

# Explore Earth's Real Arctic Wilderness *Svalbard*

*Last stop before the  
North Pole*



**Group Departure**

**4<sup>th</sup> July  
2025**

**11 Days**



## **-: Highlights :-**

Enjoy the immense beauty of Svalbard on this "express" Arctic adventure cruise among whales, walrus, polar bears and millions of sea birds. Experience high summer in the Arctic with Ocean Albatros - one of the few ice-class expedition ships built to withstand the Arctic pack ice. Embark on an incredible journey as you traverse through icy waters and landscapes in seven action-packed days. Get ready to explore and discover the unique ecology of this mountainous and glacier-clad island - and experience the true majesty of the high Arctic. As we cruise up to 80 degrees north, we will get as close as possible to the pack ice north of Svalbard - a constantly shifting wilderness of ice and sea which stretches to the North Pole and beyond. This far north, everything is governed by the sea, wind and ice conditions - your expedition leader and Captain will work hard to find the best conditions and opportunities to explore.

## **-: Detailed Itinerary :-**

### **DAY DEPART KOLKATA**

**1** Today you begin your journey by boarding your outbound flight to Oslo.

**[Meals On Board]**



### **ARRIVE OSLO DAY 2**

Welcome to Oslo, surrounded by mountains and sea, this compact, cultured and fun city has a palpable sense of reinvention. Oslo is famous for modern design and architecture. On arrival at Oslo Airport, meet and transfer to your hotel. Dinner & Overnight stay.

**[Breakfast On Board & Dinner]**

### **DAY LONGYEARBYEN, SPITSBERGEN - EMBARKATION**

**3** After breakfast, we will take our flight to Longyearbyen in Svalbard, renowned as the world's northernmost city. Immediately after landing in Longyearbyen, you find yourself in a different world. The chilly Arctic breeze can be felt as soon as you step onto the tarmac, and the famous signpost outside the terminal reminds visitors how far north they really are; as well as to keep watch for bears! The snow-capped mountain Hjørthfjellet looms over the airport on the far side of Adventfjorden, and off in the distance can be seen the saw-toothed peaks and languid glaciers of northern Spitzbergen. After arrival, you will board the awaiting Ocean Albatros. After our mandatory safety briefing and lifeboat drill, head onto the outer decks to watch your expedition vessel leave civilisation behind... And set a course for adventure!

**[Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner]**

### **NORTHWEST SPITSBERGEN DAY 4**

One of the largest protected wilderness areas in Europe, North West Svalbard was declared a national park in 1973. The area is famed for its history, which documents some of the earliest human arrivals on Svalbard. Today, all that remains from this period of history are bones and the scant remnants of human habitation. Slowly reclaimed by creeping Arctic nature, the region is now a nature lovers paradise. Tiny Arctic poppies and purple saxifrage defy the brutal conditions to flower in the brief summer, while geese, eider ducks and other seabirds return to the island to raise their young. Walrus can be found hauled out on beaches, and we must always be on careful lookout for wandering polar bears in this now again wild region.

**[Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner]**



## **DAY NORTHEAST SVALBARD**

**5** In the morning we cruise into the vast icy wilderness of northeastern Svalbard. This region does not receive the ocean currents which keep western Svalbard warm and wet, and thus the environment is radically different, with rocky polar desert landscapes. Vast glaciers flow from the mountains into the sea, which is often choked with ice, even in summer. While it may appear barren, the truth is it is anything but. Hardy animals such as Arctic foxes eke out a living on these chilly shores, constantly on the lookout for prey. In the cliffs above the sea, hundreds of thousands of seabirds crowd on rocky ledges, carefully tending their precious eggs. While the coastal waters of the area are cold, they are incredibly productive; shellfish grown in abundance, and these in turn are preyed upon by walrus, which are common in the area. The exact locations we visit will depend on the sea, wind and ice conditions in the area, which vary year on year, and can change rapidly even in summer - this is the essence of polar exploration, moving with the rhythms of Mother Nature, and taking the opportunities to explore which she provides!

**[ || Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner ]**

## **NORTH SVALBARD DAY 6**

Now we reach some of the northernmost pieces of land on Earth - the northerly coasts of Svalbard, barren landscapes almost permanently beset by ice. With luck we may reach the island of Nordaustlandet and hopefully the seven (or nine, depending on how you count) smaller islands of Sjuøyane in the far north of Svalbard. The almost vegetation-free, rocky islands are located around 1000 km farther north than mainland Norway's famous Nordkapp. Weather permitting, we will land and walk upon these most northern landmasses. The high Arctic islands are quite barren, and only moss and lichens cover the stones. The birdlife is rich in this area, with flocks of grazing geese and some of the rarer gull species frequently seen on these islands. Definitely bring your binoculars! At the end of the day, we will start cruising towards the Arctic ice pack, which stretches from Svalbard to the North Pole.

