

Arctic 2027

Svalbard in Summer: Tundra, Whales and Wildlife

Onboard *Ocean Explorer* & *Ultramarine*



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Expedition Overview

Svalbard in Summer: Tundra, Whales and Wildlife

Our 11-day *Svalbard in Summer: Tundra, Whales and Wildlife* is a rare chance to explore the Arctic as it comes fully alive when plant life and wildflowers are at their maximum numbers. It's also possible during the Arctic summer to observe polar bears, walruses, Arctic foxes, and potentially belugas. With warmer temperatures, endless daylight, and snow cover receding, you'll have plenty of chances to explore onshore by foot and by Zodiac to completely immerse yourself in the Arctic environment.

Highlights



Spot iconic Arctic wildlife—walruses, reindeer, Arctic foxes, and the elusive polar bear



Hike the tundra



Witness tens of thousands of cliff-dwelling birds



Spot baleen whales



Zodiac cruise tidewater glaciers



Explore Svalbard on ice-class polar vessels.



Itinerary

DAY 1 | ARRIVE IN HELSINKI, FINLAND

Arrive in the Finnish capital and make your way to the group hotel located right at Helsinki airport—included in your Charter Flight and Hotel Package. You will have the rest of the day to explore the many museums, galleries and restaurants, relax at a Finnish sauna or wander the vibrant Design District. If you do plan to visit Helsinki city center, take advantage of the convenient 40-minute rail service from the airport.

DAY 2 | FLY TO LONGYEARBYEN, SVALBARD, AND EMBARK

After breakfast, the group will transfer to the Helsinki airport and board our private charter flight to Longyearbyen, as part of the Charter Flight & Hotel Package. Our journey to the High Arctic now truly begins. You will see the coastal and birch forests of southern Scandinavia give way to taiga and tundra

environments, the mountains of Norway and northern Sweden, and the convergence of the Norwegian and Barents seas. Approaching Svalbard, you may get your first views of a pure, snow-capped wilderness, complete with ridgelines, glaciers, and perhaps even sea ice in the distance. We land in Longyearbyen, Svalbard's largest settlement, and transfer to the harbor where we will embark on our ship.

DAYS 3 - 9 | SUMMER IN THE SVALBARD WILDERNESS

Svalbard is a true Arctic environment, where many iconic species spend their entire lives, entwined with the winter and spring sea ice. But with the arrival of summer—brief as it is—the archipelago bursts to life as countless migratory species settle in to take advantage of the season's endless daylight and abundant food.



SVALBARD IN SUMMER: Tundra, Whales and Wildlife

Onboard *Ocean Explorer & Ultramarine* ———
Flights to/from Helsinki - - -

Chief among Svalbard's summer migrants are seabirds, waterfowl, and other birds, joined by marine visitors such as baleen whales—including the mighty blue whale. Though wildlife sightings aren't guaranteed, these giants are sometimes observed foraging in the rich Arctic waters. Under the midnight sun, plant life also flourishes. While less diverse than in southern regions, Svalbard hosts hundreds of plant, lichen, and moss species, from hardy grasses to vibrant wildflowers. For a few brief months, snow and ice are replaced by pockets of green and splashes of color, framed by snowcapped peaks—a fleeting transformation of the High Arctic landscape.

Throughout the summer, sea ice fractures, melts and disperses. Many species that depend on it shift north and east where ice lingers, or remain ashore until it returns in late fall. While ice may be less frequent, the open water offers greater access to the archipelago's northern and eastern reaches. If we do encounter ice, we'll pause to explore it. At this time of year, wildlife is more often spotted in the water, along shorelines, or gathered in bustling bird colonies clinging to the cliffs.

Some terrain here is nearly vertical, with seabirds colonizing every possible ledge. Little auks, guillemots, and puffins nest in rocky crevices, spending the brief summer flying back and forth to feed themselves and their chicks before their first flights and plunges. Looking upward while seated in a Zodiac, the sky may seem alive with more birds than you can count, and sometimes we'll explore near these cliffs on foot. Keep watch for other iconic species too, such as Arctic terns, common eiders, and the occasional king eider. The sounds are astonishing—an Arctic "silence" feels alive with nature's calls. Standing beneath towering seabird cliffs renders visitors speechless.

Summer offers the chance to step ashore and walk on bare ground, though patches of snow can linger. We may hike into foothills, valleys, and Arctic beaches—land shared with polar bears. While sightings are farther inshore, their paw prints in sand or mud tell their story. Take time to look around and underfoot, where hardy vascular plants and wildflowers bloom. You might also spot driftwood—not from ancient Svalbard forests, but carried here by Arctic currents from Siberia, where tree trunks

and branches are swept up in the Arctic currents, ultimately coming to rest here. Additionally, we may see reindeer, as they busily forage on the bountiful summer plant life.

