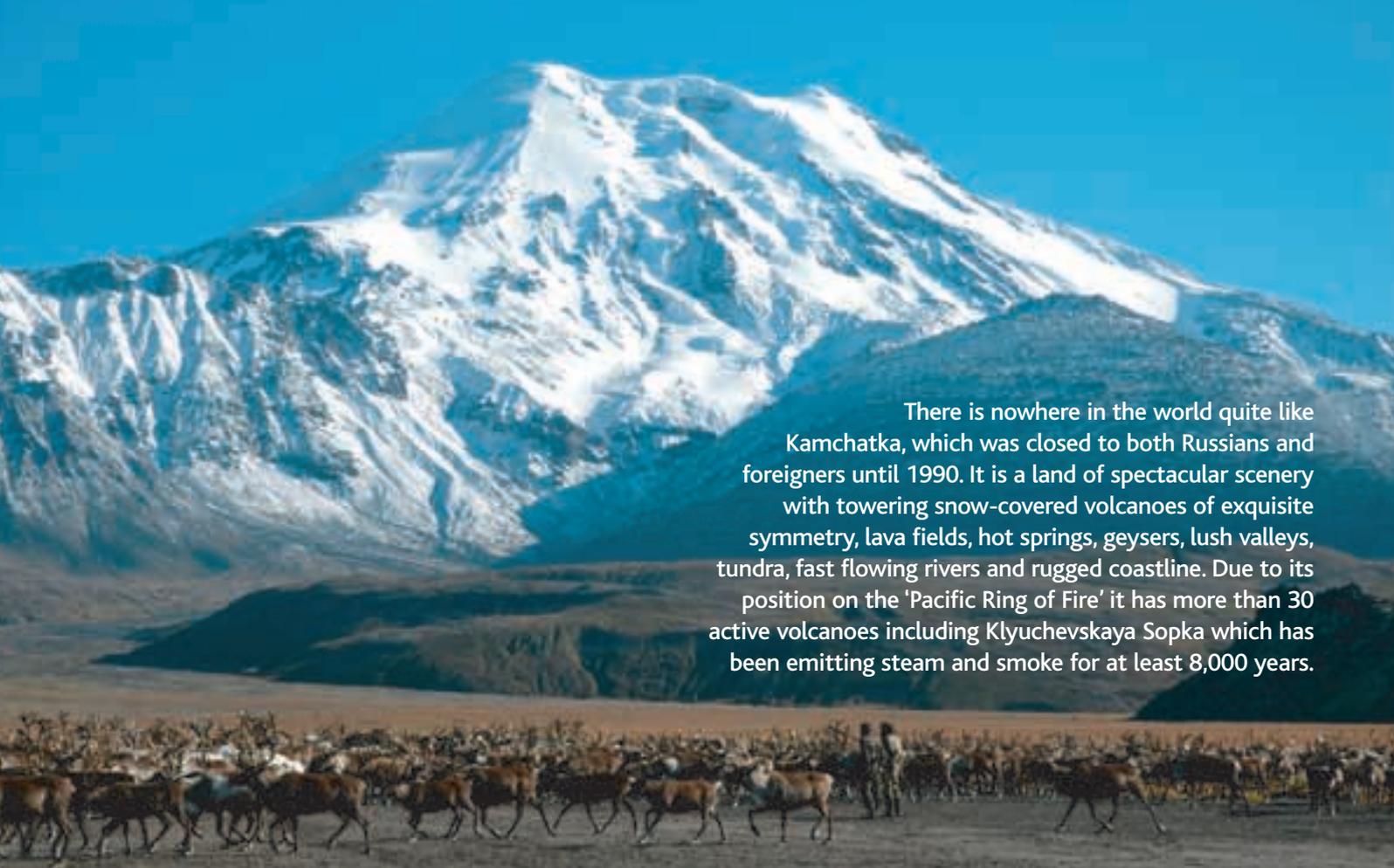
or fortification. There are over 170 architectural and archaeological monuments on the islands, including 33 mysterious stone labyrinths dating back around 3,000 years. There is an unusual botanical garden and, in some places, using small boats and wooden rakes, men still collect seaweed to be made into local products. Accommodation here is simple – family-owned comfortable small hotels with delicious food. It's an excellent place for walking in summer, both along the coast and on the many small paths that lead inland. Your journey is by train from **St Petersburg** to **Kem** and then by boat across the **White Sea**.

» dates « 13 – 27 June 2010  
 » price « £2,080 per person  
 » leader « Local English speaking Russian leader

*"On the White Sea, where the nights are white for half a year at a time, Bolshoi Solovetsky Island lifts its white church from the water within the ring of its bouldered kremlin walls, rusty-red from the lichens which have struck root there – and the grayish-white Solovetsky seagulls hover continually over the kremlin and screech".*

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn – The Gulag Archipelago





There is nowhere in the world quite like Kamchatka, which was closed to both Russians and foreigners until 1990. It is a land of spectacular scenery with towering snow-covered volcanoes of exquisite symmetry, lava fields, hot springs, geysers, lush valleys, tundra, fast flowing rivers and rugged coastline. Due to its position on the 'Pacific Ring of Fire' it has more than 30 active volcanoes including Klyuchevskaya Sopka which has been emitting steam and smoke for at least 8,000 years.

## RUSSIAN FAR EAST: KAMCHATKA

The Kamchatka Peninsula is the home of the Itelmen, Eveni and Koryaks, some of whom live by their traditional ways of hunting, fishing, reindeer herding and gathering wild plants. It is also home to the largest brown bear in Russia. The rivers teem with at least five species of spawning salmon and its rugged coastline accommodates thousands of seabirds, including tufted and horned puffins, guillemots, cormorants and harlequin ducks, as well as seals, sea lions and sea otters. In the valleys plants grow at an incredible rate during the summer due to the volcanically-warmed and minerally-enriched soil. On the tundra, cassiope and dwarf willows grow alongside the crimson rhododendron camtschaticum and Lapland buntings breed there. Valleys and hillsides are clothed in mixed woodlands with many wild flowers including fritillaria camtschaticensis, tiger lilies, yellow rhododendrons and wild roses. Kamchatka's birds range from migrating waders through black-billed capercaillie, rosefinches, rough-legged buzzards to the auks and Steller's sea eagle, which has a wingspan of three metres.

### Kamchatka in early summer 2010 – Sea mammals, birds, bears, whales, wild flowers and volcanoes

This expedition to Kamchatka will take place in early summer – the best time to see migrating and breeding birds, land and sea mammals and wild flowers before the mosquitoes become troublesome. We shall sail from Petropavlovsk on a small, newly refurbished ocean-going cutter and explore the south east coast of the peninsula. This is an extremely remote and seldom visited area, since no roads reach it and very few boats venture along its shores. It is wild and spectacular with towering, snow-capped volcanoes including Viluchinsky and Mutnovsky. There are small islands and sea stacks which are the home of thousands of breeding seabirds including puffins and auks. Steller's sea lions haul out on the ledges, sea otters and seals swim in the sheltered bays

and, on the high cliffs, the magnificent Steller's sea eagle breeds. On the black volcanic sands we should see brown bears turning over the seaweed which has been washed up by winter storms to look for dead fish. At the mouths of rivers and deltas there will be a mixture of migrant land birds, waterfowl and shore birds. Whilst sailing we should see grey whales and dolphins including orcas. We shall go ashore to explore the lakes, cliffs, beaches and rivers and possibly visit a hot spring area. The ship-based part of the expedition is combined with a land-based visit to two mountainous areas of the peninsula. The ancient volcano, Vachkzhets, is scenically one of the most beautiful places in Kamchatka and we can walk easily into its caldera and visit a beautiful waterfall. Mutnovsky, on the other hand, is still



*"Bears (we lost count how many) eating salmon just as on wildlife programmes, amazing helicopter journeys, bathing in hot springs, active and ancient volcanoes, kilometres of birch forest and berries, the friendly people.... I talked for two days after this trip!"* Dr. Lorraine Craig

active and after climbing through a canyon past a glacier belching steam we enter the crater with its geysers, fumaroles, mud pools, spectacular rock formations and colours. There will be plenty of time to savour the atmosphere of Kamchatka and follow our own interests whether they are ornithology, botany, geology, volcanology, photography or walking.

