

# Spitsbergen Highlights

## Wildlife Capital of the Arctic

Onboard Ultramarine & Ocean Explorer



Photos captured with a telephoto lens

# Expedition Overview



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

## The Best Wildlife Viewing in the Arctic

This rocky island is crowned with mountains, glaciers, towering cliffs, and fjords that host thriving, diverse ecosystems. Our 8-day **Spitsbergen Highlights: Wildlife Capital of the Arctic** lets you experience as much of the Svalbard wilderness as possible. Our expert guides will maximize opportunities for you to spot walrus, Arctic birds, reindeer, polar bears and other iconic Arctic creatures while Zodiac cruising, hiking and kayaking.

- Spot iconic Arctic wildlife, such as polar bears, walrus and reindeer
- Enjoy a week of pure Arctic adventure
- Cruise in a Zodiac to explore glaciers, fjords, icebergs and more
- Hike the colorful tundra with expert guides
- Immerse yourself in the icy Arctic with optional kayaking.

# Day by Day Itinerary



— Onboard *Ultramarine* and *Ocean Explorer*

- - - Flights to/from Helsinki

## 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 & 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, part of your 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.

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### Days 3–6

#### Exploring Svalbard

You'll sail around the shores of this magical archipelago, constantly searching for natural wonders. Covering western Spitsbergen, your expedition will afford ample opportunities to view immense glaciers, deep fjords, soaring mountains and unique flora and fauna.

Sailing north into Krossfjorden, have your camera handy, ready to capture some of the best glacier calving in Spitsbergen. Deep in the fjord, the highly active Lilliehöök Glacier awaits. Listen in awe to the growling as big chunks break off into the icy waters below. A Zodiac excursion to nearby Ny-London, an abandoned mining settlement, provides an ideal place for a guided walk. Sightings of wildlife, such as the endemic Svalbard reindeer, might be possible here.

After cruising overnight, wake up to the stunning sight of the magnificent Monaco Glacier, another prolific iceberg producing glacier. To make this even more thrilling, help your Expedition Team to scan the shorelines and ice edge for marine mammals. Possible landing sites include Texas Bar, Worsleyneset and Alicehamna.

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. Afterwards, cruising to Magdalenefjorden rewards you with panoramic vistas of snow-capped mountains and massive glaciers reflected in the crystal-clear waters.

We hope to round out the day in Alkhornet, taking in the towering cliffs teeming with nesting seabirds, such as fulmars and Brünnich's guillemots (thick-billed murre). Sightings of reindeer are possible here too. Later, in the evening, swap stories with your shipmates and crew one last time at the captain's farewell dinner.

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### Day 7

#### 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.

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### Day 8

#### 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.

# Arrival & Departure Details



\* Arrive at the hotel on Day 1 by 3pm or earlier. Day 1 includes a mandatory briefing.  
✈ International flights are not included in the cost of the voyage.



## Day 1 Arrival 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 p.m. A Quark Expeditions representative will be available in the lobby of the hotel later in the day to answer any questions.

- Arrive in the Finnish capital of Helsinki
- If you have any questions, a Quark Expeditions representative will be in the lobby later in the day.



## 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.

- Fly to Longyearbyen, Svalbard
- Embark on your exciting expedition



## Disembarkation Day 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 it may involve one last Zodiac ride to the pier. If times allows, you can spend the day exploring Longyearbyen before you're transferred to the airport for your charter flight to Helsinki. Upon arrival in Helsinki, you will be transferred to your included hotel for the night.

- Disembark in Longyearbyen
- Fly to Helsinki for the night
- Homeward-bound the following morning

## Spitsbergen Highlights Wildlife Capital of the Arctic



### Final Day

#### Departing from Helsinki

After breakfast at the hotel (which is included), make your way to the airport to catch your onward flight, or continue to exploring locally.

### Airport Transfers

#### Helsinki Airport Transfers

Included hotel accommodations are provided at the Helsinki airport; therefore, transfers are not required.

### Luggage Restrictions

- Fly with one checked bag and one carry-on only.

This expedition includes charter flights. Your package includes one checked bag and one carry-on bag. Luggage weight restrictions on these flights are typically lower than those on international carriers. There is no option to pay for additional luggage. Specific weight limits will be confirmed in your final travel documents.



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# Book Your Next Adventure

Contact your travel professional  
or a Quark Expeditions Polar  
Travel Advisor.

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