Although the weather in midsummer is often cool—even crisp—in midsummer, it's possible to enjoy reasonably warm days in Svalbard. It's a surreal experience—feeling the warmth of the summer sun knowing you're less than 700 nautical miles from the North Pole.

As summer warms and sea ice recedes, glaciers come alive—meltwater hastening erosion, tidewater glaciers calving ice with thunderous force. From a Zodiac amid icebergs and brash ice, listen for the crackle of melting ice, the lap of currents, and Arctic terns calling overhead.

During summer, if conditions align, it might also be possible to visit some of Svalbard's residents, be they trappers or researchers. There are a number of trappers' cabins dotted across the archipelago, and the stories their occupants tell bring forth a life wrapped in resourcefulness, grit, humor, and hints of something approaching the magic of nature.



With seven full expedition days in Svalbard, we aim to explore a wide range of locations. The order of our journey will be shaped by sea ice conditions, which vary daily. Potential destinations include the spectacular fjord systems of Hornsund, Bellsund, Isfjorden, Krossfjorden, Smeerenburgfjorden, Raudfjorden, Woodfjorden, Sorgfjorden, and others. These fjords feature dramatic mountains rising directly from the sea, folding into endless layers. Glaciers spill from the highlands, many reaching the water's edge where they calve into the sea.

Throughout Svalbard, we may find previously mentioned seabird colonies and other wildlife, as they are distributed throughout the archipelago of islands.

DAY 10 | DISEMBARK IN LONGYEARBYEN AND FLY TO HELSINKI

The time to say goodbye has come. Your adventure ends as it began, in the frontier settlement of Longyearbyen. From here, we'll transfer you to the airport for your charter flight to Helsinki, and group hotel night. Both are included in your Charter Flight & Hotel Package.

DAY 11 | DEPART HELSINKI

After breakfast at your included hotel, make your way independently to the Helsinki airport for your onward flight home, or spend more time exploring the Finnish capital as prearranged.

EXPEDITION SPIRIT

Embrace the true spirit of Arctic exploration as we take you into the remarkable pack-ice habitat. Where the stark beauty of the Arctic surrounds you. This immersive experience offers a deeper connection to the environment, allowing you to witness firsthand the in-motion frozen terrain that Polar Bears, Ivory Gulls and Bearded Seals call home. Your expert Expedition Team will use their considerable experience to spot wildlife in this dynamic habitat where the presence of animals is always opportunistic.





SCIENCE PROGRAM IS ONLY AVAILABLE ON ULTRAMARINE

Science & Discovery

A new initiative designed to foster community, curiosity and education.

Beginning in our Arctic 2027 season on select *Ultramarine* itineraries, Quark Expeditions is collaborating with leading scientists and researchers to enrich guest learning on- and off-ship.

Guest Engagement: Through researcher-led sessions, and interactive learning and field experiences with our expedition team, guests will gain a better understanding and appreciation of the polar wilderness.

This Science & Discovery program will enable guests to:

- **Interact and connect with scientists and researchers** who are actively collecting data during expeditions.
- **Participate in citizen science programming** to broaden their understanding and knowledge of the incredible polar ecosystem.
- **Work with our expedition team** to help collect and record data, ranging from experiences such as conducting seabird surveys on deck to documenting whale sightings on Zodiac excursions or joining interactive sampling activities to measure water conditions.

SCIENCE IN THE FIELD

Quark Expeditions supports academic research through partnerships with institutions such as Seabird Watch to deepen our understanding through access to projects that are contributing to published research and projects of high importance.

CITIZEN SCIENCE

In collaboration with the Polar Citizen Science Collective and Fjord Phyto, guests can engage in meaningful scientific data collection that supports targeted field research for projects like Happywhale.

QUARK SCIENCE HUB

This designated space on *Ultramarine* enables guests to share knowledge, information and insights with scientists, researchers, and our Expedition Guides.



Gather with scientists, researchers and expedition guides to share findings and insights from the voyage.



Engage with interactive digital displays featuring multimedia content for self-guided discovery even when staff aren't present.



Learn how data collection methods, such as drones, wildlife tags, and biopsy and guano sampling, enable us to study the health, population, and migratory pathways of unique birds, whales, and seals.



Review and discuss observations and explore samples collected during science Zodiac cruises with other participants.






Note: The Science Hub is open to guests for self-guided exploration when staff are otherwise occupied.


THE POLAR COLLECTIVE
protect the poles together.





