

# ARCTURUS

THE POLAR ARM OF FAR FRONTIERS TRAVEL



VOYAGES AND EXPEDITIONS  
2020-2021



“ We invite you to explore our wide variety of land-based trips for 2020 in **Arctic Norway, Spitsbergen, Iceland, Greenland, the Faroe Islands and Arctic Russia**. This year we have added some fantastic new **Canadian Arctic** adventures – enjoy narwhal, beluga whales, caribou and polar bears from remote lodges in extraordinary locations.

For our polar voyages, this year we've focused on simplifying the options, selecting small ships which, in our opinion, run the best voyages in the different regions. There is a bewildering array of contenders and we have many years of experience in selecting the right options for our clients.

Read on to find our suggestions for **summer 2020 Arctic** and **winter 2020/2021 Antarctic** exploration. You will also still find a few **winter 2019/20 Antarctic** voyages here as there are some excellent late booking opportunities. I'd also like to add that what you see here is just a foretaste of our adventures. There's much more on our website in the way of fuller itinerary descriptions, photos, maps and client feedback. I've got detailed itineraries for all our trips and voyages and, as regular clients know, we're always ready and willing to discuss any aspect of your plans.

Tailoring memorable journeys is our forte, so do ask about how you might add a thrilling opener or a grand finale to your trip of a lifetime. ”

Fiona Brijnath, Director

## Welcome to Arcturus, the polar arm of Far Frontiers Travel.



### About us

**Arcturus was established in Scotland some 40 years ago as a small niche polar travel company. Today we are based in the wilds of Devon on Dartmoor. As one of the foremost operators to remote polar regions, we offer an unparalleled selection of extraordinary expeditions and voyages to the Arctic, Antarctic, Norway, Greenland, Iceland, the Faroe Islands and some of the least known parts of Russia.**

Owned by **Far Frontiers Travel**, in its early days, **Arcturus** was one of the pioneers of Arctic wildlife tours. Our itineraries are based on years of local research and the experiences of early expeditions, often science-based, to these isolated regions.

The company is run by **Fiona Brijnath** who, over the past 25 years, has established a notable reputation for tailored travel. Our land-based expeditions focus on enjoying the nature and scenery of remote places through walking, dog-sledging, skiing and camping. At sea, we act as agents for selected operators of Arctic and Antarctic wildlife expedition voyages.

Fiona will be your main point of contact. She has unrivalled expertise with remote destinations and you are unlikely to find anyone who gives more attention to personal service and detail. Many of her clients return time and again. **Her knowledge is complemented by the polar**

**Do call so we can discuss how to individualise your trip**

## Prices

All our guide prices here include international economy flights from London, internal transport, transfers to the embarkation point (where it is possible to pre-book) and accommodation based in twin rooms with meals as specified in our detailed dossiers. Guide prices for voyages are based on twin cabins with shared or private facilities. We can provide prices for single occupancy, triple, quadruple and superior cabins and suites (where available) on request. Expeditions are almost all fully-guided either from the UK or locally.

We include fuel surcharges known at the time of going to print. Please note that we are bound to pass on any subsequent surcharges that arise.

## Before and after your trip

We specialise in tailor-making holidays all over the world and will be delighted to organise pre and post-tour elements to make yours a truly unique trip. For example, if you are considering an Antarctic voyage, you could explore **Chile, Argentina, Peru or Ecuador/The Galapagos** first or as a grand finale. How about beginning or ending an expedition to **Arctic Russia** by marvelling at the glittering sights of **Moscow** and **St. Petersburg** or making a road trip around **Iceland** before a voyage to **Greenland**?

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**Arcturus** is owned by **Far Frontiers Travel**, specialist in tailoring bespoke travel to Georgia, Central Asia, China and Mongolia, the Far East, Indian Subcontinent and the Himalayas, Indochina, Myanmar, Middle East, North Africa, Russia, South America, Japan and Australia. Call us for our brochure.



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- non-flight inclusive packages commencing and returning to the UK
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- a refund of such prepayments if customers have not yet travelled, or
- making arrangements to enable the holiday to continue if customers have already travelled.

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### expertise of Dr. Lorraine Craig PhD.

Previously Head of Research and Higher Education at the **Royal Geographical Society** and Director of the **Cambridge Arctic Shelf Programme**, Lorraine is a past president of the **Arctic Club** and lectures at the **Royal School of Mines, Imperial College London**.

She keeps us up to date on polar matters and helps identify new destinations.



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WATERCOLOUR MAPS THROUGHOUT: Claire Baker



# Expeditions



Camp or lodge in comfort



## ARCTIC NORWAY – SPITSBERGEN

Hike, snowshoe, ski, dog sledge, snowmobile or kayak

**SPITSBERGEN** is the largest island in **Norway's Svalbard Archipelago**. We've exhilarating winter and spring adventures among its pointed mountains, deep fjords and the glorious sparkle of the Arctic. It's idyllic for summer visits too.

### Musher's dream | 13 days

NEW  
FOR 2020

A unique dog sledge and camping expedition from **Longyearbyen** to the west coast of the **Isfjorden** through open valleys, over ice covered fjords and on to 1,000 year old glacier ice. We will pass the old mining village of **Pyramiden**, the mountains at **Tre Kroner**, visit the research town of **Ny-Ålesund** and drive our dogs through the majestic glaciers at **Oscar II Land**.

- » when « 2-14 May 2020
- » price « £7,795 per person
- » leader « Experienced local leader
- » key info « Minimum 3 people. Nine days' sledging. Drive your own dogs and help set up tents, feed the dog team and prepare dinner. No prior experience needed but you need to be in good physical shape. A demanding trip due to weather, wind and low temperatures, rough terrain and its duration.

### Discover the deep fjords by sailing boat | 8 days

NEW  
FOR 2020

Enjoy being part of the crew of the three-masted schooner **Linden** for a five day sailing adventure in pristine Arctic wilderness. We head out from **Longyearbyen** to discover the hidden gems of the west coast of **Svalbard**, an excellent way to combine Arctic adventure with sailing. We navigate through wildlife hotspots and enjoy numerous hikes ashore to spot polar bear, walrus, Arctic fox, **Svalbard reindeer** and ivory gull.

- » when « Weekly departures on Saturdays May – August 2020
- » price « £4,345 per person
- » leader « Local leader
- » key info « Minimum 4 people. Seven en-suite cabins. Rubber boots provided. Five days of sailing. Itinerary depends on wildlife opportunities, wind and weather conditions. Daily shore hikes.

These top five expeditions for the fit and active prove popular year after year.

They offer brilliant hiking, kayaking, dog sledging and snow-mobiling for small groups of three to six people with a local leader. There's more detail on our website. Not suitable if you suffer from a bad back.

### Hiking across Nordenskiöld Land | 8 days

Four days' scenic hiking in **Nordenskiöld Land** then over mountains and valleys to **Barentsburg** and on to **Isfjord Radio**, camping most nights.

- » when « 13-20 August 2020, 27 August – 3 September 2020
- » price « £3,530 per person

### Blue ice paddling – kayaking expedition | 8 days

From the lodge by the **Nordenskiöld Glacier**, kayak ice floes in the company of seals and belugas.

- » when « Summer 2020 – dates to suit group
- » price « From £4,970 per person

### Dog sledge the telegraph route to Isfjord Radio | 8 days

Five days' wilderness dogsledging with two nights' camping and two at **Isfjord Radio**.

- » when « 15-22 March, 1-8 April 2020
- » price « £4,595 per person

### Adventure week at Nordenskiöld Lodge | 8 days

Several full day trips, including kayaking, glacier hiking and trekking, according to the weather.

- » when « Weekly departures on Saturdays July to September 2020
- » price « £3,395 per person

### True Arctic story by snowmobile | 7 days

Head off over **Tempelfjorden** and north over glaciers and mountains to **Nordenskiöld Lodge** and its breathtaking glacier views. No camping.

- » when « Departures weekly on Sundays mid-March to mid May 2020
- » price « £3,280 per person

Five exciting and different accommodation bases for our dog sledging, snow-mobile, hiking and kayaking adventures in **Spitsbergen**. After a good night's sleep at **Basecamp Hotel**, head out for new adventures to one of four more destinations.

### NORDENSKIÖLD LODGE

- » True expedition lodge 100 miles north east of **Longyearbyen**, on a bay by the mighty blue **Nordenskiöld Glacier**, part of the glacier system which stretches to the north coast
- » Farthest north on **Spitsbergen** you can reach by vehicle and world's northernmost commercial cabin
- » Five bedrooms with fantastic views, 10 comfortable beds, an indoor WC and a traditional sauna. Heated by wood, drinking water is collected from the melting glacier
- » Arrive via a two hour boat crossing from **Longyearbyen** in good summer weather. Accessed in winter by dog sledge or snowmobile
- » Climb on the glacier and ski around the fjord and snowy valleys before warming up in the sauna.



### BASECAMP SPITSBERGEN HOTEL

- » At the heart of **Longyearbyen**, the world's northernmost town
- » Authentic trappers' style decor evokes Arctic life past and present
- » 16 rooms, comfortable beds, private bathrooms with showers. Stunning views over the town to the mountains
- » Relax in the glass-roofed lounge looking up at a sky filled with the **Northern Lights**.



### S/V LINDEN – NEW FOR 2020

- » Three-masted wooden sailing schooner (the largest in Europe) with an ice strengthened hull
- » Built in Finland in 1993 as a replica of the original Linden of the 1920s she has five twin cabins with private facilities, two single cabins with shared bathroom and a staff and crew of six to seven.
- » Spacious outdoor viewing decks with 360° views and two lounges with plenty of windows, a library, good size sauna and an efficient ventilation system for drying your expedition gear.
- » Food sourced along the way from Danish and Norwegian artisanal and organic food producers. Svalbard trappers supply wild local reindeer and seal. Expect healthy and hearty meals with a creative twist including recreations of menus enjoyed by explorers, trappers and other heroes.



### NORTH POLE CAMP, SPITSBERGEN

- » Mobile tented camp which changes location throughout the season and every year, reached in winter by dogsled or snowmobile
- » Modern camping in the Arctic wilderness with heated tents, field beds and warm sleeping bags. The entrance to your tent has an area for hanging your snowmobile suit and for your boots
- » After a day's polar exploration out in the cold enjoy a few drinks and a hearty dinner around the big table in the dining tent and hear inspiring stories of polar endeavour.

### ISFJORD RADIO

- » 90 km from Longyearbyen, an outpost built in 1933 for local radio operators, now a luxury wilderness hotel
- » Accessed by snowmobile or boat according to the season
- » Glide over glaciers, mountains and frozen fjords by dogsled and snowmobile or safari by open boat across the Arctic Ocean
- » Dinners prepared by top chefs feature Arctic specialities such as smoked seal, halibut and reindeer sausage – and lively conversation!



# ARCTIC NORWAY – NORTHERN NORWAY

Whether you call it mushing, dog sledding or dog sledging – there's no more exhilarating way to explore

Early spring is beautiful in **NORTHERN NORWAY** and experiencing it by dog-sledge adds a thrilling dimension. Our small group expeditions in the mountains and high uplands have been led by our Norwegian friends for years. We can arrange additional delights such as a skidoo trip to the **Sami (Lapp)** people in their summer or winter camps, to **Summer Island**, the picturesque **Lofoten Islands** or a fascinating day in **Tromsø**.

## Dog-sledging in small groups

### Explore Dividalen – drive your own dogs | 6 days

Stand on the runners whilst the dogs take the strain! Snow and weather conditions permitting, you will make daily trips through a beautiful snowscape. After a day on the trail, relax around a log fire while your hosts regale you from their fund of stories about life in the north. They are excellent cooks and their menus feature locally caught reindeer, elk and salmon. There's usually the chance to enjoy a sauna or hot tub too.

- » when « January – March 2020, dates on request
- » price « £2,235 per person
- » leader « Local Norwegian leader
- » key info « Minimum 4 people. Stay in a simple but cosy cabin. No previous experience required

### Mountain dog sledging hut to hut | 8 days

Combine extensive exploration of **Dividalen's** 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 but in the evenings we'll relax in comfort over meals made with local produce, discussing the day's journey.

