

SVALBARD

DETAILED ITINERARY

NORTH TO THE MIDNIGHT SUN

Jun 17/26



Journey to the edge of the world on an extraordinary expedition through the High Arctic, where dramatic landscapes, remarkable wildlife, and centuries of exploration history combine to create one of the planet's most captivating travel experiences.

Beginning in Longyearbyen, the northernmost town of significance on Earth, this voyage ventures deep into the remote reaches of the Svalbard archipelago. Surrounded by towering mountains, immense glaciers, and vast expanses of tundra, Svalbard offers a rare opportunity to experience an Arctic wilderness that remains largely untouched by time. As we navigate through protected fjords, remote islands, and ice-filled waterways, each day reveals new encounters with the natural world—from walrus resting along isolated shores and seabirds nesting on towering cliffs to Arctic foxes roaming the coastline and polar bears traversing the sea ice.

Along the way, discover traces of the region's rich human history. Historic whaling settlements and exploration sites tell stories of courage, ambition, and survival in one of the harshest environments on Earth.

In Ny-Ålesund, the world's northernmost settlement, learn how modern scientific research is helping us better understand the changing Arctic and its global significance.

FACTS & HIGHLIGHTS

- 8 Days • Start and finish in Longyearbyen, Norway • All meals onboard included • Travel aboard the Ocean Albatros
- Explore the remote wilderness of Svalbard, one of the northernmost inhabited regions on Earth • Search for iconic Arctic wildlife, including polar bears, walrus, Arctic foxes, and whales • Experience the breathtaking beauty of towering glaciers, dramatic fjords, and pristine polar landscapes • Cruise through the Arctic pack ice in search of extraordinary wildlife and vast ice formations • Visit Ny-Ålesund, the world's northernmost settlement and a hub for international Arctic research • Discover the fascinating history of Arctic exploration and early whaling settlements in the High North

DEPARTURE DATES & PRICES FROM (Per person)

May 18 – May 25, 2027

Jun 01 – Jun 08, 2027

Solo French Balcony Cabin	-	\$15795 USD
Solo Cabin	-	\$11895 USD
Family Suite	-	\$17895 USD
Premium Freydis Suite	-	\$14795 USD
Junior Suite	-	\$12695 USD
Balcony Suite	-	\$12195 USD
Grand Balcony Cabin	-	\$11095 USD
Superior Balcony Cabin	-	\$10595 USD
Balcony Cabin	-	\$10295 USD
French Balcony Cabin	-	\$9795 USD
Porthole Cabin	-	\$9295 USD
Triple Cabin	-	\$7895 USD

Does not include charter flight cost, approx \$1000 USD

Activity Level: 2

Comfort Level:

Seas can be rough. Zodiac landings required

ACCOMMODATIONS

Travel aboard the Ocean Albatros.

ELDERTREKS



SMALL GROUP
EXOTIC ADVENTURES
FOR TRAVELERS 50 PLUS

This is not an ElderTreks operated tour. As such, participants on this tour are not exclusive ElderTreks clients and it may not adhere to ElderTreks' maximum size restrictions of our tours.

Weather and ice conditions shape every journey, making each expedition unique. Whether cruising beside towering tidewater glaciers, exploring remote polar deserts, or venturing into the drifting pack ice north of Svalbard, this is a voyage defined by discovery, wonder, and a profound connection to one of the last great wildernesses on Earth.

DAY 1 LONGYEARBYEN, NORWAY

Your journey begins in Oslo, Norway, with a charter flight north to Longyearbyen, Svalbard's main settlement and one of the northernmost communities on Earth. Set between steep mountains and wide valleys, the town offers a striking blend of Arctic wilderness and Nordic culture. Polar bear warning signs serve as a quiet reminder that here, humans are visitors.

After boarding the Ocean Albatros in the harbour, we leave the edges of settlement behind and begin our northward voyage, trading roads and routines for ice, weather, and open horizons.

DAYS 2-3 NORTHWEST SVALBARD NATIONAL PARK

Protected since 1973, Northwest Svalbard holds some of the archipelago's richest layers of human history. First recorded by Willem Barentsz in 1596, this coastline later became a centre of Dutch and English whaling. At sites such as Smeerenburg, the remains of



blubber ovens and graves speak quietly of ambition, hardship, and the costs of early Arctic enterprise.