Arrival and Departure Details, and International Flight Planning

				
DAY 1	DAY 2	EXPEDITION DAYS	DISEMBARKATION DAY	FINAL DAY
<i>International flight in*</i> Arrival and hotel night	Charter flight to embarkation point and embarkation	On ship or landing days	Disembarkation, charter flight and hotel night	Leave hotel <i>International flight onward</i>

* Arrive anytime on Day 1 or earlier. Day 1 includes an optional briefing.
 International flights are not included in the cost of the voyage.

Arrival Day and Embarkation

DAY 1 — ARRIVING AND HOTEL NIGHT IN HELSINKI

You may arrive in Helsinki at any time during Day 1 of the itinerary. Your included accommodation will be at the airport hotel, so arrival transfers are not necessary. Upon arrival at the hotel, you will receive a welcome letter outlining the departure information for the following day's flight. Please keep in mind that your hotel room may not be ready for check in until 3 pm. A Quark Expeditions representative will be available in the lobby of the hotel later in the day to answer any questions.

DAY 2 — CHARTER FLIGHT AND EMBARKATION IN LONGYEARBYEN

After a restful night at your hotel, you will join your flight to Longyearbyen. Upon arrival in Longyearbyen, you will be transferred from the airport to a drop off point and your luggage will be taken directly to the ship. Details of ship transfer times will be provided during your arrival transfer. Due to port logistics, it is possible that you may need to board the vessel by Zodiac, rather than from the pier.

PLEASE NOTE

There is a strict luggage weight limit on checked luggage and cabin baggage on the flights between Helsinki and Longyearbyen. Should you have additional luggage, it can be stored at the hotel in Helsinki. There is NO option to pay for additional luggage.

You will find in your final documents:

- › Luggage weight restrictions on charter flights
- › Hotel information and check in time
- › Charter flight time to embarkation point
- › Embarkation plan
- › Departure charter flight time

Final Day and Departure

DISEMBARKATION IN LONGYEARBYEN AND CHARTER FLIGHT TO HELSINKI

Your voyage is scheduled to end back in Longyearbyen where you will disembark after breakfast. The process takes about an hour and due to port logistics, may involve one last Zodiac ride to the pier. If times allows, you can spend the day exploring Longyearbyen before being transferred to the airport for your charter flight to Helsinki.

DEPARTING FROM HELSINKI

Upon arrival in Helsinki, you'll be transferred to your included hotel for the night. In the morning, make your way to the airport to catch your flight onward.

PLEASE NOTE

Helsinki Hotel Accommodations:

The Charter Flight & Hotel Package for this expedition includes two nights of hotel accommodations (on Day 1 and Day 10 of your expedition) at a hotel attached to Helsinki Airport, which is a convenient 40 minute train ride from the city center.

Arrival and Departure Transfers

HELSINKI AIRPORT TRANSFERS

Our hotel accommodations are provided at Helsinki airport. Transfers should not be required and are not provided.





OCEAN EXPLORER

The modern and elegant *Ocean Explorer* is one of the newest additions to our fleet. The 138-passenger vessel features the ULSTEIN X-BOW®—cutting-edge marine engineering that ensures smooth, comfortable sailing.

Spacious cabins feature bespoke Scandinavian design, most with verandas. Located at the bow is the two-story, light-filled library, which introduces a welcome airiness to the ship. *Ocean Explorer* guests have access to ample outdoor viewing areas and multi-height outer decks, ideal for long-view photography and wildlife viewing.

A fleet of 15 Zodiacs ensures guests disembark quickly and safely for unforgettable off-ship adventures. *Ocean Explorer* has an industry leading mix of sustainability systems, including fuel-efficient Rolls Royce engines.

Wellness options on *Ocean Explorer* feature VOYA spa treatments, sauna and Jacuzzi hydrotherapy, morning stretch sessions, a gym, and health-conscious dining—everything you need stay healthy throughout your expedition.

SHIP SPECIFICATIONS:

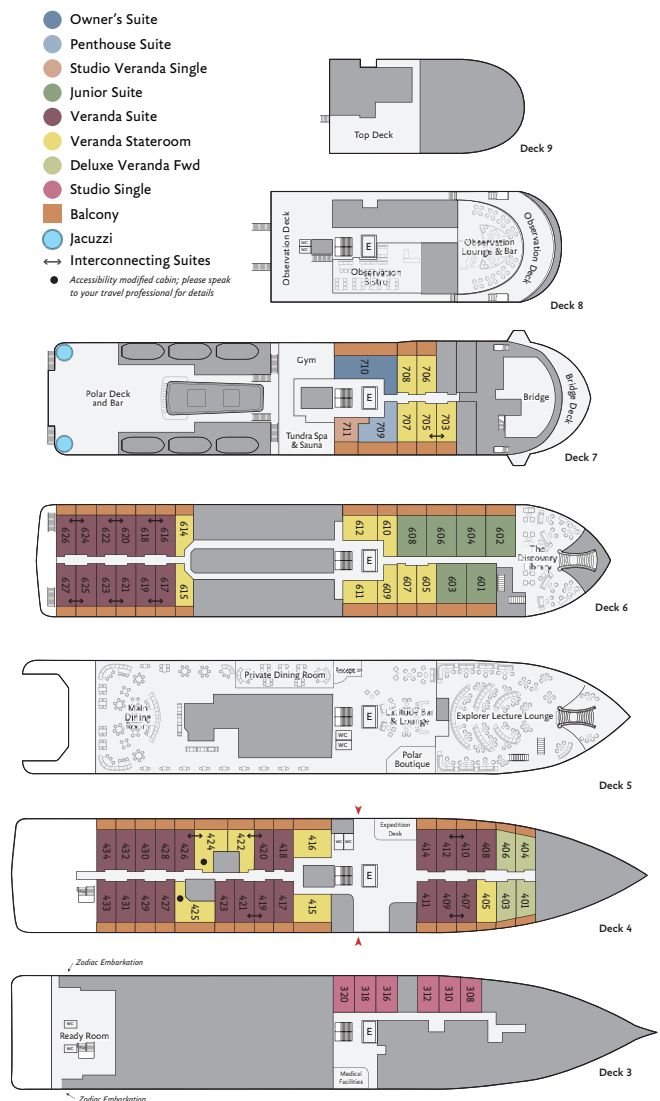
Staff and Crew: 105

Guests: 138

Lifeboats: 2

Ice Class: 1A, PC6

Visit QuarkExpeditions.com to view deck plan details.





ULTRAMARINE

The technologically advanced *Ultramarine* is built to go beyond the familiar in polar travel and to immerse guests in the best the region has to offer.

With 20 Zodiacs strategically positioned at water level for quick deployment, *Ultramarine* offers the industry's largest portfolio of off-ship adventures. The vessel features the most spacious suites in its category, breathtaking public spaces, exceptional wildlife-viewing areas, and sustainability systems that exceed industry standards. *Ultramarine* also features an onboard Science Hub, a centerpiece of our Science & Discovery program.

Ultramarine's wellness amenities include Tundra Spa with VOYA treatments, morning stretch classes, a sauna, a fully equipped fitness center, and health-conscious dining designed to restore balance and vitality at sea.

Ultramarine is designed to deliver unforgettable polar memories.

SHIP SPECIFICATIONS:

Staff and Crew: 140

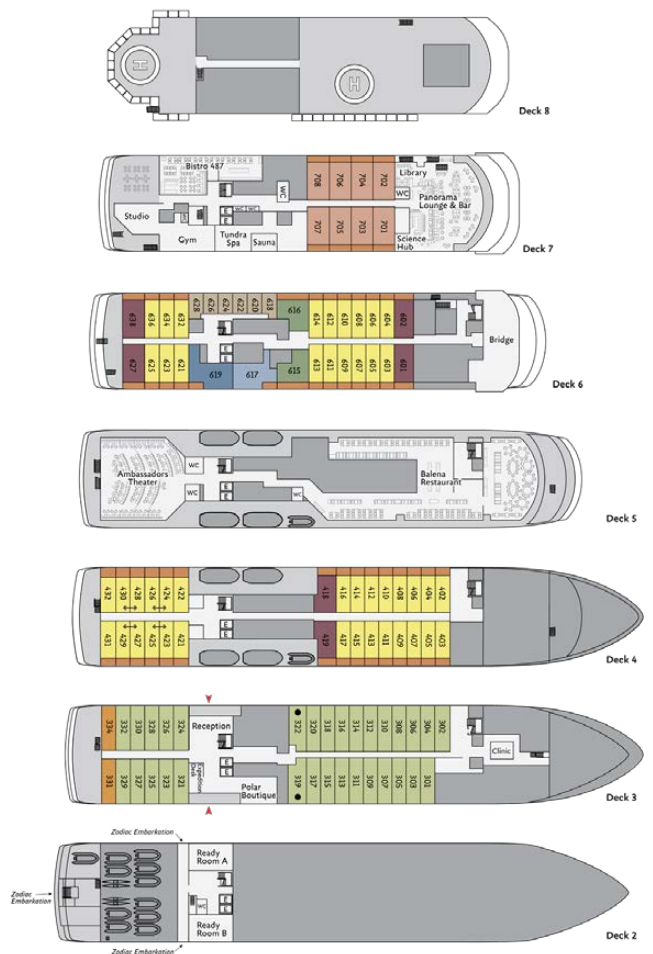
Guests: 199

Lifeboats: 4, fully enclosed

Ice Class: PC6

Visit QuarkExpeditions.com to view deck plan details.