- » when « January – March 2020, dates on request
- » price « £2,930 per person
- » leader « Local Norwegian leader
- » key info « Group size 4 minimum. Stay in mountain huts. Some previous experience required

### Dog sledge The Kings Way – crossing Norway into Sweden | 8 days

Sledge the **King's Way** from the dramatic high peaks and rock faces of **Norway** to the vast open plateaux and lakes of **Sweden**. This expedition along frozen rivers and lakes in the varied countryside around **Kiruna** ends near **Jukkasjarvi** at the famous **Ice Hotel**. Made using ice from the **Torne River**, it features ice sculptures, a cinema and a bar carved entirely from ice. We can arrange a night or two's stay in this unique accommodation.

- » when « April 2020, dates on request
- » price « £2,995 per person
- » leader « Local Norwegian leader
- » key info « Group size 4 minimum. Stay in mountain huts, may involve some camping and long days of sledging. Previous experience required

**TOP TIP:** We provide superbly warm sledging suits and thick felt-lined boots so you will never be cold.

**DON'T MISS:** **Tromsø** for its atmospheric Polar Museum and Northern Lights Planetarium.

**WHAT TO EXPECT:** Stunning displays of the **Aurora Borealis** in the depths of winter (if you're lucky)!



# THE FAROE ISLANDS

Enchanting isles just waiting to be explored



**THE FAROES** poke sharply out of the Atlantic Ocean between Norway and Iceland. The landscape of these 18 remote islands is one of steep cliffs, narrow straits and natural harbours surrounded by small villages. Inhabited by less than 50,000 people and more than three million sea birds, the Faroe Islands are a nature lover's dream. The Faroese people are justly proud of having preserved their own culture, traditions and language rooted in the Old Norse.

## Faroe Islands deluxe self-drive | 8 days

Driving is the perfect way to explore the islands. Roads are generally of high quality and distances between points of interest short, so you can see a lot without having to keep changing hotels.

We recommend the bird paradise of **Mykines Island**, **Kirkjubøur** village and staying overnight in the tiny but picturesque village of **Gjogv**. Visit the **Saga Museum** in **Vestmanna** and ferry hop between little islands in the north.

**Torshavn**, the Faroes' capital, has big city confidence and is worth a few days' stay. There are a growing number of excellent restaurants using local produce to showcase their contemporary interpretation of traditional Faroese cuisine.

- » when « April – October 2020, tailor-made to suit
- » price « From £1,910 per person
- » key info « You can experience four seasons in one day. Average temperatures are 11°C in summer

**TOP TIP:** The summers are short and hotels fill quickly so book early to avoid disappointment.



**ASK US:** About private escorted tours with our lovely local guides.



# ICELAND



**ICELAND** is enchanting in summer with its long days and midnight sun and magical in winter – which brings the chance of seeing the *Aurora Borealis*. It's ideal for touring by car – we've splendid self-drive itineraries or can arrange a driver/ guide if you prefer. Ride an Icelandic pony over black lava fields, walk inside a glacier or 'flightsee' by helicopter for a bird's eye view of a glacier or extinct volcano.

## Iceland's 'must see' star attractions

The itineraries here cover the key sights of this land of fire and ice – such as **Akureyri** at the base of **Eyjafjörður Fjord**, the waterfalls of **Skógafoss**, **Seljalandsfoss**, **Gullfoss** and **Goðafoss**, the hot springs at **Geysir**, **Pingvellir** and **Skaftafell national parks** and the volcanic area of **Lake Mývatn** – a paradise for birds.

## Iceland classic circle (self drive) | 9 days

NEW FOR 2020

Drive this classic circular route around **Iceland** including the amazing **Snaefellsnes Peninsula** and the major sights of interest along the ring road. Highlights include the **Golden Circle**, **Jökulsárlón glacial lagoon**, **Lake Mývatn** and **Dettifoss waterfall**. Travel at your own pace and spend time at the places that most interest you.

- » when « Monday departures  
May – September 2020
- » price « From £1,955 per person
- » key info « Driving yourself is easy and we give plenty of advice. There are lovely boutique hotels in **Reykjavik** we can suggest as an upgrade

## Grand tour of Iceland – drive yourself | 12 days

NEW FOR 2020

A 12 day self-drive tour covering everything you'll see on our **Classic circle** tour at a slower pace with more time each day to explore and fully appreciate Iceland's scenic beauty. It includes the **Snaefellsnes Peninsula** and the black volcanic sands of the **South Shore**.

- » when « Monday departures  
May – September 2020
- » price « From £2,595 per person
- » key info « An excellent option for those wanting a self-drive holiday with no time constraints

# GREENLAND

**GREENLAND**, the world's largest island, remains largely uninhabited due to its massive inland Ice Cap. Extend your Iceland trip with a few days here or make it a stand-alone holiday. Travel along the west coast by local steamer or take small boat day trips between settlements as part of your stay in south or west Greenland.



## Breathtaking fjords and communities with enduring lifestyles

### Easy hiking in South Greenland | 10 days

NEW FOR 2020

Taking in all the hiking highlights of the Narsarsuaq area, you'll also experience the daily life of the Greenlanders who live in isolated farms and settlements in the south, staying at sheep farms in two different villages. These are perfect points to set off on our variety of easy hiking routes with stunning views of glaciers, green mountainsides and icy fjords.

- » when « To suit June – September 2020
- » price « From £2,960 per person
- » leader « No guide, information meeting on arrival
- » Key info « Easy hikes with vehicle/boat supported treks. Summer temperatures around 15-20°C. Routes suitable for beginners as well as experienced hikers. Meals not included, cooking facilities available. Farm and hostel sleeping bag accommodation

### Traditional dog sledging in Liverpool Land | 10 days

The Inuit still use the dog sledge to get around some areas in winter, including at Greenland's most isolated village Ittoqqortoormiit on the east coast. Here, on the northern shore of the world's largest fjord, there is a long tradition of hunting and travelling on the pack-ice as well as on land.



Join us for a traditional dog sledging trip on the spectacular coast of Liverpool Land. Highlights include flights by Twin-Otter aircraft and helicopter, a few days in Ittoqqortoormiit village and four days' camping and travelling with dog sledges.

- » when « Weekly departures March – May 2020
- » price « From £5,195 per person
- » Key info « Group size 4 minimum. Stay in guest houses and tents or hunter's huts

### South and West Greenland by traditional ferry boat | 10 days

NEW FOR 2020

Travel with the locals on the delightful Sarfaq Ittuq ferry and see Greenland's spectacular glaciers, icebergs, colourful Inuit settlements and Arctic wildlife.

On this journey along the coast between Qaqortoq in the south and Ilulissat (famed for its icebergs) in the north you'll call in at ports and towns such as Nuuk, the smallest capital in the world, and the colourful town of Qaqortoq.

- » when « To suit, April to September 2020
- » price « From £5,450 per person
- » leader « No guide, information meeting on arrival
- » Key info « Sarfaq Ittuq usually carries more local passengers than tourists. There's a communal café and great views from the upper decks

### Icebergs of West Greenland | 10 days

See the majestic icebergs at the World Heritage Site of Ilulissat Ice Fjord and stay near the very active Eqi Glacier before moving on to Disko Island for two nights with local hikes in and around this former whaling station.

Ilulissat town, 380km north of the Polar Circle, is a gateway for exploring the Arctic. Take an iceberg safari, visit remote settlements or go 'flightseeing'.

One night 'glamping' at Camp Eqi will give you front row seats for when the Eqi Glacier 'calves'. It's a perfect base from which to hike and the huts all have comfy beds and private facilities.

- » when « June – August 2020, tailor-made to suit
- » price « From £4,895 per person
- » leader « Local guide
- » Key info « Limited accommodation so book early



**BEST TIME TO GO:** Winter/early spring for dog sledging and *Aurora Borealis*. Summer for wonderful hiking and cruising in iceberg filled waters.

**READ:** *Sirius Patrol* by Peter Schmidt Michelson.

PHOTOS: Mads Pihl, Visit Greenland



# CANADIAN ARCTIC

Thrilling new wildlife experiences where eagles soar and caribou roam

The Inuit people of the **CANADIAN ARCTIC** are an essential part of **Canada's** national and cultural identity. Vast and sparsely populated, **Nunavut's** tundra-clad islands with their remote villages and archaeological sites are accessible only by plane or boat. Iconic narwhal and beluga whale thrive in its waters.

**Baffin Island** and **Hudson Bay** offer exceptional chances to get close to polar bear. Not only are the **Northwest Territories** home to vast numbers of caribou, but also wolves, wolverine, foxes, grizzly and black bears and a wide variety of birdlife.

## Arctic Watch Lodge discovery experience

NEW FOR 2020

| 11 days

Here at the most northerly fly-in lodge on earth enjoy gourmet meals and adventures of a lifetime in the company of world-class polar guides and wildlife photographers.

The Weber family who own the lodge really know the **Arctic**, having led some of the first polar expeditions to reach the North Pole and set speed records at both poles. They have skied, kayaked, hiked and explored right across **Canada's** far north. Join them for fully guided excursions ranging from wildlife photography to fat biking the frozen **Arctic Ocean**, sea kayaking alongside beluga whales and more besides.

- » when « 2-12 July, 9-19 July, 6-16 August 2020
- » price « From **£10,970** per person
- » leader « Local guide
- » Key info « Add on an optional overflight of the **Northwest Passage** with a landing on **Beechey Island**. Get a bird's eye view of narwhal and bowhead whales en route



Three days of helicopter-supported adventures shuttle you to remote points to start each day's excursion. Trek and bike along the winding caribou trails etched into the tundra and fly fish for Arctic grayling and lake trout in clear cold streams.

We also set off in boats, on foot or in ATVs to visit archaeological sites, search for wildlife and explore the stunning tundra scenery. At day's end you'll sleep well after a sauna by the lake and a hearty feast.

- » when « Five departures from late August – late September 2020
- » price « From **£6,990** per person
- » leader « Local guide
- » Key info « Add on a special 90 minute helicopter experience to view the caribou migration

and stunning flora and fauna of this treeline environment. As well as bears, wolves, wolverines, and eagles, here you'll find some of the best fishing in the Arctic – including grayling, northern pike and lake trout. Your helicopter safari with its bird's eye view of Ennadai's scenery and animals is an unforgettable highlight.

- » when « 12-24 August 2020, 5-18 August 2021
- » price « From **£13,195** per person
- » leader « Local guide
- » Key info « Proper preparation and gear is key. We will provide full details of requirements

## Arctic Haven – autumn Arctic, caribou, wolves and Northern Lights | 10 days

NEW FOR 2020

Observe one of the largest caribou herds in North America as they roam the **Arctic Barrens**. The 250,000 strong **Qamanirjuaq** herd passes by **Arctic Haven** as they migrate between **Baker Lake** and the treeline. Grazing in small groups against the spectacular reds, greens and golds of autumn on the tundra, they may walk within metres of you. With the prospect of seeing the **Northern Lights** this truly is a trip of spectacle.

## Ultimate Arctic expedition | 14 days

NEW FOR 2020

Stay in both **Arctic Watch** and **Arctic Haven** lodges in a single trip to experience the midnight sun and the spectacular **Northern Lights**.

Your first stop is **Somerset Island**, a wildlife photographer's paradise. Go rafting, paddle boarding or kayaking on the **Cunningham River**, visit archaeological sites and spectacular waterfalls and canyons, bike the tundra and fish for Arctic char.

On to **Arctic Haven** at **Ennadai Lake** in the **Barren Grounds** for the caribou. Hike to view the unique

**BEST TIME TO GO:** There's plenty to see and do any time between May and November.

**READ:** *Dead Reckoning: The untold story of the Northwest Passage* by Ken McGoogan.



PHOTOS: Nansen Weber

## Narwhal and polar bear safari | 10 days

NEW FOR 2020

Experience the classic spring floe edge and view polar bears, narwhal and icebergs under the midnight sun. Here at the northern reaches of **Baffin Island**, the sea ice meets the open water, and marine mammals and other wildlife congregate.

Fly in over **Sirmilik National Park** and its stunning landscape of towering granite cliffs, glaciers and icebergs. Stay at our **Premium safari camp** on an Arctic beach with views of **Bylot Island** and access to the national park and the world-renowned floe edge of **Lancaster Sound**. Guided by Inuit, your small group will journey to spot narwhal, seabirds, polar bears and seal. You may also see beluga and bowhead whales.

This is possibly the best place in the Arctic for narwhal watching with added polar bear viewing.

- » when « Numerous departures May/June 2020
- » price « From **£15,975** per person
- » leader « Local guide
- » Key info « Group size 8-16. Accommodation at premium safari yurt-style camp on land







## Introducing two great lodges

### Where the wild meets the refined

New for 2020 – two family-run lodges from which to experience the best of the Arctic, owned by a notable family of polar explorers with 25 years' experience in the polar regions.