Today, the region is largely reclaimed by nature. Arctic flowers push through gravel plains, seabirds crowd the cliffs, walrus haul out along the shore, and polar bears patrol the coastline. Carefully managed landings and cruising allow us to explore both cultural remnants and sensitive ecosystems within this protected landscape.

DAY 4 NORTHEAST SVALBARD

As we move into northeastern Svalbard, the influence of the warm Gulf Stream fades. Here, colder waters and heavier ice shape a stark polar desert. Vast glaciers spill into ice-choked seas, and mountains rise sharply from the shore.

Despite the austere appearance, life thrives. Arctic foxes trace the beaches, immense seabird colonies nest on towering cliffs, and walrus gather where cold, nutrient-rich waters support shellfish. Plans remain flexible, guided by shifting ice, wind, and sea conditions, which is an essential part of travelling responsibly in the High Arctic.

DAY 5 NORTH SVALBARD

Weather and ice permitting, we aim for some of the northernmost land on Earth. This may include Nordaustlandet or the remote islands of Sjuøyane, lying roughly 1,000 kilometres north of mainland Norway's Nordkapp.

These landscapes are spare and elemental: rock, ice, and sky, with only mosses, lichens, and hardy tundra plants clinging to life. Bird-

life animates the scene, with terns, skuas, and shorebirds nesting and foraging along the coast. With suitable conditions, we step ashore before turning northward toward the Arctic pack ice.

DAY 6 INTO THE PACK ICE

North of Svalbard, the Arctic Ocean becomes a shifting mosaic of ice, stretching toward the North Pole and connecting ecosystems across Alaska and Siberia. At first glance, the ice appears empty, but beneath and around it thrives a complex web of life: fish, seals, seabirds, belugas, bowhead whales, and polar bears.

The Ocean Albatros is designed to navigate narrow leads through the ice, allowing quiet observation of this dynamic environment. Movement here is slow and deliberate, guided by experience, patience, and respect for one of Earth's most sensitive habitats.

DAY 7 KONGSFJORDEN AND NY-ÅLESUND

We sail into Kongsfjorden, a broad fjord system framed by tidewater glaciers and the dramatic peaks known as the Three Crowns. The area has long been a focal point for Arctic research and exploration.

A visit to Ny-Ålesund—the world's northernmost settlement—offers insight into international scientific collaboration in the High Arctic. Once a base for pioneering explorers such as Roald Amundsen and Fridtjof Nansen, it now hosts research stations studying climate, atmosphere, and ecosystems, linking

Svalbard's landscapes to global environmental systems.

DAY 8 LONGYEARBYEN, NORWAY

Our expedition concludes back in Longyearbyen. After days immersed in Arctic wilderness, the town feels unexpectedly busy.

Following disembarkation, we say farewell to the ship, crew, and fellow travellers before continuing onward from Svalbard—carrying a deeper understanding of a region shaped by ice, resilience, and change.

From shore, ride to the airport for your charter flight to Oslo, Norway.





THE OCEAN ALBATROS DETAILS:



Maximum: 175 passengers

Launched in 2023, the Ocean Albatros is a purpose-built expedition vessel designed for small-ship exploration. A sister ship to the Ocean Victory, it blends comfort, capability, and environmental responsibility—offering a refined, contemporary platform for immersive journeys into remote and remarkable regions. All cabins feature ocean views; most include private balconies.



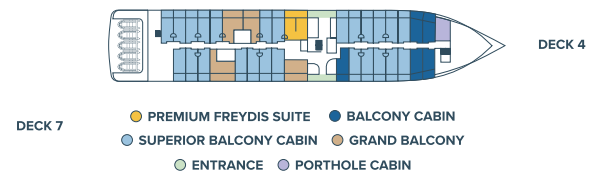
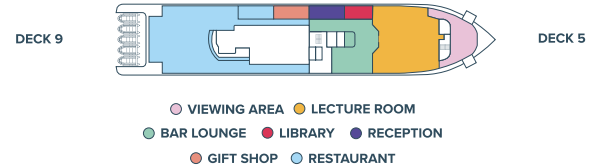
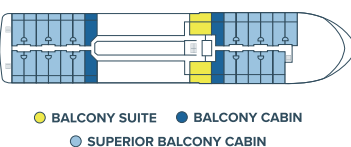
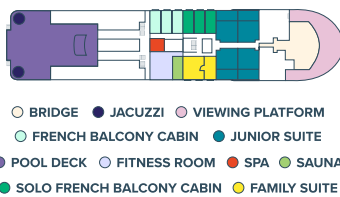
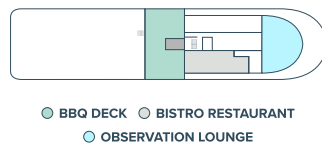
Bistro Restaurant