**Ultramarine's two twin-engine helicopters do not operate on our Arctic 2027 voyages.*



- Ultra Suite
- Owner's Suite
- Penthouse Suite
- Terrace Suite
- Deluxe Balcony Suite
- Balcony Suite
- Explorer Suite
- Explorer Triple
- Solo Panorama
- Balcony
- ↔ Interconnecting Suites
- Accessibility modified cabin; please speak to your travel professional for details



Included Activities

All of these activities are included in the price of your trip.

Ready for a little adventure beyond your ship? Each Quark Expeditions® voyage offers a variety of recreational activities to enhance your polar experience.

ZODIAC CRUISING

Zodiacs are the workhorses of polar expeditions, taking you to places the ships can't access, allowing you to reach remote shorelines, explore shallow inlets and spot wildlife. Expedition staff make stepping in and out of them safe and comfortable, and your Zodiac drivers will provide active interpretation, making the landscape come even more alive.

HIKING

Led by experienced staff, exploring on foot is the best way to appreciate the polar landscapes. Our guides are able to accommodate a range of skill levels.

PRESENTATIONS

Enjoy daily chats with and presentations by our world-class onboard polar experts—expedition guides, specialists, photography guides and other special guests who will introduce you to the fascinating history, biology, ornithology, glaciology and geology of the region, and much, much more.

SCIENCE & DISCOVERY

Our Science & Discovery program offers guests the unique opportunity to engage directly with scientists and researchers and participate in citizen science activities with the expedition team to collect and record data. Activities include conducting seabird surveys on deck, documenting whale sightings, and participating in interactive water sampling activities to measure environmental conditions. This program provides travelers with rare, first-hand

experiences that contribute to global scientific research and deepens their understanding of and appreciation for the polar environment.

POLAR PLUNGE

This rite of passage, scheduled only once per expedition, gives you the chance to jump safely into the bracing Arctic waters under the watchful eye of our staff—and just about every single camera on board.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Documenting your voyage so you can take the memories home is a rewarding experience. Our photography guide will help you hone your skills to capture the beauty of the polar regions.

Contact your Polar Travel Adviser or your Travel Professional for more information about your Included Activities and Adventure Options, including the necessary experience, physical requirements and cost.



Adventure Options

All of these activities cost extra and should be booked in advance of your trip.



PLEASE NOTE

Pre-booking is required for all paid activities. We recommend booking early, as spaces fill quickly.

SEA KAYAKING

Imagine gliding across the surface of a bay in the presence of icebergs and glaciers. Our Sea Kayaking program is a great way to intimately explore your surroundings. A small group of kayakers will plan to go out multiple times per voyage as an alternative to shore landings or Zodiac cruises.

The number of opportunities to kayak is weather dependent, and will be conducted only during calm conditions. Prior kayaking experience is required, and you must be able to do a wet exit to participate. Beginners interested in kayaking should consider participating in the Paddling Excursion.

PADDLING EXCURSION

If you're interested in kayaking but would like to try something a bit less demanding than Sea Kayaking, you're the perfect candidate to sign up for a one-time paddle on our stable sit-on-top kayaks—perfect for anyone with minimal or no kayaking experience. Small groups of passengers will be taken out on calm days, with our expert guides always present to provide instruction and help you connect with the polar sea. Two groups of 10 will be pre-booked, and once successfully completed, any subsequent outings will be offered via lottery on board.



Our Commitment to Conservation & Community

We're proud to partner with local communities to create immersive guest experiences that build respect for wildlife, culture and the land, and to work with leading scientists to support the conservation of the Arctic regions.

Empowering Local Development

We champion Arctic communities' goals for economic development and sustainable tourism through local hiring, infrastructure support, and advance visit planning.

Investing Directly in Communities

With guest support, we help fund community-led projects—from food banks to cultural and language-based programs.

Co-creating with Community Partners

By partnering with local groups, we create authentic experiences—such as Tundra to Table, developed with [Igapall](#), which enables Inuit chefs to share Greenlandic cuisine and culture. This program is available on most *Ultramarine* itineraries that operate in Greenland and the Canadian High Arctic.

To also learn about our conservation efforts, and how we connect guests to the natural world through hands-on experiences and education, visit us online at [Community & Conservation](#).



Community



We deliver authentic experiences for our guests that benefit local partners and the communities we visit.