### Hudson Bay polar bear migration fly-in safari | 9 days

NEW FOR 2020

An exclusive photography tour in the polar bear capital of the world during their annual migration back to Hudson Bay. Stay in our intimate, remote and rustic private cabin complex for a safari designed to get you close to one of the world's most magnificent predators in their natural habitat.

On the 50-minute flight by private charter from Churchill, Manitoba, a lucky few might get an early chance to photograph its Arctic wildlife from above. The Polar Bear cabins are strategically located in 'polar bear alley' for viewing these animals as they search for the first sea ice forming on the bay. Photograph them at ground level, behind an unobtrusive electric fence, which they are more than likely to wander up to!

- » when « Numerous departures October/November 2020
- » price « From £10,485 per person
- » leader « Local guide
- » Key info « Group size 8 maximum. Accommodation in cosy cabins.



### Polar bears and glaciers of Baffin Island | 10 days

NEW FOR 2020

See majestic Baffin Island polar bears swimming amongst icebergs and possibly even bowhead whales, up-close and in their wild, unspoiled natural habitat. Experience the long, mild days of the Arctic summer and its seemingly endless sunsets. Explore by land and boat, and take in the exceptional beauty of the Baffin Island glacier-capped coastline and Auyuittuq National Park.

- » when « 6-15, 13-22 and 20-29 August 2020
- » price « From £10,845 per person
- » leader « Local guide
- » Key info « Group size 12 maximum. Accommodation at premium safari yurt-style camp on land. Accessed via flight from Ottawa to Iqaluit.



### ARCTIC WATCH WILDERNESS LODGE, NUNAVUT

- » Three hours' flight from Yellowknife, NWT
- » Situated at 800 km north of the Arctic Circle in Cunningham Inlet, Somerset Island, Arctic Watch opens for the 'midnight sun' months of July and August offering comfort and hospitality at 74° north
- » 16 private guest cabins each with a marine WC and basin and private showers in the main complex. Thick duvets and electricity to the cabins from early morning until late
- » The perfect base from which to visit archaeological sites and bird rookeries, hike the Badlands and more
- » Somerset Island is a world-class beluga whale nursery and observation site. Kayak with beluga whales, fish for Arctic char and explore by ATV or river raft
- » Enjoy gourmet Canadian cuisine, locally sourced and organic where possible
- » Relax, socialise or attend a lecture in the Great Room or delve into the extensive library and the artifacts, maps, and 42 million year-old fossils in the interpretive centre.

### ARCTIC HAVEN, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

- » Two hours' flight from Yellowknife, NWT, Arctic Haven sits at 60° north in the barren treeline environment of the shores of Ennadai Lake, on the great annual migration route of the Qamanirjuaq caribou herd
- » Designed to impact minimally on the environmentally fragile area whilst providing guests with high standards and comfort
- » 12 private guest rooms with en-suite bathrooms
- » As well as the caribou the area is home to wolves, wolverines, foxes and birds, grizzly and black bears, tundra swans and eagles. It's perfect for world-class fishing, hiking, kayaking the 84 km long lake, and snowmobiling
- » The lodge offers adventures in the spring (April-June) and in autumn (end of August-September), the perfect time for seeing the Northern Lights
- » Enjoy a Canadian epicurean experience of local Ennadai trout sashimi, tundra blueberry compote, Baffin Bay turbot, Okanagan Valley wines, Alberta organic beef and French Canadian cheeses.

# ARCTIC AND FAR EAST RUSSIA

Bears, snow-capped volcanoes and extraordinary history



*"Had a great time and lots of good memories and photos."* Mrs Elizabeth Smith, Bears, volcanoes, native people, reindeer herders, autumn colours, September 2018

## Bears, volcanoes, native people, reindeer herders, autumn colours | 20 days

We visit many habitats in order to experience **Kamchatka's** richness, diversity and autumn colours, including the central valley with the **Kamchatka River**, **Tolbachik**, **Kzudach**, **Mutnovsky** and **Vachkazhets** volcanoes, **Kurilskoye Lake** and the hot **Khodukta River** in the southern tundra. **Kurilskoye Lake** is one of the best places to see brown bears and **Steller's sea eagles**. Moving around by helicopter and truck we will watch bears feeding on berries and spawning salmon, swim in hot rivers, meet the locals in the settlement of **Esso** and overnight with nomadic reindeer herders in their summer mountain camp.

- » when « 1-20 August 2020, 22 August – 10 September 2020
- » price « £6,830 per person
- » leader « Local English speaking Russian leader
- » key info « Group size 16 maximum. The pace will be leisurely with some tougher optional walks

## Solovetski Islands and the White Sea | 12 days

The **Solovetski Islands**, 150km south of the **Arctic Circle**, were first settled by monks in the 1430s. This **White Sea** archipelago has six large and nearly 100 smaller islands which abound with lakes, wildflowers and nesting birds. In summer, beluga whales gather to calve in the shallow waters.

In the 20th Century, the legendary **Solovetski**



**Monastery** was one of the most feared and infamous prison camps or 'gulags'. You can visit the beautiful cathedral, church, refectory and other buildings enclosed by the great 'kremlin' or fortification now the monks have returned.

Accommodation is in simple family-owned small hotels with delicious food. It's excellent territory for walking in summer.

- » when « 14-25 June 2020 or we can tailor-make to suit
- » price « £2,565 per person
- » leader « Local English speaking Russian leader
- » key info « Group size 6 minimum. Weather can be variable with temperatures ranging from 5-20 degrees C. The pace will be leisurely, easy walking entirely at your discretion



For map of Russian Far East see page 18

The **ARCTIC RUSSIAN** tundra is dotted with countless lakes and pools through which its vast north-flowing rivers wend their way to the Arctic Ocean. Here, in the short intense summer, red-breasted geese, Siberian crane and Ross's gull nest. The ground is bright with wild flowers, and musk oxen, bears, reindeer, lynx, wolverine, wolves and foxes roam.

In the **Kamchatka Peninsula** in **RUSSIA'S FAR EAST** some of the **Itelmen**, **Eveni** and **Koryaks** still live by their traditional ways. Home to Russia's largest brown bear, its rivers teem with salmon and the rugged coastline supports thousands of seabirds as well as seals, sea lions and sea otters. In summer, plants in the valleys grow incredibly fast in the warm rich volcanic soil.



## Active volcanoes of the Kamchatka Peninsula | 19 days

Supported by 4WD vehicle or 6WD truck, you'll travel up, over, and around **Kamchatka's** highest and most active volcanoes, passing along a 1,000 metre high mountain plateau. Walk through the ash-cinder plain from the **Northern Vent** eruption. See the active volcanoes **Mutnovsky**, **Gorely**, **Avachinsky**, **Kluchevskoy** (Eurasia's largest at 4,850 m) and **Tolbachik**, on whose slopes you will camp. In the tundra you should see marmots, ground squirrels, foxes, a great variety of bird life and, of course, bears.

- » when « 8-26 July, 25 July – 12 August 2020
- » price « £4,290 per person
- » leader « Local English speaking Russian leader
- » key info « Group size: maximum 18

**BEST TIME TO GO:** June to September.

**ASK US ABOUT:** Winter adventures – sea eagle and reindeer encounters and dog sledding February – April.

**DID YOU KNOW:** Among the **Solovetski Islands'** more than 170 architectural and archaeological monuments are 33 mysterious stone labyrinths dating back around 3,000 years.

**DON'T MISS:** The exquisite art and architecture of **Moscow** and **St. Petersburg** – a memorable beginning or end to your exploration.



# Voyages THE ARCTIC

A wilderness of drama enticing you northwards

Several of our voyages concentrate on **Spitsbergen**. Meaning 'pointed mountains' it's an evocative name for the largest island of the **Svalbard Archipelago**, 1,300km from the **North Pole**, where snowy peaks rise majestically through huge ice-caps, glaciers crawl down valleys to the sea and sparkling ice walls enclose deep fjords.

Being part of the largest protected area of land in the world, **East Greenland** is little visited. Our voyages explore the beautiful fjord system of **Scoresby Sund** and the spectacular south east coast, as well as the glorious shores of **West Greenland**. Towards the end of the Arctic summer the tundra vibrates with autumn colours and there is an excellent chance of seeing the **Northern Lights**.

We also sail to the **British Isles, Scotland, Iceland, Russia** and the **Canadian and High Arctic**.

## NEW FOR 2020

- » **Ocean Adventurer** explores **Spitsbergen** via the **Faroes** and **Jan Mayen** from **Aberdeen** in early May 2020. She retraces her steps in August 2020 ending in **Greenland** and **Iceland**.
- » **Greg Mortimer** explores **West Greenland** and the **Inuit Arctic** in May and September 2020 respectively
- » **Greg Mortimer** sails **Iceland** via **Jan Mayen** to **Spitsbergen** in June 2020
- » **Mighty St Lawrence** is back! Join **Ocean Endeavour** in June 2020
- » Join **RCGS Resolute's** early season sailing from **Edinburgh** to **Iceland** via the **Faroes**
- » Explore **Atlantic Canada** aboard **Ocean Endeavour** in June 2020. In July she goes to the **Heart of the Arctic**
- » Visit the remote **Russian Archipelago of Severnaya Zemlya** with **Ocean Adventurer** in July 2020
- » **Ortelius** has a new **East Spitsbergen Arctic academy** voyage in August 2020
- » **Essential Greenland – Southern Coast and Disko Bay** – new for **Ocean Adventurer** in August 2020.
- » **Spitsbergen, Greenland and Iceland** are targeted by **Sea Spirit** in August 2020
- » **Arctic discovery** from **Spitsbergen** to **Bergen** in August 2020 on **Greg Mortimer**
- » Ever popular **Scoresbysund – Aurora Borealis** returns with **Hondius** and **Plancius** in September 2020
- » **World Explorer** is **Exploring Iceland and East Greenland** – two weeks in September 2020
- » Join **Ocean Adventurer** for **Best of Western Arctic – Greenland and Baffin** in September 2020
- » **Noorderlicht** has a new **Isfjorden** sailing in September/October 2020



# BRITISH ISLES, SCOTLAND, ARCTIC NORWAY AND ICELAND

The islands of the ARCTIC OCEAN exert a captivating lure. The **British Isles** and **Scotland** offer Stone Age, Viking and Celtic history, while at the edge of the **Arctic Circle**, mythical **Iceland** is still being shaped by fire and ice. **Norway's Jan Mayen Island** is a pristine volcanic wilderness where whales are sometimes seen. Further north, the **Svalbard Archipelago** is a theatre of wildlife against a fjord backdrop, in stark contrast to remote and forbidding **Franz Josef Land**.

## Timeless traditions and a profusion of whales and seabirds

### The British Isles | 13 days

We're very excited about this voyage, which sets off from our local port city of **Plymouth** and sails west to **Tresco** in the **Scilly Isles**, **Ireland's Skellig Isles** and **Llandudno** on the north coast of **Wales** before re-crossing the **Irish Sea** to **Northern Ireland** for the **Giants Causeway**. It takes in the **Inner and Outer Hebrides** including remote and storm ravaged **St Kilda**, the **Orkneys**, **Shetlands** and **Bass Rock** which hosts over 150,000 northern gannets in the breeding season. Disembark in **Edinburgh**.

- » ship « **Sea Spirit**
- » when « 8-20 May 2020
- » guide price « **£5,880** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 July 2019

### Fair Isle, Faroes, Jan Mayen, Spitsbergen | 12 days

Departing from **Edinburgh** bound for the **Orkneys**, **Fair Isle** and the **Shetland Islands** we then spend a day in **Torshavn, Faroe Islands**. The rarely visited volcanic island of **Jan Mayen** is a highlight before four glorious days exploring the bountiful wildlife and deep fjords of **west Spitsbergen**.

- » ship « **Sea Spirit**
- » when « 21 May – 1 June 2020
- » guide price « **£5,295** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 July 2019

#### » OPTIONS «

**Greg Mortimer** offers a similar voyage starting in **Iceland** 11-22 June 2020 guide price **£5,695** per person

### Arctic saga – exploring Spitsbergen via the Faroes and Jan Mayen | 14 days

NEW VOYAGE

Travel in midnight sunlight to some of the most remote islands on the planet, which only a handful of adventurers have ever explored. Sailing across the **North Atlantic**, immerse yourself in the region's rugged beauty and whaling and Viking history, with visits to the awe-inspiring and unspoiled **Fair Isle**, the **Faroe Islands**, **Jan Mayen** and **Spitsbergen**. Towering fjords, massive glaciers, soaring sea stacks

and coastal cliffs teem with thousands of seabirds, such as the **Atlantic puffin**. There's an astonishing diversity of wildlife from **Svalbard** reindeer to dolphins, seals and whales and continuous daylight for part of the voyage optimises your chances to spot them in their natural habitat - day or night!

