

THE ARCTIC - POLAR BEARS IN THE CHANGING ARCTIC: NEW SCIENTIST DISCOVERY | GREG MORTIMER



INTRODUCTION

Embark on an unforgettable adventure to the Arctic, a land of awe-inspiring beauty and untamed wilderness. Focusing on the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago, we slice through pack ice to find walrus and bearded seals, and sail along spectacular fjords surrounded by jagged mountains that pierce the sky. June is a prime time to witness the Arctic's vibrant wildlife in action. Marvel at a plethora of species on land and at sea, from Arctic foxes and polar bears to marine giants like humpback and fin whales returning from their tropical wintering grounds. As ice retreats, the tundra blooms and towering cliffs echo with millions of nesting seabirds – a truly unforgettable natural spectacle. Whether you are travelling solo, as a couple or with friends, you will share this adventure with like-minded individuals who cherish the wonders of nature and science.

This unique cruise will be co-hosted by New Scientist Discovery Tours, known for its amazing, science-filled tours, cruises and expeditions, all inspired by the journalism of New Scientist, the world's most popular weekly science and technology publication. Setting sail to the polar regions to provide breathtaking and illuminating travel experiences that combine the extraordinary natural surroundings with a focus on science and discovery. Enjoy a vibrant program of expert-led talks, workshops, shore visits and Zodiac cruises.

ITINERARY

TRIP CODE
ACAEPBNS
DEPARTURE
20/06/2027
DURATION
8 Days
LOCATIONS
Svalbard


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DAY 1: Arrive in Oslo

Having made your way to Oslo, you will be met by a representative and transferred to our group hotel. Upon arrival at your included hotel, please visit the hospitality desk to collect your luggage cabin tags and to speak with our ground operations team, who may have information to share with you about pre-embarkation or to provide you with information about where to dine, withdraw cash or purchase last minute items from a local pharmacy or supermarket. The remainder of your time is at leisure. All meals today are at your own expense.



DAY 2: Fly to Longyearbyen & Embarkation

This morning, please ensure your cabin luggage is fitted with cabin tags clearly labelled with your name and cabin number. Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before transferring to the airport for our charter flight to Longyearbyen for embarkation. See walrus hauled out on sea ice or beaches, stretch your legs on tundra walks carpeted in brightly coloured wildflowers, and visit towering cliffs noisy with nesting guillemots and puffins. This expedition has been thoughtfully designed and includes a mix of activities, such as expert-led talks, engaging workshops and exhilarating Zodiac cruise safaris. You will be accompanied by engaging guest speakers from the world of science chosen by New Scientist Discovery Tours, along with the highly knowledgeable and supportive expedition team. Learn about topics including glaciology, climate, marine biology, and the history of polar exploration, deepening your connection to this remote and rugged archipelago. Note: Today's excursions are contingent on the arrival time of our charter flight to Longyearbyen.



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DAY 3: Spitsbergen Exploration - Day 3 to 7

The island of Spitsbergen is the largest in the Svalbard Archipelago and offers Arctic wilderness at its best. The members of our experienced Expedition Team, who have made countless journeys to this area, will use their expertise to tailor our day-to-day itinerary, choosing the best options, based on the prevailing weather, sea-ice conditions and the possibility of encounters with wildlife. Phenomenal fjords, magnificent mountains ranges, and a polar desert rich in fossils, set the stage for heroic tales of early exploration. See walrus hauled-out on sea ice or on beaches. On land, we stretch our legs on walks across tundra carpeted in brightly coloured wildflowers. We visit towering cliffs noisy with nesting guillemots and puffins, and scree slopes that hold Svalbard’s largest little auk colonies. If you have chosen an optional activity such as kayaking, you will have an opportunity to enjoy that activity when conditions allow. For those who are enthusiastic to participate in a polar plunge, as soon as conditions are suitable, you will hear the announcement to prepare for an exhilarating dip – a memory you will savour for years to come.



DAY 8: Disembark in Longyearbyen and fly to Oslo

During the early morning, we cruise back into Longyearbyen. Farewell your Expedition Team upon disembarkation and enjoy some free time before transferring to the airport for your return charter flight to Oslo to continue your journey. Note: the arrival time in Oslo is contingent on the approved allocated slot for our charter flight to and from Longyearbyen, which we expect to receive in March 2027. *Cruise itinerary is subject to change depending on weather conditions, ice conditions and other factors.



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INCLUSIONS & DETAILS	
Accommodation	Hotel & Cabin onboard a ship

Inclusions	INCLUSIONS All transfers as mentioned in the itinerary One night's hotel accommodation including breakfast, in Oslo on Day 1 Sightseeing tour of Longyearbyen on Day 2, prior to embarkation (time permitting) Return charter flights between Oslo and Longyearbyen On board accommodation during voyage, including daily cabin service All meals, snacks, tea, coffee, soft drinks and juices during voyage Beer and house wine with dinner Captain's Farewell reception including four-course dinner, house cocktails, house beer and wine, non-alcoholic beverages All shore excursions and zodiac cruises Educational lectures and guiding services provide by Expedition Team Complimentary access to onboard expedition doctor and medical clinic (initial consultation) One 3-in-1 waterproof, polar expedition jacket Complimentary use of Muck Boots during the voyage Comprehensive pre-departure information Port surcharges, permits and landing fees Gratuities during excursions and enrichment program for local guides, drivers, venues and local sites Wi-Fi (please note we travel to remote regions and therefore the connection can be unreliable)
	EXCLUSIONS International or domestic flights - unless specified in the itinerary Transfers - unless specified in the itinerary Airport arrival or departure taxes Passport, visa, reciprocity and vaccination fees and charges Travel insurance or emergency evacuation charges Hotel accommodation and meals - unless specified in the itinerary Optional excursions and optional activity surcharges All items of a personal nature, including but not limited to, alcoholic beverages (outside of dinner service), on board gratuities, laundry services, personal clothing, medical expenses, email or phone charges
	Difficulty Rating 2 (light adventure)
Single Surcharge A single supplement surcharge may apply and is subject to availability. Please contact us for more information.	

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Notes	Prices are based on per person, quad/triple/twin share. Prices are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change at any time. Itinerary is subject to change depending on weather and ice conditions. <i>PLEASE NOTE: A USD\$15 per person, per day gratuity for the crew is automatically added to your onboard account. It is at your discretion if you would like to remove the tip (or adjust the amount) when you settle your bill. It is not necessary to tip the expedition team members. This gratuity amount is included for suites as part of their ‘Suite Benefits’.</i>
Price Dependent upon	Departure date, fuel surcharges, cabin category, currency fluctuations, seasonality and availability.

SUSTAINABILITY

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