- » dates « 18 June – 1 July 2010
- » price « £3,995 per person
- » leader « Local English-speaking Russian leader
- » key info « Maximum group size 8. The pace will be leisurely. The walks are not difficult and are entirely at the discretion of the individual



## Kamchatka in late summer 2010 – Bears, volcanoes, native people, reindeer herders, autumn colours

This expedition takes place in late August, climatically one of the best times to travel and appreciate the spectacular scenery and autumn colours. In order to experience the richness of the region's flora, fauna and geology, we plan to visit as many habitats as possible including the central valley with the **Kamchatka River, Tolbachik, Kzudach, Mutnovsky** and **Vachkazhets** volcanoes, **Kurilskoe Lake** and the hot **Khodukta River** in the southern tundra. Kurilskoe Lake, part of a nature reserve, is one of the best places in the peninsula to see brown bears and Steller's sea eagles. Moving around by helicopter and truck we will enjoy a variety of experiences: watching bears feeding on the berries, salmon spawning, swimming in hot rivers and meeting the local people in the tiny settlement of **Esso** and staying overnight

with the nomadic reindeer herders in the summer mountain camp. Weather permitting, we may be able to land in the crater of the **Mutnovsky Volcano**. As with our early summer trip, there will be plenty of time to follow your own interests. The trip ends in **Petropavlovsk** where we will learn its fascinating history and hear about life in Kamchatka today.

- » **dates** « 27 August – 13 September 2010
- » **price** « £4,435 per person
- » **leader** « Local English speaking Russian leader
- » **key info** « Based on a group size 10-14. The pace will be leisurely. The walks are not difficult and are entirely at the discretion of the individual

## Dog-Sledging

For centuries the Koryaks, Eveni and Itelmen people have used dog sledges in the wilderness and it is with them that you will travel. The area is rich in wildlife and you will see many tracks in the snow which your dog-sledge drivers will be able to identify. Your hosts receive very few visitors so you will feel privileged to be guests of their communities and learn to appreciate ways of life very different from your own.

This year we have two dog sledging expeditions. The first allows us to experience the traditional life and culture of the Eveni reindeer herders, as well as providing some exhilarating dog-sledging. Our second expedition will explore the volcanoes and hot springs of the **Nalychevo National Park** – close to **Petropavlovsk**. This is a wonderful area surrounded by at least six volcanoes, some of which are active and rise to more than 3,000 metres. We shall dog-sledge from hut to hut, enjoying the thermal springs along the route and marvelling at the awesome volcanic scenery.

We should say that these trips are for the hardy as it can be extremely cold! Participants can sit on the sledge and be driven by one of the dog handlers though the aim is to drive the dog team yourself.



### Dog sledging with the reindeer herders and native people

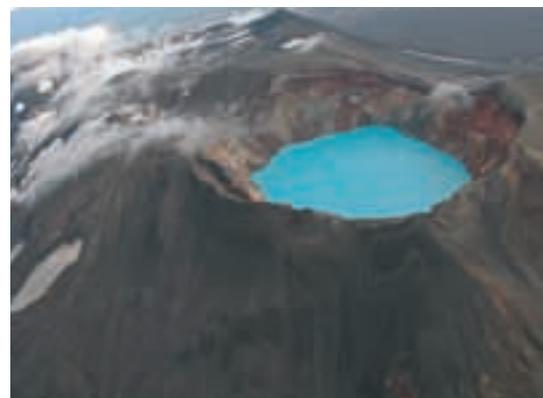
Our route takes us over the pristine snow-covered mountain passes, high plateaux and valleys close to the volcano **Ichinskiy** in central **Kamchatka**. This area is the traditional home of some of the native peoples and we shall stay at an Eveni reindeer herder's winter camp and the wilderness home of a family of Koryak fishermen. Nights are spent in huts or yurts (large, heated tents). In the village of **Esso** we will visit the museum, bathe in a hot pool, meet the local people, learn about their culture and enjoy their songs and dances as well as the local produce of the area – reindeer and salmon. Our visit may coincide with the **Beringia Dog Sledge Race** and we may be able to watch some of it and meet the competitors.

- » **dates** « 22 February – 8 March 2010  
6 – 20 March 2010
- » **price** « £4,785 per person
- » **leader** « Local English speaking Russian leader
- » **key info** « Maximum group size 8

### Dog sledging to Nalycheva Valley

This exciting dog sledging expedition will take us to the centre of the **Nalychevo National Park** which lies to the north of **Petropavlovsk**. The park is in a magnificent setting surrounded by the volcanoes, **Avachinsky, Koryaksky, Dzen-Dzur, Kozelsky, Aric, Aag, Zhupanovsky, Kupol** and **Vershinsky**. Some of these are still active, with steam and smoke rising from their snow-covered summits. The valley has many fascinating geothermal areas. We shall travel by dog sledge into the park and spend our days exploring and marvelling at the spectacular scenery and thermal activity. Our nights will be spent in comfortable huts and we shall have plenty of opportunities to enjoy bathing in the hot springs.

- » **dates** « 20 – 30 March 2010
- » **price** « £3,985 per person
- » **leader** « Local English speaking Russian leader
- » **key info** « Maximum group size 8



# VOYAGES – THE SHIPS

A perfect way to explore the Arctic or Antarctic is to join a small group of people on an icebreaker or ice-strengthened expedition ship. From the comfort of the bridge or on deck you can enjoy the dramatic frozen landscape whilst scanning for dolphins, whales and birds. The ships can navigate fjords, passages and ice floes and zodiac rigid inflatable boats are used to transfer us to the shore for excursions – they are guided by the ship's expedition staff and cater for all levels of fitness. There is also a comprehensive programme of lectures.

We work with almost all of the smaller ships currently operating in the Arctic and Antarctic and specialise in tailor-making holidays all over the world so, whilst the quoted prices include economy class air fares and any necessary arrangements to and from the voyage, we will be delighted to add on pre or post-tour arrangements as required.

## » new for 2010 «

- » The new ship, **Plancius**, has her maiden Antarctic voyage on 8 January 2010 from Ushuaia to the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula.
- » The inclusion of the small ships **Spirit of Enderby**, **Polar Star** and **Polar Pioneer**, operating in Kamchatka, Greenland and the Arctic.
- » **Kapitan Khlebnikov** will take on a new itinerary including Ellesmere Island and Greenland.
- » All passengers on Quark voyages receive a **free parka** to keep.



**50 Years of Victory** is a nuclear-powered polar-class icebreaker and the newest Arktika class icebreaker to be commissioned by the operator. She took 20 years to complete and is the largest fitted for passenger travel to the North Pole. The ship sails from her home port of Murmansk, Russia and has a steel ice belt five metres (18 feet) wide which enables her to crush through ice up to 2.5 metres (more than nine feet) thick.

- » accommodation « 128 passengers in 64 en-suite cabins of five categories, all with ocean views
- » itineraries « Arctic
- » operator « **Quark**



**Akademik Ioffe** is a comfortable, modern, ice-strengthened adventure vessel ideally suited for polar exploration. She has the feel of a cruise liner – albeit an ice-strengthened one. Registered at 6,450 tons, her bow and stern thrusters provide maximum manoeuvrability, while a shallow draft enables passage through channels impassable by larger ships. There is a separate bar, lounge, library, video room, and dining space, gymnasium, sauna and swimming pool and she is equipped with zodiacs for ocean level exploration and kayaks for optional paddling among ice floes.

- » accommodation « 110 passengers
- » itineraries « Antarctic
- » operator « **Quark**



**The Spirit of Enderby** is a fully ice-strengthened polar research vessel with comfortable accommodation, perfect for expedition travel. Crewed by an enthusiastic and experienced Russian crew, the cuisine is prepared by top New Zealand and Australian chefs and all voyages are accompanied by experienced naturalists and guides. As well as her fleet of zodiacs, she also carries specially designed hovercraft which give unprecedented over-ice capability, allowing landings in places that are inaccessible to other ships.

- » accommodation « 48 passengers
- » itineraries « Russian Far East
- » operator « **Heritage**



**Polar Star** is an ex working icebreaker. She is the ideal expedition ship with experienced and friendly staff, good facilities, spacious on-deck viewing, unique open bridge policy and a fleet of ten 12-man zodiac inflatable landing craft. In addition, she has a comfortable bar, sumptuous library, gym and onboard shop. In 2000 the ship was completely refitted and upgraded specifically for expedition cruising. Her operators draw their experience from over 100 years of vessel operation in the polar regions.