BBQ Deck

CABIN CATEGORIES:

- **Solo French Balcony Cabin** - Deck 7
- **Solo Cabin** - Deck 3
- **Family Suite** - Deck 7
- **Premium Freydis Suite** - Deck 4
- **Junior Suite** - Deck 7
- **Balcony Suite** - Deck 6
- **Grand Balcony Cabin** - Deck 4
- **Superior Balcony Cabin** - Deck 4/6
- **Balcony Cabin** - Deck 4/6
- **French Balcony Cabin** - Deck 7
- **Porthole Cabin** - Deck 3/4
- **Triple Cabin** - Deck 3



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. HOW BIG ARE THE GROUPS?

The Ocean Albatros is a 175 passenger vessel.

2. WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE?

From Day 1 to disembarkation, all meals, snacks coffee/tea/water, wifi, lectures, expeditions, entertainment and services of naturalist guides are included. Complimentary house wine, beer and soda at dinner. A complimentary expedition jacket is also included. Rubber-style muck boots on loan.

3. WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED IN THE TOUR PRICE?

International and charter flights, speciality drinks and tips. Personal expenses like telephone calls and laundry are not included and put onto your shipboard account which is payable in USD the night prior to disembarkation. Gratuities are not included. \$20 USD per guest/per day is recommended. Mandatory travel insurance is not included.

4. ARE THESE “EDUCATIONAL” TOURS?

Yes, in the broadest sense of the word, “educational”. We visit museums, national parks and reserves and have talks and discussions on many aspects of history, culture and nature. But this is only a portion of the educational experience. We believe that it is equally educational to meet local people on a non-commercial basis, and even try to learn a few words in the native language. Sometimes the most “educational” moments are wandering through the streets of a mountain village.

5. HOW DO WE TRAVEL DURING THE TOUR?

We cruise on our vessel and often use Zodiacs for our adventure excursions.

6. WHAT ARE OUR ACCOMMODATIONS LIKE?

Comfortable, well-located accommodations with private bathrooms. All cabins feature ocean views; most with private balconies. X-BOW® design for enhanced comfort and fuel efficiency at sea. Energy-efficient systems and sustainability-focused operations.

7. WHAT ABOUT THE WEATHER?

We travel during the northern summer season. In general, we can experience temperatures between 23F-43°F (-5-6°C).

8. WHEN IS PAYMENT DUE?

A non-refundable deposit of \$3000 USD is due as soon as you decide to go and will reserve your place on the tour. The balance of the land payment is due 150 days before departure. Cancellation charges are applicable and these are outlined in the “Terms & Conditions” section of our brochure.

9. IS MEDICAL INSURANCE REQUIRED?

Insurance coverage is not included in the cost of your trip. Please note that medical insurance is mandatory for this adventure with a minimum of \$500,000 USD coverage for evacuation insurance, including air ambulance. We strongly recommend cancellation and interruption insurance as well! ElderTreks offers comprehensive travel insurance and we are happy to provide you with a quote if you call our office. If you are purchasing insurance elsewhere, please ensure you provide the details to ElderTreks as soon as possible.

10. WHAT SHOULD I TAKE ON THE TOUR?

There is a detailed “What to Take” list in our Trip Kit, which we will send to you after you have booked the trip.

11. WHAT MEALS ARE INCLUDED?

All meals are included, starting with dinner on day 1 and finishing with breakfast on departure day

12. CAN YOU ARRANGE MY FLIGHTS?

We would be happy to take care of your air arrangements. ElderTreks offers personalized flight itineraries — not group flights. Stop over en route, come in a few days early, or extend your stay. Call us for a customized itinerary.

13. WHAT IF I WOULD LIKE MORE INFORMATION?

If you have any further questions about the adventure, please call our office for more details. A Trip Specialist will be happy to answer your questions. A Trip Kit containing further details on the destination will be sent to you once you have booked the trip.