Departure Dates

Svalbard in Summer: Tundra, Whales and Wildlife

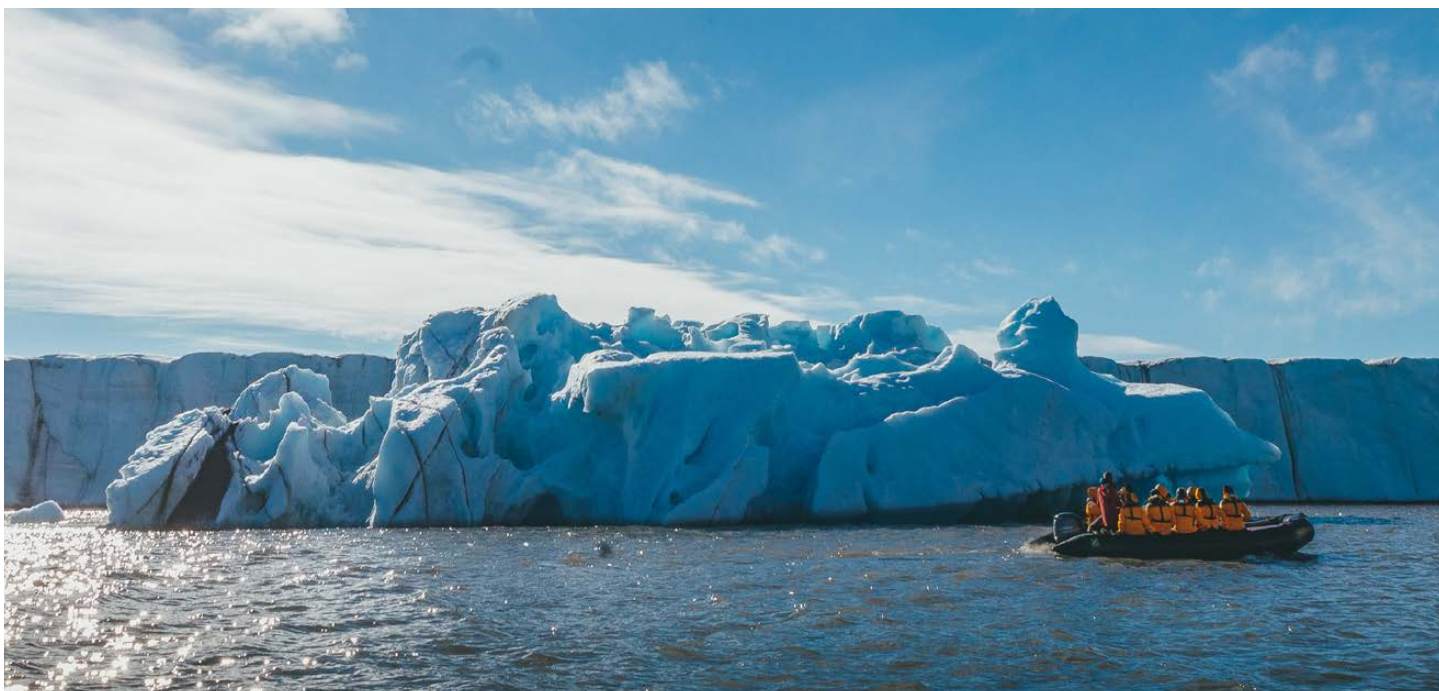
ULTRAMARINE

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Start / End</i>	 Sea Kayaking	 Paddling Excursion
ARCTIC 2027				
JUNE 9 - 19, 2027	11	Helsinki	\$	\$
JUNE 17 - 27, 2027	11	Helsinki	\$	\$

OCEAN EXPLORER

<i>Dates</i>	<i>Days</i>	<i>Start / End</i>	 Sea Kayaking	 Paddling Excursion
ARCTIC 2027				
JUNE 2 - 12, 2027	11	Helsinki	\$	\$
JUNE 10 - 20, 2027	11	Helsinki	\$	\$
JUNE 18 - 28, 2027	11	Helsinki	\$	\$
JUNE 26 - JULY 6, 2027	11	Helsinki	\$	\$
JULY 4 - 14, 2027	11	Helsinki	\$	\$
JULY 12 - 22, 2027	11	Helsinki	\$	\$

\$ Paid Activities



Inclusions and Exclusions

Inclusions

RATES INCLUDE:

- An official Quark Expeditions® parka to keep
- Leadership throughout your voyage by our experienced Expedition Leaders, including shore landings and other activities
- All Zodiac transfers and cruising as per the daily program
- All shore landings as per the daily program
- Shipboard accommodation with daily housekeeping
- All meals, snacks, soft drinks and juices on board throughout your voyage (Please inform us of any dietary requirements as far in advance as possible.)
- Free beer, standard wines, spirits, and cocktails during bar service hours and dinner
- Complimentary select beer, wines and cocktails during bar service hours and dinner
- Formal and informal presentations by our Expedition Team and guest speakers as scheduled
- A photographic journal documenting the expedition
- A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for landings and Zodiac cruising excursions
- Hair dryer and bathrobes in every cabin
- Complimentary Wi-Fi service on one device permitting basic Internet browsing, email, posting on social media and voice applications. (Premium packages are available for more data-intensive applications.) Note: Internet access in the polar regions is subject to geography, climate, and other factors beyond our control
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program
- All luggage handling aboard the ship
- Transfers between Longyearbyen town center, port, and airport on embarkation and disembarkation day.