- » accommodation « 105 passengers
- » itineraries « Greenland
- » operator « **Polar Star**



**Antarctic Dream** is a Dutch-built ice-reinforced vessel which originally served the Chilean Navy. She was rebuilt as an unrestricted, worldwide passenger vessel and refurbished in 2005. She has a spacious dining room/observation lounge, bar, lecture room, fitness room plus sauna and passenger bridge.

- » accommodation « 83 passengers in twin cabins with private facilities, most with portholes or outside windows
- » itineraries « Spitsbergen and North East Greenland
- » operator « **Oceanwide**



**Clipper Adventurer** is a reliable and comfortable expedition ship with well-appointed public spaces and covered outside promenades. This A-1 ice-class vessel was built in 1975 and underwent a US\$13 million renovation in 1998. Recent enhancements include the installation of a state-of-the-art Internet system offering guests onboard wireless connection.

- » accommodation « 122 passengers. All cabins have private facilities and outside views
- » itineraries « Antarctic
- » operator « **Quark**



**Noorderlicht** was originally built in 1910 in Flensburg, Germany as a three-masted schooner and for most of her existence served as a light vessel on the Baltic. In 1991 the present owners purchased the hull and re-rigged and refitted her thoroughly as a two-masted schooner. For would-be sailors there is the option to help the crew of five to sail the vessel.

- » accommodation « 20 passengers in centrally-heated double cabins
- » itineraries « Spitsbergen and Lofoten Islands
- » operator « **Oceanwide**



**Akademik Sergey Vavilov** is equipped with zodiacs for ocean level exploration and kayaks for optional paddling among ice floes. She is powered by a 5,000 kW diesel twin engine. Bow and stern thrusters make her highly manoeuvrable, while a shallow draft permits passage through channels impassable by larger ships.

- » accommodation « 110 passengers
- » itineraries « Antarctic
- » operator « **Quark**



**Kapitan Khlebnikov** is a diesel-powered icebreaker which has transited the Northwest Passage more often than any other passenger vessel. Powered by 24,000 horsepower engines, its advanced icebreaking technology takes you to regions where no other passenger vessel can sail, such as Snow Hill Island in the Weddell Sea when surrounded by ten-tenths pack ice in October and November. The ship is equipped with two helicopters and zodiacs for inland and shore landings.

- » accommodation « 108 passengers
- » itineraries « Canadian Arctic and Antarctic
- » operator « **Quark**



**Lyubov Orlova** is an expedition ship that provides softer adventures in a comfortable environment. Her public spaces were recently renovated and there are covered outside promenades for open-air viewing.

- » accommodation « 110 passengers
- » itineraries « Antarctic
- » operator « **Quark**



**Ocean Nova** has clean, crisp Scandinavian styling and a reputation for being excellent for Antarctic exploration. Purpose-built to sail ice-choked waters, Ocean Nova's specially strengthened hull has enabled her to park in the ice of the Weddell Sea!

- » accommodation « 68 passengers
- » itineraries « Antarctic
- » operator « **Quark**



**Polar Pioneer** was built in Finland in 1985 as an ice-strengthened research ship, and for many years she plied the treacherous waters of the USSR's northern coast. In 2000 she was refurbished in St Petersburg to provide comfortable accommodation for 56 passengers. A combined bar/lounge/library area (stocked with a good collection of polar books) was created. All cabins have outside portholes plus ample storage space. This class of vessel has a fine reputation for polar expedition cruising, due to its strength, manoeuvrability and small number of cabins. The Russian captain and crew are among the most experienced ice-navigators in the world and their enthusiasm is legendary. The spacious bridge is always open to us and the decks are ideal for viewing. She has a small fleet of inflatable zodiacs with outboard motors.

Accommodation on Polar Pioneer is simple yet comfortable and the meals prepared by her European chefs are wholesome and uncomplicated.

- » accommodation « 56 passengers
- » itineraries « Arctic
- » operator « **Aurora**



**Plancius** started her life in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was purchased by the operator in 2006. She has been completely rebuilt and is now a comfortable and nicely decorated vessel highly suited to exploratory educational voyages where you spend as much time ashore as possible. Manned by 30 international crew members, she will fly the Dutch flag and complies with all the latest SOLAS regulations.

- » accommodation « 110 passengers. All cabins have private facilities in triple and twin formation
- » itineraries « Antarctic, Spitsbergen, North East Greenland and Scottish Islands
- » operator « **Oceanwide**

### Kapitan Khlebnikov – the end of an era

As of March 2012 the **Kapitan Khlebnikov** will be under contract with the Russian government for icebreaking duties and will no longer be operating as an expedition vessel. There are therefore only a few remaining opportunities for you to experience an icebreaker voyage – two Arctic seasons (2010 and 2011) and two Antarctic seasons (2010/11 and 2011/12). Please ask for more details about the dedicated 'end of an era' voyages.

In addition to voyages on ships operated by **Oceanwide**, **Quark**, **Aurora**, **Heritage** and **Polar Star** bookings may also be arranged with smaller ships such as **Peregrine**, **One Ocean** and **Poseidon** as well as diving expeditions with **Waterproof**. Please contact us for details of voyages, prices and availability.

Many of the vessels shown here offer a variety of cabins. Our guide prices are based on twin or triple cabins with shared or private facilities, but we will be happy to quote for single occupancy or superior cabins and suites (where available) on request.

# VOYAGES – THE ARCTIC

The unimaginable majesty of the Arctic, a vast ice-encrusted ocean ringed by islands, casts a spell on all who visit. Many of our clients are drawn back time after time to visit different areas of the High Arctic. We offer a variety of voyages, some geared towards active exploration with walking, kayaking or skiing, others for those who want a more leisurely pace in comfortable vessels. Whichever you choose, the memories of this dramatic wilderness will stay with you always.



» new for 2010 «

- » Free rental of snow shoes and rubber boots on all Plancius voyages.
- » Full day walks are offered on Oceanwide's Arctic voyages, depending on the landing.

Several of our voyages are around Spitsbergen. Dutch for 'pointed mountains', this is an evocative name for the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago in the High Arctic, 1,300km from the North Pole. It has a fascinating history of arctic exploration and whaling. The scenery is dramatic – snowy peaks rise majestically through huge ice-caps, glaciers creep down valleys to the sea and sparkling ice walls enclose deep fjords. All this is surrounded by the glistening pack-ice as we walk along rocky shores. Although the archipelago is locked in ice for many months of the year, when summer comes it can be brilliant with orange lichens and flowering plants decorating the ground. The surrounding seas support numerous birds, seals, walruses, dolphins and whales. Polar bears (Svalbard holds more than 20 per cent of the world's population) patrol along the shores and on the ice-floes. Since the banning of hunting in the 1970s, the populations of bears and walruses have dramatically increased and you are almost certain to see these magnificent creatures on your voyage. Later in the season there will be shorter voyages in South Spitsbergen.

East Greenland is one of the most fascinating and remote areas of the High Arctic; it is one of the least visited places in the region since permission to land on the coast of the National Park is granted to only very few operators. Our voyages to East Greenland cover the beautiful fjord system of Scoresby Sund and the scenically spectacular south east coast. Since they take place towards the end of the Arctic summer when the ice has receded, the autumn colours should brighten the tundra and there is an excellent possibility of seeing the Northern Lights. We also sail to the Scottish Islands, Russia and the Canadian Arctic.

The descriptions in the following itineraries are a guideline only, since the routes taken and the landings made will be dependent on ice and weather conditions. We are happy to supply you with more detailed descriptions, day-by-day itineraries and reports of similar voyages in previous years on request.