- » ship « **Ocean Adventurer**
- » when « 30 April – 13 May 2020
- » guide price « **£5,350** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

#### » OPTIONS «

The ship retraces her route back: **Four Arctic islands to Jan Mayen** and then on to **Greenland** and **Iceland** in August 2020.

### Scotland, Faroe Islands and Iceland | 12 days

NEW VOYAGE

Follow in the footsteps of Vikings and Gaels and explore the dramatic islands of the **North Atlantic**. Explore the dramatic coastlines of **Scotland**, the **Faroe Islands** and **Iceland** and their ancient history. Leaving **Leith, Edinburgh**, we head for an archipelago in the middle of the **North Atlantic**, the **Faroes** – some of the more remote, inhabited islands in the world. Our last stop on our **North Atlantic** adventure takes us to **Iceland's** ice-covered volcanoes, immense glaciers and geothermal lagoons. Each day we explore off the ship in the company of expert guides, cruising in **Zodiacs** and enjoying walks on shore.

- » ship « **RCGS Resolute**
- » when « 13-24 June 2020
- » guide price « **£6,495** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

#### » OPTIONS «

Pre-join in **Dublin** on 6 June 2020 for a **Scotland** and **Ireland** golf expedition

### North/around Spitsbergen | 9-11 days

We head up the west coast of **Spitsbergen** to **Ny Ålesund**, the world's most northerly settlement. Depending on weather, we may go ashore on **Andøya** where common eiders and pink-footed geese nest, and sail into **Liefdefjorden**, cruising near the 5km long face of the **Monaco Glacier**. We continue into the **Hinlopen Strait**, to attempt a

landing at **Nord Austlandet**. On to **Phippsøya** and, pack ice conditions permitting, to **Laagøya**, a low island where walrus congregate. We'll navigate the ice floes of **Lomfjordshalvøya** by **Zodiacs** and explore the bird cliffs. We plan to visit an old trapper's hut on **Barentsøya**, then on south to **Edgeøya** and the spectacular **Hornsund** area. Depending on ice conditions, early season voyages may only cover the west side.

- » ships « **Hondius, Ortelius, Plancius**
- » when « Departures May – August 2020
- » guide price range « From **£4,175 – £6,675** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

#### » OPTIONS «

June voyages are designated as polar bear and pack ice specials. Look out for August voyages – three extending as far as **Kvitøya** and four heading **82 degrees North**

### East Spitsbergen – Arctic academy | 11 days

NEW VOYAGE

For this unique research voyage organised by the **University of Groningen** we are joined by a group of scientists who will follow-up on investigations which Dutch researchers began on **Edgeøya** in the 20th century. Share in the experiences of the scientists and join some extended walks to special places of interest on the island.

- » ship « **Ortelius**
- » when « 2-12 August 2020
- » guide price « **£6,675** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### West Spitsbergen and Polar Ice Edge | 9 days

The frozen wilderness of **Spitsbergen** is both a place of precarious beauty and a refuge for endangered Arctic wildlife.

This expedition departs from **Longyearbyen** and explores **Spitsbergen's** dramatic north western mountain coastline and tidewater glaciers providing some of the **Arctic's** best wildlife viewing opportunities. We'll venture to the edge of the north polar ice cap in search of polar bears stalking their prey.

- » ship « **Sea Spirit**
- » when « 31 May – 8 June, 7-15 June, 14-22 June 2020
- » guide price « **£6,785** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 July 2019

## Spitsbergen encounter – Norwegian Arctic with photography symposium

| 11 days

Formerly a whaling base, the Svalbard archipelago offers fabulous opportunities to capture on camera its prolific breeding seabirds, marine mammals and the icon of the Arctic, its polar bear.

You'll enjoy presentations by polar experts as well as help from a team of highly experienced photographers to improve your camera skills. Up to five professional photographer mentors offer one-on-one support and personal photographic critique. The symposium caters for all skill levels and camera types, it's optional and no extra charges apply.

- » ship « **RCGS Resolute**
- » when « 27 June – 7 July 2020
- » guide price « **£8,985** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### » OPTIONS «

For those wanting a more in depth experience without photography, try RCGS Resolute's **Spitsbergen explorer 6-18 July 2020**. Price from **£10,785** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Svalbard odyssey

| 12 days

NEW VOYAGE

Revel in the diversity of Svalbard's coastline against a backdrop of spectacular glacier covered peaks. We'll discover deep fjords in the west, fossil-rich desert plains in the east and seals and whales in the Arctic pack ice. There's an excellent chance of seeing reindeer and polar bears, with wildflower walks across sweeping tundra, trapper camps and historic sites. Visit abandoned whaling settlements, search for walrus and arctic fox and observe millions of migratory birds, including little auks, guillemots and puffin.

- » ship « **Greg Mortimer**
- » when « 21 June – 2 July, 1-12 July 2020, 20-31 August 2020
- » guide price « **£5,995** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### » OPTIONS «

**Ocean Adventurer** and **World Explorer** offer a two week **Spitsbergen in depth** voyage June/July 2020. Price from **£8,895** per person

## Iceland circumnavigation

| 11 days

NEW VOYAGE

Remote and volcanic, Iceland has other-worldly landscapes, fascinating culture and history and friendly people. Mostly uninhabited, its terrain consists largely of plateaux, mountain peaks, and fertile lowlands characterised by volcanoes, thundering waterfalls, geysers, geothermal hot



# NORTH POLE

Epic voyages crashing through the ice

springs, black sand beaches, bubbling mud pools and lava fields.

We'll spot whales in **Húsavík** and kayak, hike and birdwatch in the remote and pristine **Westfjords**. In **Vatnajökull National Park** you'll see Europe's largest glacier, glacial lagoons, black sand beaches and colourful mountains, diverse birdlife, reindeer and seals. On **Heimay** in the **Westman Islands**, we see the remnants of houses buried by the 1973 volcanic eruption of **Mount Eldfell**. The area around **Lake Mývatn** is said to be the most geologically active in Iceland. This itinerary makes a number of shore excursions inland by coach.

- » ship « **Greg Mortimer**
- » when « 2-12 June 2020
- » guide price « **£6,570** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## High Arctic odyssey – remote Russian archipelagos, Severnaya Zemlya | 22 days

NEW VOYAGE

Explore the most enigmatic and extreme regions of the **Russian High Arctic** steeped in polar history. You'll discover breathtaking ice-draped coastlines rarely visited by even the most intrepid adventurers. We spend time in these pristine places, from the heavily glaciated **Novaya Zemlya** and **Franz Josef Land** to the isolated islands of the icy **Kara Sea**, increasing your chances of wildlife encounters. If weather and ice conditions allow, we will explore **Severnaya Zemlya**, the last major territorial discovery on the planet.

- » ship « **Ocean Adventurer**
- » when « 22 July – 12 August 2020
- » guide price « **£15,125** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## The North Pole ultimate Arctic adventure by icebreaker | 15 days

Our adventure starts in **Murmansk, Russia** where you embark the nuclear-powered icebreaker **50 Years of Victory** to smash through the frozen **Arctic Ocean** to the geographic **North Pole**.

In addition to the excitement of cruising on a powerful Russian icebreaker with its own on-board helicopter, the incredible staff who will be guiding you and the thrill of standing at the top of the world, you'll explore the rarely visited Russian Arctic archipelago of **Franz Josef Land**. An extraordinary voyage on a unique ship.

- » ship « Nuclear powered icebreaker **50 Years of Victory** with onboard helicopter
- » when « 22 July – 5 August, 2-16 August 2020
- » guide price « **£25,600** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 July 2019

## Franz Josef Land archipelago | 14 days

**Franz Josef Land** in **Russia's** far north is the world's northernmost archipelago. Discovered less than 150 years ago, it comprises 192 islands rich in birdlife, walrus, polar bear, seal, arctic fox and beluga whales. Now within the **Russian Arctic National Park** administration, this seldom visited landscape is dotted with relics of past exploration and we spend seven extraordinary days here. A very good option for the experienced polar voyager seeking new experiences.

- » ship « **Sea Spirit**
- » when « 1-14 August, 13-26 August 2020
- » guide price « From **£10,995** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 July 2019

### » OPTIONS «

**Ocean Adventurer** operates a **Franz Josef Land** and **Novaya Zemlya** expedition in the **Russian High Arctic** 9-24 July 2020 utilising a charter flight between **Helsinki** and **Murmansk**. Guide price **£10,195** per person



For map of Spitsbergen see page 14

# SAIL NORWAY, SPITSBERGEN AND GREENLAND

Combine the excitement of sailing with wildlife and the fascinating history of Arctic exploration and whaling

## Sail North Spitsbergen | 9-12 days

Explore historic **Longyearbyen** before joining this expedition cruise to the island's north. Fantastically beautiful landscapes, seabirds and polar bear are the stars of this show. **Raudfjorden**, on the north coast, is an expansive fjord spilling with glaciers. Depending on weather we may sail into **Liefdefjorden** and cruise within sight of the 5km face of the precipitous **Monaco Glacier**. **Hinlopen Strait** is home to bearded and ringed seals and polar bears. We'll Zodiac cruise the bird cliffs of **Alkefjellet** and may land on **Nordauslandet** on the east side of the strait to spot reindeer, pink-footed geese, and walrus.

We will try to reach the **Seven Islands** at 80° north, just 870km from the geographic **North Pole** and park the ship in the pack ice to watch polar bears before retracing our route west, keeping watch for elusive Greenland (bowhead) and minke whales. Walrus sometimes haul out in **Forlandsundet**, the next stop. We might sail into **St. Johns Fjord** or south to the mouth of **Isfjorden**, landing at **Alkhornet** where seabirds nest on the cliffs and Arctic foxes search below for fallen eggs and chicks whilst reindeer graze.

- » ship « **Noorderlicht, Rembrandt Van Rijn**
- » when « Numerous departures May – June 2020
- » guide price « From **£3,395** per person based on twin cabin (shared/private facilities respectively)

### » OPTIONS «

Try our early Spring/Easter special **North Spitsbergen** departures in April on **Noorderlicht**. **Noorderlicht** will try to **Circumnavigate Spitsbergen** in 17 days 22 Aug – 7 Sept 2020. Three **Central Spitsbergen** voyages in September 2020 on **Noorderlicht** are ideal for observing the **Northern Lights**. Ask about the ski/sail/hike options on **Noorderlicht** and **Rembrandt Van Rijn**.

## Sail North Norway – Aurora Borealis and whales | 8 days

This **North Norway** cruise follows the path of several species of whale as we travel among the fjords of **Tromsø**. There are good hiking opportunities by day and the long nights offer an excellent chance to take in the wonder of the **Northern Lights**. You might circumnavigate **Senja** and sail to the small island of **Sommarøy**. The itinerary depends on weather conditions, daylight hours and the anticipated location of the whales, but you will spend the next several days along the north coasts of **Senja** and **Andfjorden**, areas where

many whale species (including sperm whales) have been spotted in recent years. Near **Andenes** whales dive particularly deep to feed on giant squid along the edge of the **Continental Shelf**. You may well see resident white-tailed eagles, one of the largest birds in Europe, as they too want their share in the herring frenzy.

- » ship « **Noorderlicht, Rembrandt Van Rijn**
- » when « Numerous departures January – April and November – December 2020
- » guide price « From **£2,255** per person based on twin cabin (shared/private facilities respectively)

## Sail Spitsbergen Northeast Greenland | 21 days

Setting off from **Spitsbergen**, at **Trygghamna** we walk to **Alkhornet**, a large seabird cliff where the birds are scouting out breeding places. Heading north we try to spy polar bear at **Raudfjorden** on the north coast of Spitsbergen. From here the ship crosses to **Greenland** heading for **Foster Bay**, and a first landing at **Myggbukta**. Beyond the old hunters' hut musk oxen populate the sprawling tundra, with geese on its small lakes. We sail through **Kaiser Franz Josef Fjord** and into the **Antarctic Sound**. Heading down the coast, we make for **Scoresbysund** for a Zodiac cruise through icebergs past one of the many glacier fronts. After some final hiking at **Ittoqqortoormiit** we land at the airfield on **Constable Pynt** for the chartered plane to **Reykjavik**.

