

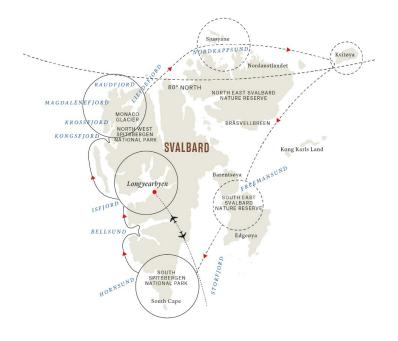
## **CIRCUMNAVIGATING SVALBARD - THE ULTIMATE 14 DAY EXPEDITION**

### Wild nature, untamed scenery

Going further east and deeper into polar bear territory than any of our other Svalbard expeditions, our goal is to fully circumnavigate the Svalbard archipelago - ice conditions permitting. Whether you opt to experience the ever-changing icescape of early summer, or see the kaleidoscope of colour later in the season, you'll be immersed in incredible scenery and see iconic wildlife, with several days dedicated to exploring.

### Land of infinite wonder

Svalbard contains vast and pristine nature reserves where few humans ever set foot. It's the domain of seabirds, such as Brunnich's Guillemots and kittiwakes, as well as mammals like reindeer, walruses and seals. Early in the season we'll explore close to the northern ice edge, while later on we'll see the land bursting to life with wildflowers. As we sail, we'll be on the lookout for marine animals in the waters around us, including graceful and mighty whales.



### **ITINERARY**

### DAY 1 Longyearbyen

After a flight from Oslo, your adventure begins with an overnight stay in the world's northernmost town, Longyearbyen.

A colourful frontier settlement where people are outnumbered by snowmobiles, Longyearbyen is a unique place on the edge of the Arctic wilderness. If you have time, head out to explore this special town, before enjoying a relaxing evening at your leisure.

### DAY 2 Longyearbyen adventures

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#### After breakfast, it's time to experience Longyearbyen.

The town  $\_$  \_ is perfect for exploring on foot. Stroll down the main street and you might see Svalbard reindeer saunter by. Although wild, they're curious and tame.

Before boarding your ship in the afternoon and continuing your Arctic discovery, join an included excursion and get a glimpse of this amazing polar bear-inspired region at the top of the world. And if you'd like to discover even more of Longyearbyen's special surroundings, why not join our optional Pre-Programme.

### DAY 3 Peaceful Ny-Ålesund

Today you'll discover the serenity of Ny-Ålesund and neighbouring fjords such as Krossfjord and Kongsfjord. Disconnect and enjoy a day without distractions as the Norwegian Mapping Authority's nearby geodetic station means we must switch off Wi-Fi and Bluetooth.

One of the northernmost settlements and a former mining town, Ny-Ålesund was the starting point for Roald Amundsen's expeditions north with the airship 'Norge'. Now a hub for global science and climate research, you can still see remnants of the town's history.

You'll be immersed in rugged, glacial scenery as we explore the fjords around Ny-Ålesund. Be ready for adventure; we'll seize any opportunity to launch our small expedition boats, go ashore to hike or cruise by majestic glaciers.

### DAYS 4-5 Northwest Spitsbergen National Park

Over the next three days, you'll explore the natural beauty and rugged tundra of Northwest Spitsbergen National Park. In this wilderness of steep mountains, stark glaciers and beautiful offshore islands, we'll scan for animals of the Arctic - whales, seals, walruses and reindeer. If we're really lucky, we might even see the elusive polar bear from the Observation Deck of the ship. In stunning Kongsfjord, you may see impressive glaciers calving into the sea.

Be ready for adventure; we'll seize any opportunity to launch our kayaks or use our small expedition boats and go ashore to hike or participate in a beach clean up.

### DAYS 6-7 Ice edge attempt

If conditions allow, we'll sail north and cross the 80th parallel to explore the ever-changing ice edge. The transition zone between the ice cap and the sea is a magical yet ephemeral place where the waters are filled with ice floes and drifting pack ice. From the ship there are great opportunities here for spotting wildlife, such as seals and walruses who lounge photogenically on the sparkling ice. And if the conditions are right, we'll lower our expedition boats into the water and enjoy an unforgettable close-up experience amid the floating ice.