## Key to optional extras

- ▲ camping
- walking expeditions
- ★ hiking
- scuba diving option
- ◆ kayak option
- ▲ mountaineering
- \* cross country skiing
- + bilingual



## ARCTIC NORWAY: SPITSBERGEN AND THE LOFOTEN ISLANDS

### Sail & snow-shoe North Spitsbergen

Embarking at **Longyearbyen**, Spitsbergen's administrative capital, we sail through scenic **Isfjorden**, setting a course for **Alkhorneret** at the mouth of the fjord whose cliffs are home to a large colony of kittiwakes. We continue to **Trygghamna** to visit the remains of a 17th century English whaling station. Weather permitting we will go ashore at **Fuglehuken**, where the expedition of Willem Barentsz landed on Spitsbergen and **Ny Alesund**, the northernmost permanent settlement in the world and former starting point for many North Pole expeditions. Sailing from here to **14th July Glacier** we take zodiacs to the breeding site for Brunnich's guillemots, little auks and puffins. Sailing north we visit **Magdalenafjord**, one of the most beautiful places in Spitsbergen, and **Ytre Norskøya** which was used as a lookout point for Dutch whalers. **Raudfjord** on the north coast offers good chances for spotting polar bears and belugas and, if sea-ice conditions allow, we may land on the northern side of **Reindyrfla**

whose undulating tundra provides good grazing for reindeer. Our last visit before turning south is the remains of **Smeerenburg** which was the largest whaling settlement on Spitsbergen. If we are able to make land on the return journey, there is the option for fit walkers to take the six-hour walk from **Colesbukta** to Longyearbyen.



- » ship « **Noorderlicht**
- » dates « 18 – 30 May 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Longyearbyen)
- » guide price « £2,995 per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities). All cabins on request

### Sail North Spitsbergen

From **Spitsbergen** we follow the 'Sail & snow-shoe north Spitsbergen' itinerary. Already the short summer has transformed the tundra which is now brilliant with orange lichens and flowers. There are more than 170 species of plants and the vegetation is surprisingly lush, especially below the bird cliffs where the ground is fertilised. This is also the time when migrating birds have returned to breed. The small Svalbard reindeer, arctic foxes and polar bears may be sighted on the tundra whilst

walruses, several species of seals and fin, humpback, bowhead and beluga whales may be seen in the waters.

- » ship « **Noorderlicht**
- » dates « 29 May – 10 June 2010  
20 June – 2 July 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Longyearbyen)
- » guide price « £2,995 per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)



### Sail around Spitsbergen

This 17-day itinerary aims to complete the voyage right around **Spitsbergen**. Later in the summer when the ice has cleared we are able to sail through the **Hinlopen Strait** and visit **Nordauslandet** and **Edgeøya**. This route provides the greatest chance of seeing Greenland whales.

- » ship « **Noorderlicht**
- » dates « 12 – 28 July 2010  
27 July – 12 August 2010  
11 – 27 August 2010  
26 August – 11 September 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Longyearbyen)
- » guide price « £3,790 per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities). All cabins on request

### Sail South Spitsbergen

This journey covers the southern part of **Spitsbergen** in late September, just before the onset of winter, which is an ideal time for observing the splendid **Aurora Borealis**. Leaving Spitsbergen we set a course for **Alkhorneret** at the mouth of the fjord whose cliffs are home to a large colony of kittiwakes. We continue to **Trygghamna** to visit the remains of a 17th century English whaling station before turning south and into the north side of **Bellsund**, where we make a walk to the cliffs of **Ingeborgfjellet**

and visit a glacier front at **Fridtjofhamna**. Journeying further south, we sail into the labyrinth of side fjords in **Hornsund** with good chances of seeing bearded seals and polar bears. Here we will also find spectacularly colourful geological formations. We will visit a Polish research station to discuss their scientific programmes before turning north once more. During nights with open skies we could experience temperatures of  $-10^{\circ}\text{C}$  and new ice will be forming on the heads of the fjords.

- » ship « **Noorderlicht**
- » dates « 30 September – 10 October 2010  
9 – 17 October 2010  
16 – 24 October 2010  
23 – 31 October 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Longyearbyen)
- » guide price « £2,150 per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)

## Sail Lofoten Islands

The **Lofoten** voyages take place in the autumn, when the days are getting short in northern Norway but the colours in the daytime are beautiful. We can expect the first snow showers, and temperatures are sometimes just above freezing. At night, we may be able to admire the Aurora Borealis. Embarking in the harbour at **Lodingen** we spend two full days in the **Tysfjord** area looking for groups of orcas (killer whales) which hunt in these fjords for herring, and looking at petroglyphs from the Stone Age which depict orcas at **Leiknes**. We will sail into **Vestfjord**, another good area for observing whales, and then visit **Kabelvaag**, a cosy historical town, before working our way back through **Vestfjorden** to disembark. The Lofoten voyages are very dependent on the weather, which can be quite rough, so the itinerary is provisional. The best time to see orcas is during the second half of October and in November.



- » ship « **Noorderlicht**
- » dates « 10 – 17 November 2009, 24 November – 1 December 2009, 1 – 8 December 2009  
10 – 17 November 2010, 24 November – 1 December 2010, 1 – 8 December 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Lodingen)
- » guide price « **£1,440** per person (2009 departures) and **£1,620** per person (2010 departures) based on twin cabin (shared facilities)

## North Spitsbergen

Our voyage heads north along the west coast of **Spitsbergen** and arrives by morning in **Krossfjorden** where we take to the zodiacs for an exhilarating journey along the sculpted front of the **14th of July Glacier** to spot kittiwakes and Brünnich's guillemots, bearded seals and arctic foxes. Continuing, we sail to **Ny Ålesund**, the world's most northerly settlement, once a mining village and now a research centre. Close to the village is a breeding ground for barnacle geese, pink-footed geese and arctic terns. Visitors

interested in the history of Arctic exploration will want to walk to the anchoring mast used by Amundsen and Nobile in the airship Norge in 1926 and Nobile in the airship Italia in 1928 before their flights to the North Pole. Depending on the weather, we may go ashore on the tundra island of **Andøya** where many common eiders and pink-footed geese nest and sail into **Liefdefjorden**, cruising near the 5km long face of the impressive **Monaco Glacier**. We then continue into the **Hinlopen Strait**, where, on the east side, we will attempt

a landing at **Nordautlandet**, home to reindeer, pink-footed geese, breeding ivory gulls and walrus. Our northernmost point will be **Phippsøya** at 81 degrees north, just 540 miles from the geographic North Pole. Polar bears inhabit this region, along with ivory gulls. We may sit for several hours in the pack ice, taking in our spectacular surroundings and seeing a Ross gull, before we turn south again.

» ships «	» dates «	» cabins «	» guide price «	» opt. extras «
<b>Plancius</b>	13 – 21 June 2010 20 – 28 June 2010	Triple cabin (private facilities)	<b>£2,950</b>	● ◆ ◆

- » travel from « London – London (embark Longyearbyen)
- » notes « Prices per person based on triple cabin. Supplement for twin cabin (private facilities) **£590** per person

## Around Spitsbergen

This itinerary covers the same early days as the North Spitsbergen voyage. From **Phippsøya**, however, we then continue to **Laagøya**, a low island where a big herd of walrus tends to congregate. Heading into **Hinlopen Strait** we'll navigate the ice floes of **Lomfjordshalvøya** by zodiacs and explore the bird cliffs. Near **Torrelneset** we will explore the polar desert of **Nordautlandet** next to the world's third largest ice cap and in **Freemansundet** we plan to land at **Sundneset** on the island of **Barentsøya** to visit an old trapper's hut. Later we head south to the west side of **Edgeøya**



where we land on a beach littered with whale bones and tree trunks which have drifted here from Siberia. Our voyage ends with the side fjords of the spectacular **Hornsund** area of southern Spitsbergen. Our last landing is on **Ahlstrandhalvøya** where piles of beluga

skeletons, the remains of 19th century slaughter are still evident. If ice conditions are favourable we may sail around Nordautlandet visiting **Kvitøya**, the place where the Swedish explorer Andree perished, instead of sailing back through the Hinlopen Strait.