- » ship « **Rembrandt Van Rijn**
- » when « 27 July – 16 August 2020
- » guide price « **£8,380** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Isfjorden sailing adventure | 9 days

Embark in **Longyearbyen** for a scenic exploration of the deep Arctic on an historic sailing vessel, visiting the mountain-fringed bay of **Trygghamna**, the jagged blue glacier front at **Borebukta** and the icy panorama of **Isfjord**, **Svalbard's** second largest fjord. Look forward to Russian ghost towns, geological wonders and wintry shorelines sparkling under the eerie green auroras of the **Northern Lights**.

- » ship « **Noorderlicht**
- » when « 27 September – 5 October, 4-12 October 2020
- » guide price « **£3,340** per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)

PHOTOS: Jan Belgers, Oceanwide Expeditions

## Spitsbergen and North East Greenland | 16 days

Between the high ice-cap of **North East Greenland** and the sea is a vegetation-rich strip of low country, that supports much wildlife. Some **Ittoqqortoormiit** people still make a living hunting polar bears, musk oxen, seals, whales and seabirds.

Crossing from **Spitsbergen** we keep watch for fin, humpback and minke whales and approach **East Greenland**, landing at **Myggebugten**. Moving south to **Scoresby Sund** we land near a glacier and encounter huge icebergs before disembarking in **Akureyri** in **North Iceland**.

- » ship « **Plancius**
- » when « 30 August – 14 September 2020
- » guide price « **£8,590** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Scoresby Sund Aurora Borealis | 10 days

NEW VOYAGE

By early autumn the ice floes have usually dispersed giving access to the fjords of **East Greenland**, the world's largest and deepest fjord system. The days are still long but temperatures can drop below freezing and the stark ice contrasts with the rich colours of the tundra. We visit a modern settlement and witness traditional Greenlandic culture. You can hope to see huge icebergs, birds moving south on migration, musk oxen, seals and on clear nights the **Aurora Borealis**.

- » ship « **Hondius, Plancius**
- » when « 13-22 and 12-21 September 2020
- » guide price « **£5,470** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### » OPTIONS «

**World Explorer** is **Exploring Iceland and East Greenland** – two weeks in September 2020

## East Greenland | 11 days

This memorable voyage starts and finishes in **Reykjavik, Iceland**. We cross the **Denmark Strait** to explore the wilderness of **East Greenland's** stunning **Scoresby Sund** fjord complex. We'll discover historic sites and a contemporary Inuit village and encounter massive icebergs.

On our return journey we explore **Ísafjörður** in **Iceland's Westfjords**. Each night brings another excellent chance to experience the mesmerising **Northern Lights**.

- » ship « **Sea Spirit**
- » when « 15-25 September 2020
- » guide price « **£6,870** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 July 2019



For map of Greenland see page 7





# GREENLAND

Awesome glaciers, icy fjords and Inuit communities

## West Greenland explorer

| 13 days

NEW VOYAGE

An adventure filled with thrilling Zodiac cruises along ice-filled fjords and friendly Inuit locals living in some of the world's most remote and harsh environments. Greenland's capital, Nuuk, is an Arctic metropolis with a small-town feel – marvel at the mummies and learn about Inuit culture at its excellent museums. Hike with stunning vistas of icebergs or kayak across waters teeming with whales amid towering fjords. By May there will be nearly 24 hours of daylight and the great melt will be well underway. It's a perfect time for whale and bird watching as parents feed their young, the sea ice starts to break up and green mosses and the occasional flowers begin to bloom as the snow melts away.

- » ship « Greg Mortimer
- » when « 17-29 May 2020
- » guide price « £7,995 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Inuit Arctic and beyond

| 23 days

NEW VOYAGE

This Iceland, South Greenland and East Coast Canada adventure reveals some of the most splendid scenery in remote South Greenland. Encounter Inuit communities whose cultures have remained largely unchanged for tens of thousands of years and discover the Torngat Mountains, home to polar bears and caribou. At L'anse Aux Meadows, visit the remains of 11th-century Viking settlement. In mid-autumn the dark night sky may well reward you with a dazzling display of the *Aurora Borealis*.

- » ship « Greg Mortimer
- » when « 23 September – 15 October 2020
- » guide price « £10,745 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Spitsbergen, Greenland and Iceland | 14 days

NEW VOYAGE

The exact route and exploration opportunities of this expedition voyage will depend on the weather and sea ice. We will aim to explore north western Spitsbergen with the archipelago's impressive

scenery of deep fjords and jagged snowy peaks with some of the Arctic's best wildlife viewing opportunities – a great variety of marine mammals, and polar bears are frequently spotted. Ny Ålesund, a former mining town, is now home to an international community of Arctic researchers.

In East Greenland we head into the vast Franz Josef Fjord and King Oscar Fjord systems – part of the huge Northeast Greenland National Park. Scoresby Sund is the largest and longest fjord system in the world, with colossal icebergs that float with wind and tide, while musk oxen and Arctic hare thrive onshore on the tundra. See ancient Thule archaeological sites, historic trappers' huts, and modern Inuit hunters' cabins. Ittoqqortoormiit has an excellent museum, an abundance of Greenlandic sled dogs and a welcoming face.

We'll end at Iceland's Snæfellsnes Peninsula with its famous volcano, picturesque Kirkjufell mountain and the rich cultural and literary history evident in the local fishing villages.

- » ship « Sea Spirit
- » when « 25 August – 7 September 2020
- » guide price « £9,745 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 July 2019

## Best of the Western Arctic, Greenland and Baffin

| 20 days

NEW VOYAGE

Visit local communities living far above the Arctic Circle where the sun never sets and polar bears roam, exploring the northerly shores of Canada's Baffin Island and the western coast of Greenland. Zodiac cruising gives you an awe-inspiring perspective on icebergs, glaciers and fjords, while the local people welcome you into their traditional and modern ways of life. The soaring cliffs of Sam Ford Fjord and the icebergs dotting Ilulissat Icefjord are an awesome sight and with luck you may spot whales or polar bear.

- » ship « Ocean Adventurer
- » when « 10-29 September 2020
- » guide price « £13,175 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Essential Greenland, South coast and Disko Bay

NEW VOYAGE

| 15 days

An in-depth exploration of one of Greenland's most remote areas. Cruise around this rugged yet enchanting island, sailing from the icy waters of the little-visited east coast, down to the lush southern tip and up to the charming communities and glaciers of the west coast. Each visit to the picturesque villages and Norse ruins dotting the shoreline gives you greater insight into Greenland's distinct culture and history.

- » ship « Ocean Adventurer
- » when « 29 August – 12 September 2020
- » guide price « £9,485 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Three Arctic islands – triple the adventure | 16 days

This award-winning expedition voyage takes you high above the Arctic Circle in Spitsbergen to north east Greenland and across to Iceland. Icy fjords, rugged coastlines and massive glaciers will astound and you'll see plenty of Arctic wildlife, including musk oxen, polar bears, walrus and seals. Embark the ship in Spitsbergen and disembark in Reykjavik or vice versa.

- » ship « World Explorer
- » when « 11-26 August, 24 August – 8 Sept 2020
- » guide price « From £13,570 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Jewels of the Arctic | 17 days

Keep your eyes peeled for whales and sea birds as you cruise the icy waters of the Greenland Sea between Iceland and Spitsbergen on this popular annual voyage out of Kirkenes, Northern Norway. Zodiac cruise amongst gigantic icebergs, walk in the gorgeous tundra and spot Arctic foxes, musk ox, walrus and polar bears. Inuit communities will make you feel at home at their small permanent settlement, Ittoqqortoormiit.

- » ship « Greg Mortimer
- » when « 25 July – 10 August 2020
- » guide price « From £7,395 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### » OPTIONS «

She also has a 23 day Arctic complete voyage – combining Iceland and Greenland with a circumnavigation of Spitsbergen 9-31 August 2020. Price guide £10,995 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Arctic discovery

| 22 days

NEW VOYAGE

Combine wilderness with urbanity for a genuine glimpse of life in the Arctic. We spend several days in Spitsbergen before crossing the pack ice of the Greenland Sea towards East Greenland National Park. Possible landings include Kaiser Franz Josef Fjord, Kap Humboldt and King Oscar Fjord and further south, Scoresbysund, Røde Ø and Ittoqqortoormiit. En route to the Lofoten Islands we'll attempt to land on remote, mist-shrouded, volcanic Jan Mayen – the northernmost island on the mid-Atlantic rift. Weather permitting, we cruise around Runde Island, Norway's largest bird sanctuary, before disembarking in Bergen.

- » ship « Greg Mortimer
- » when « 30 August – 20 Sept 2020
- » guide price « £10,065 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)



PHOTOS: Poseidon Expeditions; Acacia Johnson, Quark Expeditions



Iconic territories, welcoming people,  
polar history and cliffs teeming with birds

# CANADIAN AND HIGH ARCTIC

## Mighty St. Lawrence

| 14 days

NEW  
VOYAGE

The **Gulf of St. Lawrence** is the gateway to **Canada's** history. On this voyage, we'll tour three provinces and the French island of **Saint-Pierre**. Your multilingual guides love to share culture, with Mi'kmaq, Algonquin, Québécois, Acadian, English, and Scots influences all on board. Springtime in the Gulf is brilliant for birds and whales. World-famous **Percé Rock**, stunning **Saguenay Fjord**, and **Newfoundland's** south coast offer a stunning backdrop.

- » ship « **Ocean Endeavour**
- » when « 4-17 June 2020
- » guide price « **£6,925** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 October 2019

## Atlantic Canada explorer

| 16 days

NEW  
VOYAGE

Explore **Newfoundland**, **Nova Scotia**, **New Brunswick**, and **Saint-Pierre** in springtime when, warmed by the waters of the **Gulf Stream**, **Canada's** east coast comes alive. Centuries of overlapping culture – Mi'kmaq, Acadian, English, Scottish, Irish, and French – have left their mark on the landscapes here. With expedition stops in **Newfoundland**, **Cape Breton**, **Nova Scotia's** south coast and the **Fundy Isles**, every stop is a highlight.

- » ship « **Ocean Endeavour**
- » when « 13-28 June 2020
- » guide price « **£7,275** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 October 2019



## Greenland and wild Labrador | 19 days

Crossing the **Arctic Circle** this sailing covers over 2,200 nautical miles from **Sondre Stromfjord** in **Greenland** all the way to **St. John's**, capital of **Newfoundland and Labrador**.

On **Greenland's** west coast we call in at **Nuuk**, and explore one of the area's fjords. Across the **Davis Strait** in **Canada**, we visit the pristine **Torngat Mountains National Park**, staffed by Inuit, and make daily Zodiac expeditions and excursions, searching for polar and black bear along **Northern Labrador's** coastline.

Moving south, we'll visit the **Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve**. Crossing the **Strait of Belle Isle** we'll pay our respects to the Viking visitors at **L'Anse aux Meadows** and explore **Terra Nova National Park** before ending at historic **St. John's**.

- » ship « **Ocean Endeavour**
- » when « 21 September – 9 October 2020
- » guide price « **£10,325** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 October 2019

## Newfoundland circumnavigation

| 15 days

Daily excursions give the chance to experience the excellent hiking, wildlife, scenery and hospitality of **Canada's** newest province. **Newfoundland** is full of unexpected delights such as **Gros Morne** where the Earth's mantle protrudes through the crust, **Red Bay** where Basque whalers once plied their trade and



**L'Anse aux Meadows** where Vikings established a base. The French island of **Saint-Pierre** is a taste of Europe and **Miawpukek First Nation's** thriving community offers a warm welcome.

- » ship « **Ocean Endeavour**
- » when « 24 June – 8 July 2020
- » guide price « **£7,330** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 October 2019

**MUST READ:** *Finding Franklin*  
by Russell Potter







## Heart of the Arctic

| 17 days

NEW VOYAGE

Journey with scientists, historians and Inuit artists to the heart of the Arctic. You'll explore the deep fjords and vibrant communities of **Greenland**, cross the **Davis Strait** in the wake of past explorers and meet the artists of **South Baffin Island's** Inuit famous art-making communities. Explore **Nunavik**, the Arctic coast of **Quebec** and board a Zodiac in search of whales, birds, bears and caribou.

