



## EAST & SOUTH GREENLAND EXPLORER — AURORA BOREALIS EXPEDITION CRUISE

Southeast Greenland offers many historic sites relating to ancient Thule, Norse, and Moravian culture while also allowing us to walk in the footsteps of famed polar explorers like Fridtjof Nansen. Glaciers, icebergs, and fjords make for a dazzling environment where we may see polar bears, and the crossing to Iceland will give us a great opportunity to observe migrating whales and seabirds. Along the way the Northern Lights is guiding our way.



### ITINERARY

#### Day 1: On the Iceland road

Your journey begins in the morning - the scent of adventure is on the air! By request, you can transfer via chartered bus (T) from the bus stop at Harpa Concert Hall and Conference Centre at Austurbakki, Reykjavik (the meeting point), to the ship in Akureyri (the embarkation point). You arrive in the afternoon after a six-hour drive through the beautiful landscapes of Northern Iceland.

PLEASE NOTE: This transfer (T) must be booked and paid for in advance. In the early evening, the ship departs from the port of Akureyri, sailing north toward the Denmark Strait.

#### Day 2-14: Sailing to East Greenland



#### Sailing to east Greenland

While sailing north, you will likely see various bird life, including fulmars, kittiwakes, gannets, and common guillemots. You then cross the Arctic Circle, possibly spotting whales. By evening, the first icebergs flash into sight with your approach to the east Greenland Blosseville coast, a wild, remote, and dramatic area. With a fresh breeze in the air, your Arctic adventure has truly begun.

#### A myriad of mighty fjords and valleys

Sailing southward along the East Greenland coast, we enter several fjords competing in beauty: d'Aunay, Nansen, Kangerlussuaq, and possibly either Ikersuaq or Kangertitsivaqmiit. Most of these fjords feature glacier front at the head, and any one of them can offer us a chance to spot polar bears and narwhals. The head of Mikis Fjord provides good possibilities for a long hike. The landscapes you will see in this area are typical of this part of Greenland and are especially beautiful.

#### Smalltown Greenland

Tasiilaq, once known as Angmagssalik (about 2,000 inhabitants), is our next port of call. This charming town is the center of East Greenland, boasting a museum where you can learn about the colorful local history of this incredibly remote area.

#### In the steps of Nansen

We next sail south to land at Umivik, an accessible bay where the explorer Fridtjof Nansen ascended the Greenland ice sheet during his pioneering 1888 Greenland expedition. Nansen and his party crossed the Greenland ice sheet, reaching Godthaab on the west coast, where they remained for several months before being picked up. In Umivik, you may even be able to trace his footsteps with a short walk in the area.

#### The valley of Mariedal

Today, we circumnavigate Skjoldungen through one of the most spectacular fjords of southeast Greenland. We then land at Qornoq to see the remains of houses from the Thule culture. We will then visit Mariedal, a beautiful valley once frequented by Greenlanders, to collect berries in autumn.

#### Exploring Greenland's settled past

Moving on to Timmiarmiut, we can see an abandoned Greenlandic settlement and, weather-dependent, possibly sail into the fjord. Polar bears have sometimes been spotted here. As an alternative, we may visit Igutsait, another fjord just to the south.

#### Prins Christian Sund mountains

One of the highlights of the voyage is our westward passing of the Prins Christian Sund, surrounded by mountains of over 1,000 meters (3,300 feet). We may land at Svaerdfiskens Havn or, in the evening, at Ikigait, once known as Herjolfsnes, a former Norse settlement.

#### Hot springs and Moravian mission

We will then try to get to Uunartoq, where we can bathe in a large, hot natural spring surrounded by icebergs. Across the bay, at Vagar, we find the remains of a Norse homestead. Later, we reach Lichtenau, a lovely, though nearly deserted, Greenlandic village where the Hernhuters established and maintained a religious mission in the 18th century. Some of their large German-style buildings still remain.