» ships «	» dates «	» cabins «	» guide price «	» opt. extras «
<b>Antarctic Dream</b>	24 June – 5 July 2010 4 – 15 July 2010 14 – 25 July 2010 24 July – 4 August 2010 3 – 14 August 2010 13 – 24 August 2010	Twin cabin/inside window (private facilities). Supplement for outside window <b>£715</b> per person	<b>£3,995</b>	●
<b>Plancius</b>	27 June – 8 July 2010 7 – 18 July 2010 27 July – 7 August 2010 6 – 17 August 2010 16 – 27 August 2010	Triple cabin (private facilities). Supplement for twin cabin <b>£840</b> per person	<b>£3,920</b>	◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

- » travel from « London – London (embark in Longyearbyen)
- » notes « All prices are per person

## SPITSBERGEN AND GREENLAND

### North East Greenland & Spitsbergen

These adventurous voyages provide a rare opportunity to see the remote north-east coast of **Greenland** and compare and contrast its spectacular scenery with that of **Spitsbergen**. To visit these areas in the past required a camping and trekking expedition. Now you can experience the remarkable Arctic landscape from the comfort of a ship with expeditions ashore to visit Inuit sites, hunters' huts and see the plants, birds and mammals. On clear dark nights we might be able to see the Aurora Borealis.

At this time of year the pack-ice has retreated northwards and we aim to sail round the north coast of Spitsbergen, much of which is a nature reserve. This will provide opportunities to see walrus, polar bears and rare ivory gulls.

Between the high ice-cap of North East Greenland and the sea, there is a broad strip of low country that is free of snow in summer and covered in places with rich vegetation that supports many animals, from musk oxen to butterflies. The weather is usually calm and fine. It is also where the Sledge Patrol played out its game of hide-and-seek during World II. Some of the people of **Ittoqqortoormiit**, the main settlement in the region, still make a living hunting polar bears, musk oxen, seals, whales and seabirds.

Crossing from north west Spitsbergen we keep watch for fin, humpback and minke whales and approach East Greenland, landing at **Myggebugt**. We hope to encounter

narwhal and should see musk oxen from the ship. Moving south to **Scoresby Sund** we land near a glacier and encounter huge icebergs before disembarking finally in **Akureyri** in north Iceland for the journey home.

- » ship « **Antarctic Dream**
- » dates « 23 August – 5 September 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Longyearbyen)
- » guide price « **£4,365** per person based on twin cabin/inside window (private facilities). Supplement for outside window **£760** per person

### Scoresby Sund

Early autumn is the best time to explore the coast of **East Greenland** as the ice floes have usually dispersed and it is possible to enter the fjords. This is a voyage to a seldom-visited part of the coast. The days are still long, but temperatures can drop below freezing and the scenery of stark ice contrasts with rich autumnal colours on the tundra. We visit a modern settlement and witness traditional Greenlandic culture. We should see birds moving south on migration, musk oxen, seals and possibly narwhals. On clear nights we may see the Aurora Borealis.

- » ship « **Antarctic Dream**
- » dates « 5 – 14 September 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Akureyri)
- » guide price « **£3,395** per person based on twin cabin/inside window (private facilities). Supplement for outside window **£630** per person



## ICELAND, EAST GREENLAND AND SPITSBERGEN

### Arctic Dreams – journey from Bergen to Longyearbyen

This voyage combines the classic highlights of the Arctic with the convenience of small ship expeditioning. Starting in **Bergen**, we will discover some of the most remote and scenic parts of the Arctic Circle, including **Runde**, Norway's biggest bird sanctuary and the

**Lofoten Islands**. Rarely visited **Bear Island** with its lofty sea stacks and tundra wildflowers will provide good hiking opportunities and the voyage ends at **Spitsbergen** where we hope to see eider ducks, arctic foxes, ivory gulls, walrus and seals whilst staying alert for polar bears.

- » ship « **Polar Pioneer**
- » dates « 25 June – 8 July 2010
- » travel from « London to London (embark in Bergen)
- » guide price « **£2,695** per person based on triple cabin (shared facilities)



### From steam to ice

This 12 day voyage starts in **Iceland**, steaming north to explore the incredible coastline of **East Greenland** – countless fjords, snow capped mountains, late summer icebergs, glaciers and elusive Arctic wildlife. The first landfall in East Greenland is at the beginning of the High Arctic and from there the ship cruises south. We explore by shore landings, treks and zodiac cruises. A new addition to the programme this year is to visit the **Westmann**

**Isles** off the south west coast of Iceland before disembarking in **Reykjavik**.

- » ship « **Polar Star**
- » dates « 8 – 19 September 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Reykjavic)
- » guide price « **£2,940** per person based on triple cabin (shared facilities)

### Remote coast of East Greenland

The polar regions are still the most remote destinations on earth and it is a privilege to visit. **East Greenland** is a protected national park with shy and elusive wildlife, awesome expanses of stunning natural landscape and legendary stories of mankind's exploration and settlement in this

challenging environment – from the hunter's huts to today's Greenlandic Inuit communities. Join us as we explore this landscape of dramatic fjords, pack ice, late summer icebergs and endless tundra. Your 13 day voyage starts in **Spitsbergen** and ends in **Iceland**.

- » ship « **Polar Star**
- » dates « 26 August – 8 September 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Longyearbyen)
- » guide price « **£3,465** per person based on triple cabin (shared facilities)

## SCOTTISH ISLANDS AND ARCTIC NORWAY

These are voyages among the most beautiful seabird islands in the North Atlantic. Virtually all the headlands at this time of the year are the sites of large seabird colonies. Dolphins, porpoises, seals and whales may be seen from the ship. Though most of the Scottish islands are small dots on the map, their size is out of all proportion to their importance in the natural history of the British Isles. The voyages are timed to coincide with a profusion of wild flowers and the sea cliffs should look like rock gardens with the pink and white of sea pinks and sea campion. Although the natural history of the islands is of paramount importance we shall not neglect the human history and artefacts.

**Jan Mayen** is a volcanic island set in the north Atlantic Ocean, half-way between Iceland and Spitsbergen. It is named after Jan Jacobsz May, a Dutch whaler who landed here in 1614 (though the island had been seen before) and was a major whaling centre for both Dutch and English whalers. The still-active volcano, **Beerenberg**, is 2,200m high and dominates the island. The first impression the visitor gets is of a rough, inhospitable landscape, studded with snowfields, the sides of Beerenberg swept by glaciers and separated by steep, rocky faces.



The weather is unpredictable: there may be heavy rain, wind and fog but then, soon after, the sun may break through and the sky clears. During the winter Jan Mayen is often surrounded by pack-ice and Beerenberg's slopes are perpetually snow-covered. When whaling ceased, the difficult access and poor climate limited human activities: Norway established a weather station there, finally claiming sovereignty in 1929. During World War II Jan Mayen was of great symbolic importance as the last piece of 'free Norway'.

Vegetation is limited to just a few mosses, grasses and a scattering of flowering plants, yet for all its ruggedness and inhospitable climate the island has a wild beauty. Pebble beaches alternate with dazzling high rock faces and you can still see the old bleached bones of whales and the remains of the whaling stations on the beaches. The rock faces are home to breeding colonies of glaucous gull, northern fulmars, kittiwakes, little auks, black guillemots and Brünnich's guillemots and puffins, whilst common eiders, arctic terns and ringed plovers nest on the flat land behind the beaches.

## Faroes, Jan Mayen, Spitsbergen

This voyage starts in **Oban** and journeys to the **Faroes** and **Jan Mayen Island** before travelling north to **Longyearbyen**.

- » ship « **Plancius**
- » dates « 4 – 14 June 2010
- » travel from « Oban – London (embark Oban)
- » guide price « **£2,545** per person based on triple cabin (private facilities). Supplement for twin cabin **£545** per person

## Scottish Islands

Embarking in **Aberdeen**, we will head for **Fair Isle** with its 70 inhabitants and bird observatory. On our third day we will visit **Foula**, the most isolated community in the British Isles where spectacular cliffs (**the Noup**) are crowded with nesting seabirds. Grey seals are numerous close to **North Rona** where we make a landing and we will see the prehistoric stone circle of Callanish on **Lewis** and photograph puffins, guillemots and razorbills on **Flannan**. Further landings will include **St Kilda**, **Mingulay**, **Berneray** and **Pabay** before disembarking at **Oban**. Birdlife is prolific and includes arctic terns, skuas, red-throated divers, Leach's petrels and gannets.

- » ship « **Plancius**
- » dates « 28 May – 4 June 2010
- » travel from « Aberdeen – Oban
- » guide price « **£2,145** per person based on triple cabin (private facilities). Supplement for twin cabin **£550** per person

## RUSSIAN FAR EAST: KAMCHATKA

### Cruise the Ring of Fire

This voyage gives you the chance to explore one of the most geologically active and biologically rich parts of the planet, the **Kamchatka Peninsula** and the **Kuril Islands**.