- » ship « **Ocean Endeavour**
- » when « 17 July – 2 August 2020
- » guide price « **£9,960** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 October 2019

## Into the Northwest Passage | 21 days

The **Northwest Passage** is the pinnacle of Arctic exploration. Hugging **Greenland's** **Sisimiut** coast on the look-out for whales, we stop at **Ilulissat** to cruise among its icebergs by Zodiac.

From **Greenland** we cross **Davis Strait** to visit **Qikiqtarjuaq**, the iceberg capital of **Nunavut**, and pay respects at the **Franklin Expedition** graves at **Beechey Island**. **Devon Island** offers opportunities to spot Peary caribou, polar bear, walrus, and muskoxen. **Parry Channel** and **Peel Sound** afford a passage to **Queen Maude Gulf** and onward to **Kugluktuk (Coppermine)**.

- » ship « **Ocean Endeavour**
- » when « 20 August – 9 September 2020
- » guide price « **£15,525** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 October 2019

## Out of the Northwest Passage

| 21 days

In **Canada's** vast northern wilderness wildlife roams and the recent findings of **Franklin's** ships, **HMS Erebus** and **HMS Terror** remind us that history and legends are still being made. **Nunavut's** communities are a compelling blend of the traditional and the contemporary. Reversing our **Into the Northwest Passage** itinerary, we make our way north to **Smith Sound**. Here we enter a realm still defined by ice, while **Greenland** offers geology, geography and culture.

- » ship « **Ocean Endeavour**
- » when « 5-25 September 2020
- » guide price « From **£15,525** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 October 2019

### » OPTIONS «

**Classic North West Passage West and East** on **RCGS Resolute** plys the route between **Kangerlussuaq** and **Cambridge Bay** 16 August – 1 September and 28 August – 13 September 2020. Guide price: **£17,195** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## High Arctic explorer | 16 days

Enjoy the best of **Nunavut** and **Greenland** at the height of summer, journeying in comfort from **Qausuittuq (Resolute Bay)**, **Nunavut**, to **Kangerlussuaq**, **Greenland**.

Explore **Tallurutiup Imanga** marine protected area, visit the **Franklin** graves on **Beechey Island** and experience an Inuit welcome in **Mittimatalik**



(**Pond Inlet**). Across **Baffin Bay** lies the sublime **Greenland** coast and the town of **Ilulissat** which offers cafes, hiking, and handicrafts. **Ilulissat Icefjord** is a massive collection of icebergs that have calved from the **Sermeq Kujalleq** glacier over time. It is one of the northernmost **UNESCO World Heritage Sites** and where you will find the mighty **Jakobshavn**, the world's fastest moving glacier.

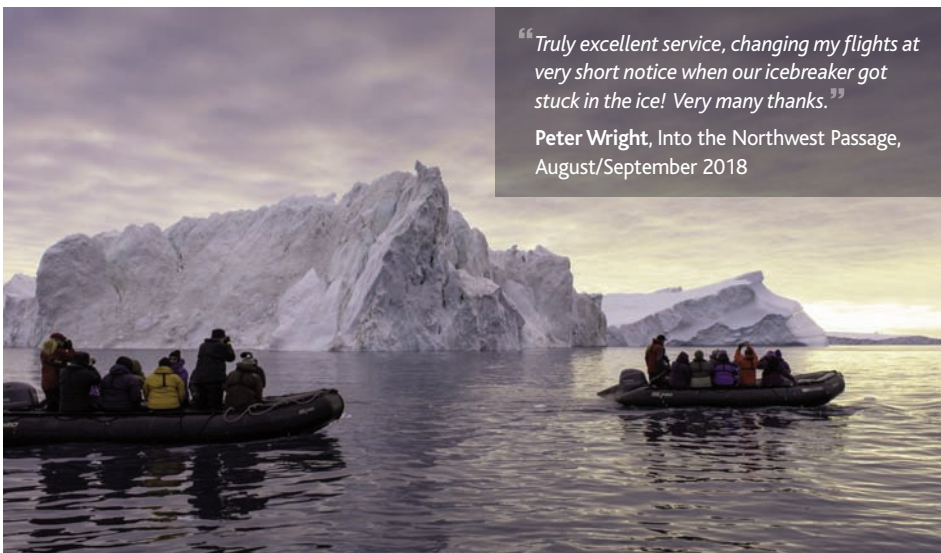
- » ship « **Ocean Endeavour**
- » when « 29 July – 13 August 2020  
The voyage operates in reverse 9-24 August 2020
- » guide price « **£12,115** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities) if booked before 31 October 2019

## Labrador, Torngats and West Greenland | 16 days

This voyage links historic locations on **Canada's** east coast with **Greenland's** spectacular west coast, including a Viking settlement, remote mission locations and isolated fishing ports.

From the historic port town of **Louisbourg, Nova Scotia**, we journey northwards, encountering the **Nunatsiavut** people in small settlements along the **Labrador** coastline, learning about their strong cultural and spiritual connections to this land. **Torngat Mountains National Park** shows off the highest peaks in **Canada** east of **The Rockies** before we cross the **Davis Strait** to **Nuuk** and a thrilling walk on the **Greenland** ice cap.

- » ship « **RCGS Resolute**
- » when « 5-20 August 2020
- » guide price « From **£8,095** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)



*"Truly excellent service, changing my flights at very short notice when our icebreaker got stuck in the ice! Very many thanks."*

**Peter Wright**, Into the Northwest Passage, August/September 2018

PHOTOS: Dennis Minty, Scott Forsyth, Clayton Anderson

# ARCTIC AND FAR EAST RUSSIA



Volcanoes, geysers,  
vibrant tundra,  
fast flowing rivers  
and rugged coasts



RUSSIAN FAR EAST

## The Northern Sea Route | 30 days

NEW VOYAGE

Russia controls one of the greatest seaways in the world, the **Northern Sea Route** or **Northeast Passage**. Only a handful of expedition vessels have ever transited this seaway connecting the Atlantic and Pacific oceans but recent changes in the summer sea ice conditions now make this possible for a brief time each summer. In 2017, a double transit was successfully made and a couple of our intrepid clients undertook part of this journey. We're proud to be offering this again in 2020. Join us to explore the history and development of the route and the many islands along the way.

It wasn't until 1878-1880 that Swedish explorer **Adolf Erik Nordenskiöld** completed the first ever full transit. In 1914-15 **Imperial Russian Navy** icebreakers made the second transit to make the seaway navigable for strategic use. From the 1930s a number of polar research and weather stations were established along the route and large convoys of **Soviet** ships (assisted by powerful icebreakers) used it to carry much needed supplies to **Eastern Russia** before the collapse of the Soviet Union in the early 1990s.

» ship « **Spirit of Enderby**  
» when « 25 July – 23 August 2020 (westbound),  
21 August – 19 September 2020 (eastbound)

» guide price « **£20,550** per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)

## Sea of Okhotsk | 16 days

A seldom visited region which will appeal to the inquisitive and adventurous traveller. The **Sea of Okhotsk** saw human suffering and misery on an unthinkable scale with the transportation of over three million prisoners across to the **Gulags** of the **Kolyma Goldfields** in the mid-20th century. Its upper regions remain frozen for much of the year and winter storms make it an inhospitable place. Miraculously the wildlife thrives, including rare and beautifully marked **ribbon seals** and some of the largest concentrations of northern fur seals and the majestic **Steller's sea eagle** in the **Russian Far East**.

» ship « **Spirit of Enderby**  
» when « 6-21 June 2020  
» guide price « **£9,495** per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)

## Siberia's forgotten coast | 18 days

Siberia's eastern coastline is one of the least visited parts of the world. Stalin encouraged economic development in this part of the **Soviet Union** but as the iron curtain was drawn and the Cold War escalated, it became forbidden territory and travel was strictly controlled. Twenty five years on, travel is still heavily regulated and there is little infrastructure.

Dominated by the volcanoes of **Kamchatka** in the south, the fjords of the former **Koryak** region and the rich estuarine areas and tundra of **Chukotka**, the remote eastern coastline of Siberia has a huge diversity of habitats and wildlife. One of its most iconic endemic species is the critically endangered **spoon-billed sandpiper**. This expedition supports the work of research teams involved with this species and the monitoring of other seabirds and waders.

» ship « **Spirit of Enderby**  
» when « 20 June – 7 July 2020  
» guide price « **£10,670** per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)

## Russia's Ring of Fire cruise | 17 days

This voyage explores the **Commander Islands**, the **Kuril Islands** and the **Kamchatka Peninsula**. Learn about the intriguing history and spectacular wildlife of this area where the seas abound with many species of seabirds and cetaceans.

» ship « **Spirit of Enderby**  
» when « 24 May – 9 June 2020  
» guide price « **£9,825** per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)



## Across the top of the world – Wrangel Island | 19 days

Journey by iconic icebreaker through the **Bering Strait** and spend four to five days with local rangers around secluded **Wrangel Island**, where polar bears breed. We will also look out for Pacific walrus, gray whales, reindeer, musk oxen and snow geese. This isolated nature reserve is a delight for wilderness seekers.

Ask for details of the Wrangel overland traverse – an optional three days crossing the island.

» ship « **Kapitan Khlebnikov**  
» when « 3-21 July, 17 July – 4 August,  
31 July – 18 August, 14 August –  
1 September 2020

» guide price « **£14,995** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities), **£1,185** per person for the overland **Wrangel Island** traverse



PHOTOS: Katya Ovsyanikova, M Kelly, Lisle Gwynn, Katya Ovsyanikova, Heritage Expeditions

# Voyages THE ANTARCTIC

Kingdom of penguins

## NEW FOR 2020-21

- » The **Complete Western Pacific odyssey** returns in March 2020 and 2021 on **Spirit of Enderby** – including the **Bonin Islands**!!
- » **Greg Mortimer** has a **Patagonian and Chilean fjords** voyage from **Ushuaia** to **Puerto Montt** up the coast of **Chile** in April 2020.
- » Join **RCGS Resolute** for a **South Georgia in depth** photography symposium in October/November 2020
- » **Greg Mortimer's** January/February 2021 **Antarctica complete** voyage combines the **Polar Circle** crossing with the **Falklands** and **South Georgia**
- » Advance notice of **Greg Mortimer's** epic **25 day solar eclipse** voyage in November/December 2021

The **Antarctic Peninsula** is a spectacular chain of mountains and glaciers supporting the richest wildlife in Antarctica. Islands shelter its waters, making for comfortable sailing and easy landings.

Most of our voyages depart from **Ushuaia** at the southern tip of South America and cross the **Drake Passage**, visiting the **South Shetland Islands** and the **Antarctic Peninsula**. A few voyages embark in the **South Shetland Islands** (using a flight from **Punta Arenas**) to avoid the **Drake Passage** crossing. Some voyages take in **South Georgia** and the **Falkland Islands**.

In **South Georgia** you'll find the magnificent king penguin and wandering albatross, smaller birds such as pintail and pipit, and teeming colonies of fur seal. Polar historians are spoilt for choice with many voyages visiting scenes of heroic polar achievements. Different again, the **Falkland Islands** support an incredibly varied wildlife.

More adventurous voyages head for the **Ross Sea** to visit emperor penguin colonies and **Scott's** and **Shackleton's** huts. Because some of the vessels are comparatively small we recommend booking early.



PHOTO: David Merron, Quark Expeditions

Albatross, whales, seals and penguins in a pristine panorama

# FALKLAND ISLANDS, SOUTH GEORGIA, POLAR CIRCLE AND ANTARCTIC PENINSULA

## Deep South – crossing the Polar Circle | 16 days

This in-depth exploration of the **Antarctic Peninsula** ventures south of the **Antarctic Circle**. There'll be plenty of time for communing with penguins and visits to less frequented landing sites. Late season is excellent for whales.

- » ship « **Plancius**
- » when « 12-27 February 2021
- » guide price « From **£10,550** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### » OPTIONS «

**Greg Mortimer's** 22 January – 15 February 2021 **Antarctica Complete** voyage combines the **Polar Circle** crossing with the **Falklands and South Georgia**. Guide price **£23,835** per person

**RCGS Resolute** has **Antarctica deep south** in February 2020 and similarly in 2021, hoping to reach **Marguerite Bay**

**Island Sky** crosses the **Polar Circle** 30 January – 17 February 2021

**Sea Spirit** has a **Polar Circle** voyage 24 January – 10 February 2021

**Ortelius** has a **Polar Circle deep south discovery** voyage aiming to reach **Stonington Island** at 68 degrees south, 17 March – 3 April 2021

## Antarctic Peninsula Basecamp | 16 days

The **Basecamp** voyage concept offers a selection of activities (such as kayaking, camping, hiking, soft mountain climbing and photo workshops) included in the price of your voyage. The vessel will stay for two or three days at specific locations to allow more active passengers a comfortable hub for their wide-ranging pursuits.