**[ || Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner ]**

## **DAY INTO THE ICE**

**7** An icy breeze touches your exposed cheeks. The scent of snow and sea fills your nostrils. Sunlight reflects off the floating ice, illuminating the clouds overhead. Enter an environment like no other, the vast shape-shifting realm of floating ice which crowns our planet. The vast ever-changing ice pack to the north of Svalbard stretches from this already isolated archipelago to the North Pole, and onwards across the Arctic Ocean towards the northern shores of Chukotka and Alaska. The Arctic ice pack is one of Earth's largest habitats, although unlike most it varies hugely year on year, expanding in winter and retreating in summer. The location of the sea ice around Svalbard can also vary wildly - however, your Expedition Leader will work hard to maximise our chances of finding and exploring this impossibly remote environment. As Ocean Albatros pushes through the narrow channels in the ice, tiny cod-like fish can be seen silhouetted against the ice in the clear water. Kittiwakes and Glaucous Gulls follow the vessel as it disturbs the water. Further out on the ice, black dots appear; moving closer, they resolve into seals, basking on the ice. A plume of water reflects the sunshine - a pod of belugas perhaps, or maybe even the vast gentle bowhead whale crushing the ice from below as its massive body surfaces. There, beyond the banks of rucked ice - a yellowish dot pads along the ice, the head swinging from side to side: the King of the Arctic continues his never-ending quest for prey. This is the kingdom of the polar bear, the vast icy wastes at the top of the world.

**[ || Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner ]**

## **KONGSFJORDEN AREA, NORTHWEST SPITZBERGEN DAY 8**

During the 'night' (what is night, when the sun never sets?), Ocean Albatros will have repositioned past the saw-toothed mountains of Prins Karls Forland and arrived in magnificent Kongsfjord. Surrounded by craggy mountains, bounded by the magnificent Kongsbreen and Kongvegen Glaciers, and crowned by the Three Crowns (a set of pyramidal mountains said to represent the monarchies of Norway, Sweden and Denmark), this is surely one of the most beautiful and tranquil corners anywhere in the world. Our first landing will be at the small settlement of Ny Ålesund. Situated further north than Longyearbyen, Ny-Ålesund is Earth's northernmost settlement, if a group of scientific stations, a post office and a single shop open for a few hours can be described as such... You will have to judge for yourself!

**[ || Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner ]**



**DAY LONGYEARBYEN, SPITSBERGEN - DISEMBARKATION**

**9** On the final morning of our expedition, we arrive in Longyearbyen, Svalbard - the world's northernmost... everything! Even this small town will feel like a metropolis after days of splendid isolation in the wilderness of the Arctic! After a fond farewell to the crew and fellow guests of Ocean Albatros, return to Svalbard Airport and join your flight back to the Norwegian mainland- Oslo.

**[ 🍴 Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner ]**

**OSLO - FINAL DEPARTURE** **DAY 10**

Today after checkout proceed for an orientation tour of Oslo including the renowned Vigeland Sculpture Park, showcasing over 200 works by the famous Norwegian sculptor Gustav Vigeland. Also enjoy an orientation tour of the Royal Palace (outside) and the picturesque Oslo harbour. Later proceed to Airport for your final flight back to India with memories to last a lifetime.

**[ 🍴 Breakfast & Dinner On Board ]**

**DAY ARRIVE KOLKATA**

**11** Tour Ends. Return to home with everlasting memory of your North Pole Tour.

**Package price**

PRICE FROM	ADULT (TWIN/DOUBLE SHARE)	CHILD [2-11 Years] WITH BED	CHILD [2-5 Years] WITHOUT BED	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT	TRIPLE REDUCTION
KOLKATA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA

**-: Inclusions :-**

- Return Economy Class Air Ticket Ex- CCU (Kolkata).
- Superior Tourist Class Hotels on Twin Sharing basis.
- Cruise on Ocean Albatros in a shared double room with a private bathroom.
- English-speaking expedition staff.
- Guided walks with the expedition team.
- Nature hikes and Zodiac cruises per itinerary.
- Information briefings and lectures by the expedition team.
- Full board on the ship.
- Welcome and farewell cocktails.
- Digital visual journal link after the voyage, including voyage log, gallery, species list, and more.
- All Taxes, Entrance Fees & Service Charges as mentioned in the itinerary
- Overseas Medical & Travel Insurance upto 60 years
- Visa Processing Charges (As on 01<sup>st</sup> Jan 2025)
- Service of a Tour Leader from Kolkata.



### **-: Exclusions :-**

- Government of India Goods & Services Tax (GST) of 5%.
- TCS 5% applicable on total tour Package (incl. of all taxes).
- Extra amount Insurance for 60 years and above.
- Porterage.
- Any extra expense incurred due to any forced majeure situation before the tour departure or during the tour.
- Any extra cost incurred due to illness, accident, hospitalization or any personal emergency.
- Passport related services.
- Personal expense like porterage, laundry, telephone, shopping, alcoholic beverages, extra mineral water or food which is not a part of group's set meal plan.
- Anything specifically not mentioned in the 'tour price includes' column.
- Any increase in Taxes if imposed by Airline/Govt./Visa Authorities.
- City Taxes (As on 01<sup>st</sup> Jan 2025).
- Tips for Overseas Tour Guides & Coach Drivers.
- Tips for the crew.
- Extra optional excursions and activities not mentioned in the itinerary.

### **-: Disclaimer :-**

**The itinerary, tour price & hotels are subject to change under unavoidable circumstances without prior notice.**

### **-: Payment Terms :-**

**\*\*Registration Fees: Rs. 1,00,000/- Per Person. Balance payable 6 weeks prior to departure.**

N.B. All pricing is based on minimum group size of 20 adults and worked out as per rates available on 01<sup>st</sup> January 2025 which are subject to change without notice if such rates change prior to departure. Airfare & Airline is subject to change as per availability & due to situations beyond our control.



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**[www.travroamholidays.com](http://www.travroamholidays.com)**



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