A land born of fire and ice, Kamchatka is one of the last true wildernesses. Closed to visitors for much of last century under the communist regime, it is opening its doors to visitors, but with limited infrastructure, virtually no roads, only a few hotels and no regular scheduled internal air services, the best way to explore is by ship. This itinerary takes in a wide range of wildlife habitats and introduces you to the area's

cultural diversity. We also visit the remote **Commander Islands**, rich in bird and sea mammal life, and the final resting place of the famed Danish explorer Vitus Bering.

- » ship « **Spirit of Enderby**
- » dates « 3 – 15 July 2010
- » travel from « London to London (embark in Petropavlovsk)
- » guide price « **£4,795** per person based on triple cabin (shared facilities). Supplement for twin cabin **£575** per person



### Birding the Kuril Islands

Commencing in **Sakhalin**, this voyage covers the full **Kuril Island** region with its stunning volcanoes, and wide diversity of birds. The Kuril Island chain is made up of 32 islands that stretch between Russia and Japan across the **Bering Sea**, all formed by volcanoes that rise from the sea floor. The larger of the islands are inhabited, and most people make their living from the sea, as they have done for generations. The islands are unique and look like vast botanical gardens where subtropical flora representatives neighbour with the flora of the polar latitudes. Here you will see

gigantic herbs which can reach a height of three to four metres, as well as bear and foxes and marine mammals such as seals, sea lions, fur seals and otters. One of the 'birding' highlights must be the Steller's sea eagle.

The **Kamchatka Peninsula** is a land of bays and snow-capped volcanoes whose alpine meadows and lowland forests support the greatest diversity of seabirds in Asia. The seas washing these isolated coasts are among the most productive in the world and the area teems with birds and marine mammals. Huge

bird colonies dot the cliffs and large seal rookeries are scattered along the coast. This voyage also visits the remote **Commander Islands**, also rich in bird life and sea mammals.

- » ship « **Spirit of Enderby**
- » dates « 21 June – 5 July 2010
- » travel from « London to London (embark in Sakhalin)
- » guide price « **£5,470** per person based on triple cabin (shared facilities). Supplement for twin cabin **£690** per person

## Across the top of the world

Discover the north eastern part of Eurasia (**Chukotka**) in a way that has never been possible before. On this expedition we cruise across the **Arctic Circle** through the **Bering Strait** and into the **Arctic Sea**. It will be mid summer with 24 hour daylight and the ice will have retreated. On shore you will meet the Chukchis, who have learnt how to live in one of the harshest environments on the planet. Many of the

abundant species of wildlife are migratory, coming here only to breed, but for others like the polar bear, walrus, and reindeer this is their home. We plan two days at **Wrangel Island**, a world class nature reserve, which is often referred to as the 'polar bear maternity ward'. This voyage also includes an overnight camping expedition to the tundra inland from **Egvekinot** to spend the night with traditional reindeer herders.

- » ship « **Spirit of Enderby**
- » dates « 11 – 27 August 2010
- » travel from « London to London (embark in Nome)
- » guide price « **£5,880** per person based on triple cabin (shared facilities). Supplement for twin cabin **£745** per person

## Jewel of the Russian Far East

This unique expedition offers an excellent option for those looking to have an overview of the entire region and coincides with generally more settled autumnal weather and colours along the coast. Along with the **Kamchatka Peninsula** and the **Commander**

**Islands** we will explore the **Chukotka** coastline of Siberia, one of the world's last untamed wildernesses, and will have the opportunity to meet local people and learn of their history.

- » ship « **Spirit of Enderby**
- » dates « 6 – 26 Sept 2010
- » travel from « London to London (embark in Nome)
- » guide price « **£8,995** per person based on triple cabin (shared facilities). Supplement for twin cabin **£420** per person

## CANADIAN AND HIGH ARCTIC – Icebreaker voyages

### Northwest Passage: West to East

Sail the most legendary route in Arctic lore, the Northwest Passage from **Anadyr**, Russia to **Resolute**, Canada. This will be the final west to east transit of the Northwest Passage made by the icebreaker **Kapitan**

**Khlebnikov**. The ship retires as an expedition vessel in March 2012. The end of an era has begun.

- » ship « **Kapitan Khlebnikov**
- » dates « 17 July – 5 August 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Anadyr)
- » guide price « **£16,240** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### Tanquary Fjord – Western Ellesmere Island

This icebreaker expedition sails north from **Resolute** to the high latitudes of the western shore of **Ellesmere Island**. Landings are intended on **Ellesmere Island**, **Devon Island** and in **Tanquary Fjord** and aerial-sightseeing planned over **Axel Heiberg Island** with its petrified forests and the **Belcher Channel**.

This voyage will take you to some of the most remote communities in the world. Polar bears, musk oxen, Arctic hares, seals, whales and

walrus inhabit this icy paradise. It is also an area rich in the history of Arctic exploration. The final landing is on **Beechey Island** to view the Franklin Memorial. You can feel history surround you on this desolate coast where Franklin and his men wintered in 1846-7 before disappearing.

A BBC film crew will film aboard this voyage which will be **Kapitan Khlebnikov's** final journey to **Tanquary Fjord** before retirement.

- » ship « **Kapitan Khlebnikov**
- » dates « 3 – 18 Aug 2010
- » travel from « London – London (embark in Resolute)
- » guide price « **£14,225** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### Ellesmere Island and Greenland

Two countries, one midnight sun – the Arctic that few have visited. Embarking in **Resolute** the most northerly part of the voyage will be to **Kane Basis** – 10 degrees from the North Pole. At Greenland we will make a unique visit by helicopter to **Robert Peary's**

monument on a glacier near **Kap York**. We visit **Baffin Island** and go ashore at **Beechey Island**, scene of the Franklin Expedition tragedy before returning to **Resolute**. **Kapitan Khlebnikov** makes its final call at **Grise Fjord**, **Ellesmere Island** on this voyage.

- » ship « **Kapitan Khlebnikov**
- » dates « 16 – 31 August 2010
- » travel from « London-London (embark in Resolute)
- » guide price « **£14,225** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### The North Pole

From **Murmansk** we cross the **Barents Sea** towards the relatively unexplored archipelago of **Franz Josef Land**, which was only discovered in the late 1800s. Shore landings are planned here and at 90°N, the top of the world. Stand on the **North Pole** and enjoy a hike on the expansive ice before continuing to **Franz Josef Land**, keeping a watchful eye for polar bears en route. On **Franz Josef Land's** stunning flat-topped islands you will encounter fascinating Arctic wildlife in its spectacular setting of snow and ice. Polar bears, walrus, arctic fox, seals and belugas all

inhabit the region. Sightseeing by helicopter gives you an unforgettable aerial view of the ship crushing its way through the formidable Arctic Ocean pack ice on this most memorable of journeys.

- » ship « **50 Years of Victory**
- » dates « 9 – 23 July 2010
- » travel from « London – London (gateway Helsinki, embark in Murmansk)
- » guide price « **£15,680** person based on twin cabin (private facilities)



# VOYAGES – THE ANTARCTIC

The Antarctic, particularly the peninsula or 'White Continent' has an incomparable and irresistible beauty – this magical frozen land with its awe-inspiring glaciers and rich diversity of bird and wildlife resonates with the history of intrepid explorers and epic struggles for survival. We offer a range of voyages on icebreakers and expedition ships that is continually changing, so if you cannot find exactly what you want on the following pages we will happily make suggestions on places and optional activities to suit your own requirements.

Most of our voyages depart from Ushuaia at the southern tip of South America and cross the Drake Passage, spending several days visiting the South Shetland Islands and the Antarctic Peninsula. The peninsula is a spectacular chain of mountains and glaciers and is the richest part of Antarctica for wildlife. The waters are sheltered by islands which makes for comfortable sailing and easy landings. Some of these voyages also visit South Georgia and the Falkland Islands.