- » ships « **Ortelius, Plancius**
- » when « Numerous voyages  
November 2019 – March 2020  
and November 2020 – March 2021
- » guide price « From **£10,545** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)
- » activities « All optional activities are free.  
Camping, diving, hiking (5-7 hours), kayaking, mountaineering, photo workshop, snowshoeing



## Classic Antarctic Peninsula with South Shetlands | 14-15 days

These voyages begin in **Ushuaia** and sail across the **Drake Passage** to the **Peninsula** with good chances to see **gentoo** and **adelie** penguins and **humpback** whales. Some also include the **South Shetland Islands** where you visit the abandoned whaling station on **Deception Island**. You return through the **Gerlache Strait**, home to **leopard** seals and **blue-eyed** shags, followed by a visit to a research station. We usually make two landings a day as well as exciting **Zodiac** cruises.

- » ships « **Hondius, Ortelius, Plancius,**
- » when « Numerous voyages  
November 2019 – March 2020  
and November 2020 – March 2021
- » guide price « From **£9,135** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### » OPTIONS «

Late season voyages in March 2021 go in search of whales

In late February 2021 **Hebridean Sky** invites scientists on board for a whale science voyage

**Hondius** operates **Discovery and learning** voyages November 2020 – February 2021 with onboard workshops

**Sea Spirit** has five departures 13-14 days from November 2020 to February 2021

Join **Greg Mortimer** for her **Spirit of Antarctica** voyage 28 November – 11 December 2020

Join **Island Sky** and **Hebridean Sky** in **Celebrating Antarctica**. Four voyages January/February 2021

**Greg Mortimer's** fly/sail or fly/fly **Antarctic Peninsula** voyages over fly the **Drake Passage** in one or both directions – six departures December 2020 – March 2021

Join **Antarctica 21** and overfly the **Drake** in both directions on **Ocean Nova, Hebridean Sky** or **Magellan Explorer** – itineraries from 10 days UK to UK with a maximum of 75 guests.

**Ocean Adventurer** cuts out the **Drake Passage** with flights from Chile in December 2020 and January 2021

PHOTOS: Vladimir Seliverstov, Antarctica21; Jamie Lafferty, Aurora Expeditions



### Budget Antarctica | 14-24 days

Itineraries include **Classic Antarctica Peninsula**, **Weddell Sea quest**, **Polar Circle quest** and the full **Antarctica/South Georgia/Falklands** circuit. Children under 16 enjoy free ship passage when sharing with two adults in superior cabin/suite.

- » ships « Ushuaia
- » when « Numerous voyages November 2020 – April 2021
- » guide price « £7,180 per person based on twin cabin (semi-private facilities)

### Antarctic Peninsula express | 15 days

This succinct version of the 'classic' **Antarctic Peninsula** voyage offers as many wildlife opportunities and possible stops at active scientific or historic bases as the longer voyages, yet allows travellers to complete door-to-door travel within two weeks.

- » ships « Hebridean Sky
- » when « 15–29 January 2020,  
19 November – 3 December 2020  
28 November – 12 December 2020
- » guide price « From £10,395 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

### Chilean Fjords adventure | 17 days

RCGS **Resolute** has a new **Chilean Fjords** adventure from **Ushuaia, Argentina** to **Valparaiso, Chile**. Discover the dramatic fjords, glaciers and peaks of southern Chile, occasionally venturing into the **Pacific Ocean** as the ship navigates towards the historic deep-sea port of **Valparaiso**. Zodiac and hiking opportunities.

- » ship « RCGS **Resolute**
- » when « 26 March – 11 April 2020,  
similar dates in 2021
- » guide price « £9,125 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

#### » OPTIONS «

**Greg Mortimer** has a **Patagonian and Chilean Fjords** voyage from **Ushuaia** to **Puerto Montt** up the coast of **Chile** in April 2020.



### Antarctica with a difference | 15-23 days

We can offer similar **Antarctic** itineraries with notable differences in on-board service, extra staff and fewer passengers, with a ratio of 1:4. Each passenger is assigned to an 'adventure concierge' who will look after your individual needs as you sail. This is the only way to experience overnight kayaking in the Antarctic.

Itineraries include the **Antarctic Peninsula adventure**; **Falkland Islands, South Georgia and Antarctica** and **Journey below the Polar Circle**.

- » ship « RCGS **Resolute**
- » when « Between November 2019 and March 2020 and November 2020 to March 2021
- » guide price « Starting at £13,470 per person for a 15 day **Antarctic Peninsula** voyage based on twin cabin (private facilities)

#### » OPTIONS «

**Christmas in Antarctica** on RCGS **Resolute** December 2019 and 2020  
March 2021 RCGS **Resolute** departure focuses on marine mammals

### Falklands, South Georgia, Antarctic Peninsula | 23-25 days

These longer voyages visit the **Falkland Islands** calling at **Port Stanley**, then head for **South Georgia** to spend three days visiting historic sites and encountering seals and bird life. Then to the **Antarctic Peninsula** via **Orcadas Station** in the **South Orkneys** for three days around the Peninsula and **South Shetland Islands**.

- » ships « **Hondius, Plancius**
- » when « November 2019-February 2020 and November 2020-February 2021
- » guide price « From £14,440 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities).

#### » OPTIONS «

November 2020 – **Plancius** and **Hondius'** first voyages of the season embark in **Puerto Madryn**  
**Hondius'** 27 day voyage in February 2021 includes **Elephant Island** and a **Polar Circle** crossing  
**Sea Spirit** has four departures (24-27 days) October-November 2020 also January and February 2021. Price from £14,715 per person if booked before 31 July 2019

RCGS **Resolute** has departures in October 2019 and January 2020 and similarly in 2020/21

Join **Island Sky** and **Hebridean Sky** – four voyages November 2020 to February 2021

Join **Greg Mortimer** for her **Christmas in Antarctica** experience visiting the **Falklands, South Georgia and Antarctic Peninsula**.  
7-30 December 2020.

Advance notice of **Greg Mortimer's** epic **Solar Eclipse Voyage** 23 November – 17 December 2021  
price guide £24,095 per person

### South Georgia and Antarctic odyssey | 26 days

Celebrate summer in full bloom on the **Antarctic Peninsula**. Retrace **Shackleton's** boat journey from **Elephant Island** to **South Georgia** and finish in the **Falkland Islands**. If weather and seas permit, we will take Zodiacs to step ashore at **Point Wild** on **Elephant Island**.

- » ships « **Greg Mortimer**
- » when « 9 March – 3 April 2021
- » guide price « From £20,595 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

#### » OPTIONS «

Ask about the optional **South Georgia Alpine traverse** for £1,150 per person.

### South Georgia in depth photography symposium | 19 days

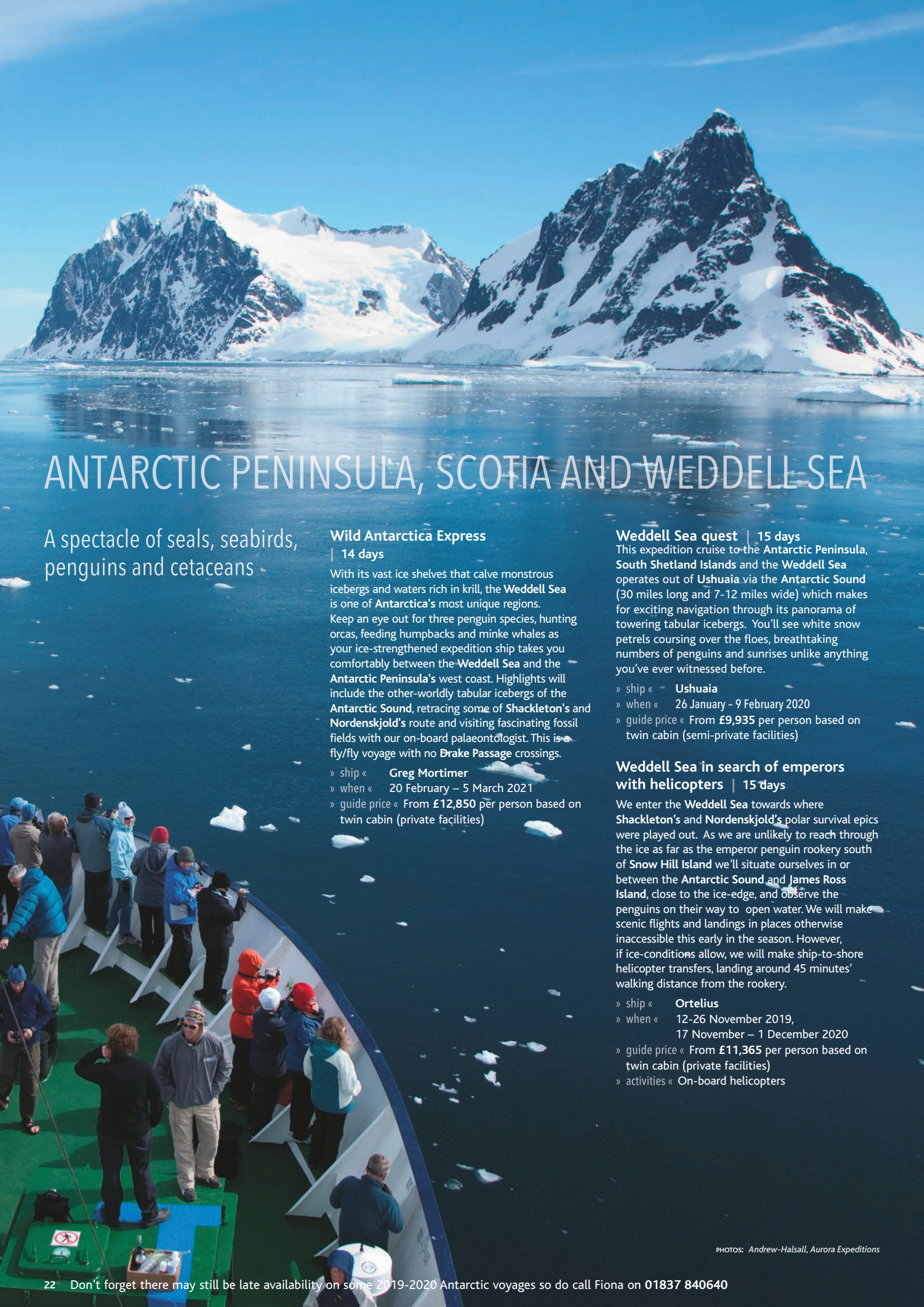
NEW VOYAGE

Encounter hundreds of thousands of king penguins on our unrivalled exploration of **South Georgia**, which hosts the most wildlife per square metre on earth. See king penguins, fur seals, whales and albatross over seven days in this 'Serengeti' of the Southern Ocean. Our October and November departures are timed to coincide with spring's arrival when **South Georgia** emerges from the long and icy winter and the wildlife migration and breeding cycles for many species begin.

We are joined on the ship by a team of highly experienced photographers who can help passengers of all skill levels and camera types to improve their skills. Up to five professional photographer mentors offer one-to-one support and photographic critique as part of this special symposium. You will focus on ideal light conditions with enhanced opportunities on deck and on Zodiacs designated for photographers. The symposium is optional, no extra charges apply and it does not affect the ship's regular on board programmes.

- » ship « RCGS **Resolute**
- » when « 5-23 November 2019 with flights between Chile and the Falkland Islands
- » guide price « From £15,295 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

PHOTOS: Andrew-Halsall, Yan Zhang, Aurora Expeditions



# ANTARCTIC PENINSULA, SCOTIA AND WEDDELL SEA

A spectacle of seals, seabirds, penguins and cetaceans

## Wild Antarctica Express | 14 days

With its vast ice shelves that calve monstrous icebergs and waters rich in krill, the **Weddell Sea** is one of Antarctica's most unique regions. Keep an eye out for three penguin species, hunting orcas, feeding humpbacks and minke whales as your ice-strengthened expedition ship takes you comfortably between the **Weddell Sea** and the **Antarctic Peninsula's** west coast. Highlights will include the other-worldly tabular icebergs of the **Antarctic Sound**, retracing some of **Shackleton's** and **Nordenskjold's** route and visiting fascinating fossil fields with our on-board palaeontologist. This is a fly/fly voyage with no **Drake Passage** crossings.