Exclusions

RATES SPECIFICALLY DO NOT INCLUDE:

- Charter Flight & Hotel Package*
- International airfare
- Arrival and departure transfers in Helsinki
- Passport and visa expenses
- Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above
- Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance—strongly recommended
- Excess-baggage fees on international and domestic flights
- Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising, or any other gear not mentioned
- Laundry, bar, spa and other personal charges unless specified
- Phone charges may vary by location
- Voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for shipboard staff and crew
- Additional overnight accommodation
- Adventure Options not listed in Included Activities

*CHARTER FLIGHT & HOTEL PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Pre- and post-expedition hotel nights at Helsinki airport hotel, with breakfast
- Charter flight from Helsinki to Longyearbyen
- Arrival and departure transfers in Longyearbyen
- Charter flight from Longyearbyen to Helsinki



Your Expedition Team

Our Expedition Leaders and their teams bring diverse expertise in subjects as varied as polar history, marine biology, glaciology, ornithology and photography. Their knowledge and enthusiasm will greatly enhance your immersion into the polar environment and further deepen your connection to the Arctic.

With over 30 years of experience bringing passengers to remote polar regions and an industry-leading staff-to-guest ratio, we know how to safely handle the unexpected. Ensuring this hard earned experience is passed on, our expedition staff receive comprehensive training in Quark Academy, which provides hands-on polar expedition training prior as part of our onboarding process as well as ongoing training for experienced staff.



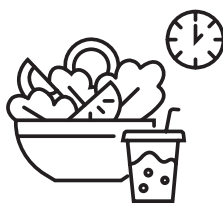


On-Ship Dining

Every on-board meal is included in the cost of your trip.



8 BREAKFASTS



8 LUNCHES



8 DINNERS

If there's one constant on board, it's incredible food. You enjoy three delicious meals daily—all included. Let us know before your expedition about any dietary restrictions.

Breakfasts and lunches are typically buffet-style, while dinners are plated. À la carte meals are made at the time of your order, ensuring top quality every time.

Coffee, tea, cocoa, and water stations are available—at no charge—24/7.

Complimentary soft drinks and juices are served during meals and when the bar is open. Bonus: enjoy complimentary alcohol throughout your voyage (see "Raise A Glass" sidebar for details).

Premium wines and champagne are available for purchase. Our well-stocked bars are open late morning, afternoon, and evening—hours may shift slightly to accommodate the expedition schedule.

Raise A Glass

Enjoy complimentary select beer, wines and select cocktails during bar service hours and dinner—throughout your voyage—as part of our "Raise A Glass and Stay Connected" Program.



Possible Excursions

ALKEFJELLET

This cliff is a seabird colony, where Brünnich's guillemots (thick-billed murre) raise their young. An estimated 60,000 breeding pairs reside on the basalt cliffs. The birds do not build nests; rather, they lay eggs on the bare ledges of the cliff. Witness the spectacle of thousands of birds flying to and from their cliff edge, speckling the sky and water, like a beehive on a much grander scale.

ALKHORNET

These world-famous bird cliffs, located at the entrance to Isfjorden, not far from Longyearbyen, tower above the rugged shoreline. They are teeming with fulmars, Brünnich's guillemots (thick-billed murre) and other nesting seabirds. Sightings of reindeer are possible here too.

BRASVELLBREEN

Bråsvellbreen, an ice cap connected to the larger Austfonna, forms part of a 180 km-long ice cliff. Located on Nordaustlandet—the second-largest island in the Svalbard archipelago—Bråsvellbreen's glacier face is an impressive sight on a Zodiac cruise, stretching all the way to the horizon.

LILLIEHOOKBREEN (LILLIEHÖÖK GLACIER)

In 2005, nearly 100 years after his great-great-grandfather conducted scientific investigations here, Prince Albert II of Monaco returned to Lilliehöök Glacier to honor his ancestor's memory. Here, you can take a Zodiac cruise amid labyrinths of sparkling icebergs, and witness breathtaking panoramas of ice. You may even spot bearded seals hauled out on the floes.

SMEERENBURG

At Smeerenburg you can see the remains of an abandoned settlement that was established by Dutch whalers nearly 400 years ago. Here, at what was once one of Europe's most northerly outposts, you'll have time to explore ashore and learn about Spitsbergen's whaling history.

VARSOLBUKTA

This remote bay in Bellsund is surrounded by Arctic tundra. It is known for reindeer, birdlife, and remnants of historic mining camps along a rugged, scenic coastline.