The ice edge isn't a fixed boundary, and it moves depending on the season and conditions, so visiting it will be an attempt rather than a certainty. From May to August, as summer progresses, it retreats further towards the pole, meaning it may be out of reach for us. If this is the case then we'll instead explore the no-less-impressive deep fjords, mighty glaciers and enchanting scenery of the Svalbard coast. In late July and into August, this is a time when the wildflowers appear, blanketing the landscape with a blaze of beauty and colour.

### DAYS 8-11 Exploring the east

Be ready for anything as this stage of your voyage continues to be truly adventurous. If sea ice permits, we'll continue east, exploring the pristine wilderness of northeast Svalbard before heading south in our attempt to fully circumnavigate the archipelago.

Perhaps we'll head to the immense Brasvellbreen glacier to see waterfalls tumbling into the icy depths, or lower our small boats around Kvitøy. Every day in the east will be a new opportunity to look for polar bears roaming the ice. Continuing south, we may head to Freemansundet and Kapp Lee or take our small expedition boats to Edgeøya or Barentsøya.

In true expedition style, exactly where we'll go will depend on the conditions on the day. Channel your inner explorer on exhilarating landings, hikes and kayak trips, and look out for wildlife like polar bears, walruses, guillemots and gulls.

And if the ice doesn't allow us to pass to the east, you'll experience just as much adventure: we'll delve deeper into the wonders of western Svalbard or attempt to circumnavigate Spitsbergen through the Hinlopen Strait. We'll take a flexible route through deep fjords and by soaring mountains, seeking out remarkable Arctic wildlife.

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### DAYS 12-13 Hornsund and Bellsund

Your expedition cruise continues south towards Hornsund - one of Svalbard's most beautiful fjords. Rich, colourful vegetation makes way for towering mountains along this picturesque waterway. Head out on deck to spot seals and whales, Mount Hornsundtind, and glaciers calving into the sea.

Then we head to Bellsund, whose cliffs are home to large colonies of auks, guillemots and Northern Fulmars, along with Arctic foxes and Svalbard reindeer below. Look out for the early mining settlements here and learn about Wanny Woldstad, the first female trapper.

Our activities today will be determined by the ever-changing weather conditions of Hornsund and Bellsund. Your Expedition Team will decide on the best possibilities for exploring on the day.

### DAY 14 Return to Longyearbyen

Your Arctic adventure comes to an end back in Longyearbyen. A transfer will take you to the airport for your flight to Oslo. You'll return home knowing more about Arctic animals, history, polar ice and climate change than you arrived with - and memories of an incredible experience.

If you're not ready to say goodbye just yet, why not spend some more time in the Arctic and join our optional Post-Programme.

### **Please Note**

Itineraries subject to change.

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# YOUR SHIP: FRAM

Wild Earth Travel Small Ships, Big Adventures

YOUR SHIP:	Fram
VESSEL TYPE:	Expedition
LENGTH:	114m
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	276
BUILT/REFURBISHED:	2007

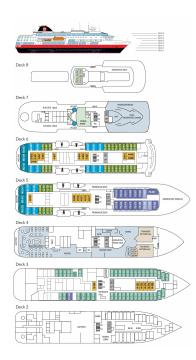
MS Fram is designed for sailing in polar waters, holds the highest safety standards and is the perfect size for optimum nautical manoeuverability and guests' comfort. With space for only 276 guests, you are sure to get to know many of your fellow travellers. You will share stunning sights and memories of a lifetime long after returning home. The Norwegian word Fram means 'forward' - lifting expectations of the voyage at hand.

MS Fram was built in 2007 with one mission in mind - to bring her guests closer to nature, wildlife and unforgettable experiences. As well as offering numerous lounges in which to relax, our more active guests can use our well-equipped gym. Meanwhile, on deck, our Jacuzzis guarantee you surreal memories when passing the towering icebergs of Antarctica or Greenland.





# **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**



### Arctic Superior. From





Expedition Suite. From

Polar Inside. From

Polar Outside. From





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### **PRICING**

14-Jul-2025 to 27-Jul-2025		
Polar Outside. From	20922 AUD pp	
Arctic Superior. From	22012 AUD pp	
Expedition Suite. From	27614 AUD pp	
Polar Inside. From	0 pp	
04-Aug-2025 to 17-Aug-2025		
Polar Outside. From	20922 AUD pp	
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Expedition Suite. From	27614 AUD pp	
Polar Inside. From	0 pp	
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Polar Inside. From	19322 AUD pp	
Polar Outside. From	22217 AUD pp	
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