South Georgia is a 100-mile long island with mountains and glaciers that equal the grandeur of Antarctica. There is also a green fringe of vegetation that supports a greater variety of wildlife, including the magnificent king penguin and wandering albatross, many smaller birds such as the endemic pintail and pipit, as well as teeming colonies of fur seals. For those interested in its history, many voyages visit the scene of Shackleton's epic crossing of the island.

The Falkland Islands are different again: an archipelago of large and small islands with an even more varied wildlife and relaxed lifestyle among the human inhabitants. More adventurous voyages head for the Ross Sea, sometimes called 'The Far Side of Antarctica' – on an icebreaker to visit emperor penguin colonies and Scott's and Shackleton's huts. Because some of the vessels are comparatively small, early booking is recommended.

The descriptions in the following itineraries are a guideline only, since the routes taken and the landings made will be dependent on ice and weather conditions. We are happy to supply you with more detailed descriptions, including maps, photographs, day-by-day itineraries and reports of similar voyages in previous years on request.



## » new for 2010 «

- » **Plancius** has her maiden Antarctic voyage on 8 January 2010 from Ushuaia to the Falkland Islands, South Georgia and the Antarctic Peninsula.
- » **Antarctica XX1**, the first air cruise to Antarctica, flies to the South Shetlands avoiding the need to navigate the Drake Passage.
- » **Orlova** offers kayaking and, on selected voyages, camping.
- » **Free rental** of snow shoes and rubber boots on all Plancius voyages.

## Key to optional extras

- ▲ camping
- walking expeditions
- ★ hiking
- scuba diving option
- ◆ kayak option
- ▲ mountaineering
- \* cross country skiing
- + bilingual

## FALKLANDS, WEDDELL SEA AND ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

### Classic Antarctic Peninsula

These voyages offer the best introduction to the **White Continent** and concentrate on seeing as much as possible of the wildlife and scenery of the **Antarctic Peninsula** and **South Shetland Islands**. Embark in **Ushuaia** and sail across the **Drake Passage** and into sheltered waters. Four or five days are spent in Antarctica, starting with landings planned at the abandoned whaling station on **Deception Island** and the chinstrap penguin colony of **Orne Island**. These are followed by visits to **Cuerville Island** and **Paradise Bay** where there is a good chance you will see large whales. Sailing through the **Lemaire Channel** to **Petermann** and **Pleneau Islands** takes you through spectacular scenery with a good chance of seeing adelic penguins and elephant seals. The return voyage is through the **Gerlache Strait**, home to leopard seals and blue-eyed shags, followed by a visit to an Argentine research station. Landings are usually made twice a day so that all species of penguins, seals and other wildlife will be seen; some landings visit historic sites and operational bases while zodiac excursions offer an exciting alternative to landings.



» ships «	» dates «	» cabins «	» guide price «	» opt. extras «
Plancius	8 – 21 December 2010	Triple cabin (private facilities)	£5,595	▲ ◆
	23 January – 5 February 2011		£6,235	▲ ◆ +
	20 February – 5 March 2011		£6,235	▲ ● ◆

» travel from « All travel is from London – London (embark in Ushuaia)  
 » notes « Guide prices per person based on triple cabin and vary according to departure date. Supplement for twin cabin from £625 per person  
 ● supplement £745 per diver which includes tanks and weights  
 ◆ supplement £480 per kayaker which includes wetsuit  
 ▲ field camping option £60 per person per night



### Weddell Sea and Antarctic Peninsula

This voyage provides the best opportunity to see emperor penguins without courting bankruptcy. The ship will pass close to **Snow Hill Island** and provide an ideal opportunity to observe penguins at the ice edge followed by landings at the site of the Nordenskiöld expedition.

» travel from « London – London (embark in Ushuaia)  
 » notes « Price per person. Supplement for twin cabin from £640 per person

» ships «	» dates «	» cabins «	» guide price «	» opt. extras «
Plancius	2 – 16 March 2011	Triple cabin (private facilities)	£5,995	▲ ★ ● ◆



### Falklands – South Georgia – Antarctic Peninsula

These longer voyages visit the **Falkland Islands** where they call at **New Island** and **Port Stanley**. Leaving Stanley, they cross to **South Georgia** encountering a great number of seabirds as they cross the Convergence. Three days are spent in South Georgia visiting historic sites encountering fur and elephant seals, albatross and petrels. They then cross to the **Antarctic Peninsula** via **Laurie Island** in

the **South Orkneys** visiting adeli penguin colonies at **Punta Cormoran**. Three days are spent around the Peninsula including sailing through the beautiful **Gerlache Strait** and, if weather permits, landing on the continent itself at **Portal Point**. The return trip to Ushuaia is marked by the profusion of seabirds following the ship.

» ships «	» dates «	» embark in «	» cabins «	» guide price «	» opt. extras «
Plancius	1 – 23 November 2010	Puerto Madryn	Triple cabin (private facilities)	£8,425	▲
	20 Nov 2010 – 11 Dec 2010	Ushuaia		£8,425	▲
	18 Dec 2010 – 8 Jan 2011	Ushuaia		£9,595	▲ +
	5 – 26 January 2011	Ushuaia		£9,595	▲ +
	2 – 23 February 2011	Ushuaia		£9,595	▲

» travel from « All travel is London – London  
 » notes « Guide prices per person and vary according to departure date. Supplement for twin cabin from £1,010 per person

## Weddell Sea: Emperor penguins & Snow Hill Island

From **Ushuaia** we cross the **Drake Passage** and continue into the pack ice of the **Weddell Sea** to land by helicopter and explore the Emperor Penguin colony situated on frozen sea near **Snow Hill Island**. A degree of flexibility is important – in 2007, visitors to the rookery saw emperor chicks, many sitting on the feet of the adult caring for them and we hope to

repeat this unique opportunity in 2009. We visit adelic, chinstrap and gentoo penguin colonies on the Antarctic Peninsula and navigate through the **Antarctic Sound** at the northern tip of the Peninsula – the exact route will be determined by local weather conditions but the plan is to sail **Iceberg Alley**.

» ship «	<b>Kapitan Khlebnikov</b>
» dates «	12 – 27 October 2010 24 October – 8 November 2010
» travel from «	London – London (embark in Ushuaia)
» guide price «	<b>£13,745</b> per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## The Weddell Sea and South Georgia: Celebrating the heroes of HMS Endurance

This voyage will mark the 95th anniversary of the sinking of **Endurance** on November 21, 1915. Members of the expedition will follow in the wake of **Otto Nordenskjold** and **Ernest Shackleton**, visiting historic sites, hiking over terrain and flying over pack ice floating on the same sea over which Shackleton and the crew of **Endurance** slogged in desperation.

A landing will be attempted on **Elephant Island** before heading to the **Antarctic Peninsula**, **South Sandwich Islands** and **South Georgia**. Disembarkation will be at **Stanley** in the **Falkland Islands**.

» ship «	<b>Kapitan Khlebnikov</b>
» dates «	5 November – 6 December 2010
» travel from «	London – London (embark in Ushuaia)
» guide price «	<b>£19,995</b> per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Explorer's quest: Falklands, South Georgia and the Peninsula

This 22-day expedition is for people who are always on the move. It includes three different environments, five penguin species and diverse landscapes – a quintessential Antarctic voyage. Kayaking is offered as an optional activity on selected voyages.

» ships «	» dates «	» cabins «	» guide price «	» opt. extras «
<b>Lyubov Orlova</b>	22 January – 12 February 2011 18 February – 11 March 2011	Twin (lower deck private facilities)	<b>From £9,695</b>	◆ ◆
<b>Akademic Sergey Vavilov</b>	15 Nov 2010 – 6 Dec 2010 13 Dec 2010 – 3 Jan 2011	Twin cabin (shared facilities)	<b>£7,995</b>	◆ ◆
<b>Ocean Nova</b>	20 Nov 2010 – 11 Dec 2010 20 January – 10 February 2011	Twin cabin (private facilities)	<b>From £13,875</b>	
<b>Akademic Ioffe</b>	28 Dec 2010 – 18 Jan 2011 7 – 28 February 2011	Twin cabin (private facilities)	<b>£10,215</b>	◆ ◆
<b>Clipper Adventurer</b>	24 Nov – 15 Dec 2010 21 Dec 2010 – 11 Jan 2011	Twin (lower deck private facilities)	<b>£7,880</b>	

» travel from « London – London (embark in Ushuaia)  
 » guide price « Per person based on twin cabin (facilities vary)  
 » notes « Prices vary throughout the season so do contact us for more information.