What to pack on your Arctic expedition

BY SEA

All transfers ship to shore and Zodiac/ship cruising.

- ☐ Waterproof pants (mandatory for every Zodiac ride)
- ☐ Base-layer wool or synthetic top*
- ☐ Base-layer wool or synthetic bottom*
- ☐ Mid-layer warm or fleece top*
- ☐ Mid-layer warm or fleece bottom*
- ☐ Warm hat that covers ears (bring an extra)
- ☐ Scarf, buff, or other face protection
- ☐ Warm wool or synthetic socks (keep a dry pair in your bag, and bring extras for layering)
- ☐ Waterproof gloves or mitts (bring an extra, lighter pair for hiking)
- ☐ Glove liners*
- ☐ Hand and feet warmers*
- ☐ Binoculars
- ☐ Polarized sunglasses with UV protection (consider bringing an eyewear retainer: string/clip etc.)
- ☐ Ski goggles (for Zodiac cruising on snowy or windy days)
- ☐ Waterproof, lightweight backpack or dry sack and/or rain sleeve for camera or a waterproof phone case (to keep camera & gear dry)

*recommended layering depending on the conditions of the day and reflecting your personal thermo-regulation comfort levels.

BY LAND (Shore Excursions and Hiking)

In addition to the gear requirements (as above) mandatory for the transit from ship to shore, it is recommended to bring:

- ☐ Hat, buff or scarf (for wind and weather protection)
- ☐ UV protection (sun hat, polarized sun glasses, sun block, lip balm etc.)
- ☐ Collapsible walking sticks for hikes (if required)
Quantities are available to borrow on every vessel
- ☐ Additional reusable (thermos-regulating) water bottle (in addition to the reusable collapsible water bottle provided)

WHAT TO BRING Packing for the Polar Regions doesn't have to be daunting, and to make it easier for you, all Quark Expeditions voyages include a Quark parka to keep, and a loan of insulated waterproof boots. Additional suggested items include:

TO WEAR ON BOARD

- ☐ The complimentary Quark 3-in-1 Parka provided on board is designed with a waterproof shell that can be worn out on deck, and a removable liner that you can wear to stay comfortable indoors)
- ☐ Comfortable casual clothing like lighter shirts, pants or jeans, etc. (in case the ship gets warm)
- ☐ Comfortable non-slip closed-toed, heelless shoes (flip flops, sandals or slip-on shoes should not be worn on board due to safety concerns)
- ☐ Workout attire (for the fitness center and other indoor activities)
- ☐ Swimsuit for the Polar Plunge. Some vessels may also have a pool, hot tub, sauna and/or steam room. See your ship book for details.

Just a reminder: No formal evening wear required on our voyages but if you would like to bring something a little more dressy for the Captain's welcome and farewell cocktails you may certainly do so.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS

- ☐ Passport, visas, immunization records, travel documents, etc. as required
- ☐ Camera gear—complete with charger, storage medium, transport and cleaning kit (lens cloth etc.) and extra batteries
- ☐ Reusable waterproof bags or plastic bags with zippers (to keep small items organized and cameras dry)
- ☐ Voltage converters and plug adapters (see ship book for details)
- ☐ Seasickness, indigestion, headache, or other medications
- ☐ Earplugs and eye masks for sleeping
- ☐ Moisturizer for face and hands (skin dryness due to wind and temperature changes)
- ☐ Credit Card & Small amount of local currency (see pre-departure book for more details)

- › To view our packing checklist online, visit: [QuarkExpeditions.com/What-to-Pack/Arctic](https://www.quarkexpeditions.com/What-to-Pack/Arctic)
- › Related topics are covered on our Frequently Asked Questions page: [QuarkExpeditions.com/Frequently-Asked-Questions](https://www.quarkexpeditions.com/Frequently-Asked-Questions)



Scan this QR code or [click here](#) to watch our video on what to pack before you go.

WEATHER CONDITIONS & TEMPERATURES

Polar weather is extremely variable; temperatures may hover around the freezing mark and winds can be strong. The extended daylight warms sheltered areas so that you may sometimes find it warm enough for t-shirts. However, you may encounter rain, snow squalls, fog and white-outs during an expedition and should be ready for any conditions.



To book your next adventure
Contact your Travel Professional

Enquiries



Small Ship Expedition Travel Experts

Phone/WhatsApp:
+46 101 302 123
mail@expeditionsonline.com
www.expeditionsonline.com
Rakstavägen 2
135 67 Tyresö, Sweden

Photos captured with a telephoto lens from a responsible distance, following regulatory/AECO guidelines.

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EXPEDITION BROCHURE
September 12, 2025

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