- » ship « **Greg Mortimer**
- » when « 20 February – 5 March 2021
- » guide price « From **£12,850** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)

## Weddell Sea quest | 15 days

This expedition cruise to the **Antarctic Peninsula**, **South Shetland Islands** and the **Weddell Sea** operates out of **Ushuaia** via the **Antarctic Sound** (30 miles long and 7-12 miles wide) which makes for exciting navigation through its panorama of towering tabular icebergs. You'll see white snow petrels coursing over the floes, breathtaking numbers of penguins and sunrises unlike anything you've ever witnessed before.

- » ship « **Ushuaia**
- » when « 26 January - 9 February 2020
- » guide price « From **£9,935** per person based on twin cabin (semi-private facilities)

## Weddell Sea in search of emperors with helicopters | 15 days

We enter the **Weddell Sea** towards where **Shackleton's** and **Nordenskjold's** polar survival epics were played out. As we are unlikely to reach through the ice as far as the emperor penguin rookery south of **Snow Hill Island** we'll situate ourselves in or between the **Antarctic Sound** and **James Ross Island**, close to the ice-edge, and observe the penguins on their way to open water. We will make scenic flights and landings in places otherwise inaccessible this early in the season. However, if ice-conditions allow, we will make ship-to-shore helicopter transfers, landing around 45 minutes' walking distance from the rookery.

- » ship « **Ortelius**
- » when « 12-26 November 2019,  
17 November – 1 December 2020
- » guide price « From **£11,365** per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)
- » activities « On-board helicopters

PHOTOS: Andrew-Halsall, Aurora Expeditions

# ANTARCTICA, ROSS SEA AND SUBANTARCTIC ISLANDS



Follow in the footsteps of fabled explorers

## In the wake of Scott and Shackleton | 35 days

The remote Ross Sea is only accessible for two months each year when the ice thaws. It was a magnet for the most famous adventurers including Scott, Shackleton and Amundsen. We visit five historic huts and learn more of the explorers' heroic achievements. This region is the breeding ground for millions of adelic and emperor penguins and we have permits for landing in the Subantarctic Islands – Auckland, Campbell and Macquarie.

- » ships « Akademik Shokalskiy, Spirit of Enderby
- » when « 5 January – 8 February 2020, 5 February – 10 March 2020, 10 January – 13 February 2021, 8 February – 14 March 2021
- » guide price « From £21,715 per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)

## East Antarctica – In the wake of Mawson | 33 days

Embarking in Hobart follow Sir Douglas Mawson's legendary heroics on this expedition cruise to Commonwealth Bay, East Antarctica. Mawson's Australian Antarctic Expedition (1911-1914) was notable for its scientific achievements and, sadly, its tragedies.

Mawson's Hut at Cape Denison still stands defiant against the extreme weather. Cape Denison is one of the very few ice-free and readily accessible areas along the East Antarctic coast, majestic and remote. In addition to Mawson's Hut we hope to visit the Dumont D'Urville research base.

- » ship « Akademik Shokalskiy
- » when « 12 December 2019 – 10 January 2020
- » guide price « £16,795 per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)

## Western Pacific odyssey including Bonin Islands | 36 days

This is a 'must do' for any birder as you'll see many of the world's rarest pelagic seabirds. The cetacean list is outstanding too.

Departing Tauranga we sail for the Hauraki Gulf where native species include the recently discovered New Zealand storm petrel. Then northward to Norfolk Island and New Caledonia where we search for the amazing Kagu at the Rivière Bleue National Park. We then spend five exciting days birding on several of the Solomon Islands before cruising across the cetacean-rich New Britain Trench. As we sail along the coasts of Bougainville and New Ireland, we look for the Heinroth's Shearwater and the recently rediscovered Beck's petrel. Next stop is Truk Island, Micronesia, before we set a course for the Bonin Islands, south of Japan. Our route takes us to Chichijima, Haha-jima and Torishima Islands and on to Miyakejima, concluding at Yokohama.

With you will be some of the best pelagic birding guides in the world who have extensive experience of the seabirds of the West Pacific. Birding starts at dawn and finishes at sundown and the reading of the bird list and discussion each evening is fascinating.

- » ships « Spirit of Enderby
- » when « 10 March – 14 April 2020, similar dates in 2021
- » guide price « From £10,150 per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)

**LET US KNOW:** If you have a connection with a particular place as we can offer you the chance to share your experiences, diaries and photographs with fellow passengers, or even get the ship to make an unscheduled visit.

**MUST READ:** *Endurance* by Alfred Lansing, *The Lost Men* by Kelly Tyler-Lewis

## NEW VOYAGE

## Subantarctic Islands – birding down under | 24 days

Explore the 'Albatross Latitudes' and the most remote Subantarctic Islands including The Snares, Bounty, Antipodes, Auckland, Campbell, Macquarie and Chatham islands on this comprehensive expedition out of New Zealand, perfect for those interested in birds, history and wildlife.

- » ship « Spirit of Enderby
- » when « 9 November – 2 December 2020
- » guide price « From £12,715 per person based on twin cabin (shared facilities)

### » OPTIONS «

Spirit of Enderby also operates a shorter Subantarctic Islands – Forgotten Islands of the South Pacific voyage to Campbell Island, Auckland Islands and The Snares 31 December 2019 – 12 January 2020 and 20 December 2020 – 1 January 2021. Price guide £6,520 per person twin cabin (shared facilities)

## Ross Sea including helicopters | 37-38 days

A spectacular discovery voyage exploring the southern Antarctic Peninsula, rarely visited volcanic Peter I Island, the outer fringes of the pack ice in the Amundsen Sea, the Ross Sea, Shackleton and Scott's huts, McMurdo Station, the dry valleys and Macquarie Island.

- » ship « Ortelius
- » when « 11 January – 17 February 2020, 13 February – 20 March 2020, 11 January – 17 February 2021, 13 February – 21 March 2021
- » guide price « £29,695 per person based on twin cabin (private facilities)
- » Activities « On board helicopters enable you to reach otherwise almost inaccessible landing sites



# Ships -

## SHIPS - DISTINGUISHING FEATURES

Our guide prices are based on twin cabins with shared or private facilities, but many vessels offer a variety of cabins and we can quote for single occupancy, triple, quadruple or superior cabins and suites (where available) on request. You can find more information, deck layouts and photographs at [www.arcturusexpeditions.co.uk/ships](http://www.arcturusexpeditions.co.uk/ships).



BRAND NEW

### NEW World Explorer

Comfortable, fast and roomy, a fine ship with six tiers of deluxe accommodation.

- » passengers « 172
- » itineraries « Arctic
- » operator « Quark Expeditions



ICEBREAKER

### 50 Years of Victory

Nuclear powered polar-class icebreaker and the largest fitted for passenger travel to the North Pole.

- » passengers « 128 in 64 en-suite cabins of five categories, all with ocean views
- » itineraries « North Pole
- » operator « Poseidon Expeditions



SMALL SHIP

### Akademik Shokalskiy

Ice-strengthened polar research ship. Two passenger decks with dining rooms, a bar, library and sauna.

- » passengers « 54
- » itineraries « East Antarctica, Ross Sea
- » operator « Heritage Expeditions



BRAND NEW - X BOW SHIP

### Greg Mortimer

Launching summer 2019. Fast, comfortable, revolutionary new ship. Virtual anchoring to protect sea floor, hydraulic viewing platforms and Zodiac docks for easy loading.

- » passengers « 120
- » itineraries « Scottish Islands, Arctic, Chilean Fjords, Antarctic
- » operator « Aurora Expeditions



SISTER SHIP

### Hebridean Sky

Ice class 1C all-suite luxury expedition ship fully refurbished in 2016. All cabins have private facilities.

- » passengers « 114
- » itineraries « Antarctic
- » operator « Antarctica 21 and Polar Latitudes



NEW POLAR CLASS 6 SHIP

### Hondius

Commences operation June 2019. World's first-registered polar class 6 cruise ship. An observation lounge covers one entire deck. All cabins have private facilities.

- » passengers « 174
- » itineraries « Scottish islands, Arctic, Antarctic
- » operator « Oceanwide



SISTER SHIP

### Island Sky

Sister ship to Hebridean Sky, an all-suite expedition ship with touches of elegance throughout.

- » passengers « 112
- » itineraries « Antarctic
- » operator « Polar Latitudes

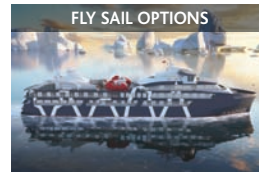


ICEBREAKER

### Kapitan Khlebnikov

Well-appointed Russian icebreaker with on-board helicopters. Holds passenger ship record for most crossings of the Northwest Passage.

- » passengers « 110
- » itineraries « Russian Arctic
- » operator « Heritage Expeditions



FLY SAIL OPTIONS

### Magellan Explorer

Expedition vessel with low carbon footprint, large observation lounge and deck, outdoor BBQ area, gym and sauna. Optional kayaking and snowshoeing.

- » passengers « 100
- » itineraries « Antarctic
- » operator « Antarctica 21



RUSTIC SAILING SHIP

### Noorderlicht

Help sail this two-masted schooner, originally built in 1910.

- » passengers « 20 in twin cabins (upper & lower bunks no ladder)
- » itineraries « Spitsbergen, Norway
- » operator « Oceanwide Expeditions



FORMERLY SEA ADVENTURER

### Ocean Adventurer

1A ice class expedition vessel in the style of great ocean liners. Multi million dollar renovation in June 2017.

- » passengers « 132
- » itineraries « Scottish Islands, Arctic, Franz Josef Land, Novaya Zemlya and Severnaya, Antarctic
- » operator « Quark Expeditions



COMPETITIVE PRICING

### Ocean Endeavour

1B ice-class vessel with 20 Zodiacs and a top deck observation room.

- » passengers « 198
- » itineraries « Canadian Arctic, Iceland, Greenland
- » operator « Adventure Canada



FLY/SAIL

### Ocean Nova

Clean, crisp Scandinavian styling with a specially strengthened hull for parking on the ice!

- » passengers « 78
- » itineraries « Antarctic
- » operator « Antarctica 21



SOLID AND WORKMANLIKE

### Ortelius

Highest ice-class notation to navigate solid sea ice and loose pack ice. 11 Zodiacs and helicopter.

- » passengers « 108
- » itineraries « Arctic, Antarctic, Ross Sea
- » operator « Oceanwide Expeditions



GREAT OBSERVATION LOUNGE

### Plancius

Comfortable, ice-strengthened and well suited to exploratory voyages. Superb observation lounge.

- » passengers « 110
- » itineraries « Arctic, Antarctic
- » operator « Oceanwide Expeditions



ON-BOARD CONCIERGE

### RCGS Resolute

Ice class 1AS polar expedition vessel launched November 2018. Public rooms all have 180° views. Gym, wellness facilities and salt water pool.

- » passengers « 146
- » itineraries « Scottish Islands, Arctic, Canadian Arctic, Chilean Fjords, Antarctic
- » operator « One Ocean



COMFORTABLE SAILING SHIP

### Rembrandt Van Rijn

Reinforced bow and good open deck viewing areas.

- » passengers « 34 in mainly en-suite cabins
- » itineraries « Spitsbergen, Norway, Greenland
- » operator « Oceanwide Expeditions



INNOVATIVE ITINERARIES

### Sea Spirit

Ice-class 1D vessel and very comfortable. All cabins have private facilities, views and TV.

- » passengers « 112
- » itineraries « British Isles, Scottish Isles, Norway, Arctic, Franz Josef Land, Antarctic
- » operator « Poseidon Expeditions



SMALL SHIP

### Spirit of Enderby

Fully ice-strengthened polar research vessel with comfortable accommodation. Experienced naturalists and guides on all voyages.

- » passengers « 48
- » itineraries « Russian Far East, Ross Sea, Subantarctic Islands
- » operator « Heritage Expeditions



OLDER SHIP BUT GREAT PRICES

### Ushuaia

Refurbished in 2014, well-appointed ice-strengthened polar vessel. Open-plan observation lounge.

- » passengers « 88
- » itineraries « Antarctic
- » operator « Antarpplly Expeditions

ARCTURUS works with almost all of the smaller ships currently operating in the Arctic and Antarctic. We navigate fjords, passages and ice floes and use Zodiac rigid inflatable boats guided by the ship's expedition staff for shore excursions. All fitness levels are catered for and there is a comprehensive programme of lectures.



**ARCTURUS**

THE POLAR ARM OF FAR FRONTIERS TRAVEL