## Antarctica XXI

**Antarctica XXI** is unique – the first air cruise to Antarctica. The basis of this extraordinary voyage is that you avoid the notorious two day crossing of the **Drake Passage** and instead take a one and a half hour flight from **Punta Arenas** in Southern Chile to **King George Island**, the largest island of the **South Shetland**

**Archipelago**, where you board your expedition ship. For the next five days you are on a Classic Antarctic Peninsula voyage with active adventures, several landings daily by zodiac and a programme of enjoyable on-board lectures. The aim of the expedition is to cross the **Lemaire Channel** at latitude 65 degrees south.

For those who still wish to experience crossing the **Drake Passage** in one direction, the first and last voyages of the season include a one way crossing by ship and one way by air. Flights are operated in a 60 passenger BAe 146 high wing aircraft with very short runway requirements. Staff to guest ratios are higher than on standard voyages and there is an open bar policy throughout the voyage.



» ship «	<b>To be confirmed</b>
» dates «	Various departures December 2010/January 2011
» travel from «	London – London (embark in Punta Arenas except for first and last voyages of the season)
» guide price «	<b>£6,825</b> per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)



## Antarctic Explorer: Discovering the Peninsula

» ships «	» dates «	» cabins «	» guide price «	» opt. extras «
<b>Lyubov Orlova</b>	8 – 21 November 2010 18 Nov – 1 Dec 2010 28 Nov – 11 Dec 2010 8 – 20 December 2010 17 – 29 December 2010 26 Dec 2010 – 7 Jan 2011 4 – 16 January 2011 13 – 25 January 2011 9 – 21 February 2011 8 – 21 March 2011	Twin cabin lower deck (private facilities)	<b>From £4,855</b>	▲◆ ▲◆ ▲◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆
<b>Akademik Sergey Vavilov</b>	3 – 16 December 2010 31 Dec 2010 – 13 Jan 2011 10 – 23 January 2011 2 – 15 February 2011 25 February – 10 March 2011	Twin cabin (shared facilities)	<b>From £4,995</b>	▲◆ ▲◆ ▲◆ ▲◆ ▲◆
<b>Akademic Ioffe</b>	18 Nov – 1 Dec 2010 28 Nov – 11 Dec 2010 8 – 21 December 2010 18 – 31 December 2010 15 – 28 January 2011	Twin cabin (shared facilities)	<b>From £4,995</b>	▲◆▲* ▲◆▲* ▲◆▲* ▲◆
<b>Ocean Nova</b>	10 – 23 November 2010 8 – 21 December 2010 18 – 31 December 2010 28 Dec 2010 – 10 Jan 2011 20 February – 5 March 2011	Twin cabin (private facilities)	<b>From £8,195</b>	▲ ▲ ▲ ▲◆
<b>Clipper Adventurer</b>	4 – 17 November 2010 14 – 27 November 2010 12 – 24 December 2010 8 – 20 January 2011 17 – 29 January 2011 26 January – 7 February 2011 4 – 16 February 2011 13 – 25 February 2011 24 February – 7 March 2011	Twin cabin lower deck (shared facilities)	<b>From £4,980</b>	

These voyages offer the opportunity not only to see the landscape and wildlife of the area but also to camp, cross country ski, climb mountains or kayak during the four days that the ship spends in the **Antarctic Peninsula**. This itinerary is perfect for the first time visitor to the Antarctic wanting to see the highlights of the peninsula by small ship, for those wanting adventure options or for those with time constraints.



» travel from « All trips are London – London (embark in Ushuaia)  
 » guide price « Guide prices per person based on twin cabin (shared or private facilities)  
 » notes « Itineraries, prices and availability vary throughout the season so do contact us for more information

## FROM WEST TO EAST

### Epic Antarctica via the Phantom Coast and the Ross Sea

This is the last time the polar class icebreaker *Kapitan Khlebnikov* will sail half way round Antarctica. During this voyage we visit the **Phantom Coast**. Explorer Richard E. Byrd gave the coast that lies between **Palmer Peninsula** and **Thurston Island** its ghostly title – for two centuries, the ice-locked coastline defied the efforts of explorers to chart it.

» ship « **Kapitan Khlebnikov**  
 » dates « 2 December 2010 – 4 January 2011  
 » travel from « London – London (embark in Stanley)  
 » guide price « £22,745 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

In the early 1960s, the US Navy mounted icebreaker operations in the **Bellinghousen** and **Amundsen Seas**. USS *Glacier* and USS *Staten Island*, equipped with helicopters, penetrated farther than any previous surface vessels. Using aerial reconnaissance, crews from the icebreakers rewrote the maps, confirming that **Thurston**

**Peninsula** was actually an island. More than forty years later, exploring the **Phantom Coast** is still a challenge for all but the toughest vessels. After a night in **Santiago**, fly to **Stanley** in the **Falkland Islands** to join the ship for this extraordinary voyage which ends nearly 30 days later in **Hobart**, **Tasmania**.



## CROSSING THE CIRCLE

### Polar Circle – Antarctic Peninsula

These extended voyages follow the itinerary of 'Classic Antarctica Peninsula' but continue further south to the **Argentine Islands** visiting **Crystal Sound** and **Fish Islands** – one of the most southerly colonies of adelic penguins. There is an additional programme for scuba divers at a supplement.

» ships «	» dates «	» cabins «	» guide price «	» opt. extras «
<b>Plancius</b>	13 – 27 March 2011	Triple cabin (private facilities)	<b>£5,995</b>	▲ ● ◆

» travel from « London – London (embark in Ushuaia)  
 » guide price « Per person based on triple cabin (private facilities). Supplement for twin cabin £675 per person

### Crossing the Circle: Southern expedition

This 17-day expedition is for people who enjoy active adventures and hanker to travel south of the **Antarctic Circle**. It offers an average of three activities off the ship per day while in the **Antarctic Peninsula**. There is also a shipboard education programme.

» ships «	» dates «	» cabins «	» guide price «	» opt. extras «
<b>Akademik Ioffe</b>	25 January – 10 February 2011	Twin cabin (shared facilities)	<b>£7,695</b>	▲ ◆
<b>Ocean Nova</b>	7 – 23 January 2011 7 – 23 February 2011	Twin cabin (private facilities)	<b>£12,795</b>	▲▲
<b>Akademik Sergey Vavilov</b>	20 January – 5 February 2011 12 – 28 February 2011	Twin cabin (shared facilities)	<b>£7,695</b>	▲◆ ▲◆

» travel from « London – London (embark in Ushuaia)  
 » guide price « Per person based on twin cabin (facilities vary)

## FROM SOUTH TO NORTH

### Atlantic Odyssey

As the ships are used for voyages in both polar regions, each year the vessels are repositioned from the **Southern Atlantic Ocean** to the Arctic region. This gives the opportunity for this fantastic **Atlantic Odyssey** which has been called the 'finest pelagic bird-cruise' in the world. Apart from observing many bird species, you will be able to witness the northern bird migration.

This epic voyage starts from **Ushuaia** and heads south to the **Antarctic Peninsula** in search of penguins, albatross, petrels and other southern species. Then we turn north to **South Georgia** for king penguins and wandering albatrosses before continuing deeper into the Atlantic to visit the **Tristan da Cunha** archipelago where the ship may be able to land at **Inaccessible Island**

» ships «	» dates «	» embark «	» disembark «	» guide price «
<b>Plancius</b>	24 March – 26 April 2011 24 April – 2 May 2011	Ushuaia Ascension	Ascension Praia (Cape Verdes)	<b>£6,970</b> <b>£2,190</b>

» guide price « Guide prices are per person based on triple cabin (private facilities). Supplement for twin cabin £775 per person for Ushuaia embarkation and £85 per person for Ascension embarkation



to see the endemic **inaccessible rail**. There are zodiac cruises close to **Gough Island** for **Gough moorhen** and **Gough bunting** before sailing on north to **St Helena**, where **Napoleon** lived in exile, and **Ascension Island** with its colony of over a million sooty terns. Your voyage ends in the **Cape Verde Islands** with its spectacular volcanic scenery, so different from the ice of the **Southern Ocean**.