#### Erik the Red's base

In Eriksfjord, we land at Ittileq, in a bay from which we can walk 4 km (2.5 miles) into Igaliku (Gardar). In this small Greenlandic village, we can see the remains of a 13th-century Norse church and other ruins. Then, in the afternoon, we plan to visit Bratthalid, the base of Erik the Red, the famous Norse explorer who was the first European to found a settlement in Greenland. This sub-Arctic area has birch trees, agriculture, and cattle - not common across much of Greenland. Later that evening, we will arrive at Narssarsuaq for the final night of our voyage.

#### Day 15: Saying goodbye to Greenland

On the final day of your journey, you will disembark the vessel in Narssarsuaq, concluding your Arctic adventure. From the nearby WW2-era airport, you may choose to fly to destinations such as Copenhagen, Keflavik, or Nuuk, or opt to continue exploring Greenland at your own pace. While the voyage comes to an end, the unforgettable moments and discoveries will stay with you forever.

#### Please note:



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Itineraries are subject to change.

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## YOUR SHIP: PLACIUS

<b>YOUR SHIP:</b>	<b>Plancius</b>
<b>VESSEL TYPE:</b>	<b>Expedition</b>
<b>LENGTH:</b>	<b>89 metres</b>
<b>PASSENGER CAPACITY:</b>	<b>108 - 116</b>
<b>BUILT/REFURBISHED:</b>	<b>1976 / 2009</b>

M/v "Plancius" was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and was named "Hr. Ms. Tydeman". The ship sailed for the Dutch Navy until June 2004 and was eventually purchased by Oceanwide Expeditions. The vessel was completely rebuilt as a passenger vessel in 2009 and complies with the latest SOLAS-regulations (Safety Of Life At Sea). M/v "Plancius" is classed by Lloyd's Register and flies the Dutch flag.

Perfect for any expedition

M/v "Plancius" accommodates 108 passengers with private toilet and shower in 4 quadruple porthole cabins, 9 twin porthole cabins, 25 twin cabins with window and 2 twin deluxe cabins, all (ca. 12,5 square meters) and 10 twin superior cabins (ca. 21 square meters). All cabins offer lower berths (one queen-size bed in the superior cabins and two single beds in the twin cabins), except for the 4 quadruple cabins (for 4 persons in 2x upper and lower beds).

Plancius: a vessel with comfort and character

Please be aware that a small number of cabins may have a partially obstructed view due to the design requirements of the ship. The best view is always on the outer deck or the bridge. The

vessel offers a restaurant/lecture room on deck 3 and a spacious observation lounge (with bar) on deck 5 with large windows, offering full panorama view. M/v "Plancius" has large open deck spaces (with full walk-around possibilities on deck 4), giving excellent opportunities to enjoy the scenery and wildlife. She is furthermore equipped with 10 Mark V zodiacs, including 40 HP 4-stroke outboard engines and 2 gangways on the starboard side, guaranteeing a swift zodiac operation. M/v "Plancius" is comfortable and nicely decorated, but is not a luxury vessel. Our voyages in the Arctic and Antarctic regions are primarily defined by an exploratory educational travel programme, spending as much time ashore as possible. Plancius fully meets our demands to achieve this. The vessel is equipped with a diesel-electric propulsion system which reduces the noise and vibration of the vessel considerably. The 3 diesel engines generate 1.230 horse-power each, giving the vessel a speed of 10 - 12 knots. The vessel is ice-strengthened and was specially built for oceanographic voyages. M/v "Plancius" is manned by an international crew of 40 (20 nautical crew and 20 hotel crew), 8 expedition staff (1 expedition leader, 1 assistant expedition leader and 6 guides/lecturers), and 1 doctor.

Age and Nationality

Passengers on a typical voyage range from their 30s to their 80s - with a majority usually from 45 - 65. Our expeditions attract independent-minded travellers from around the world. They are characterised by a strong interest in exploring remote regions. The camaraderie and spirit that develops aboard is an important part of the expedition experience. Many departures have several

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nationalities on board.

Dress code

In keeping with our expeditions atmosphere, dress on board is informal. Bring casual and comfortable clothing for all activities. Keep in mind that much of the spectacular scenery can be appreciated from deck, which can be slippery. Bring sturdy shoes with no-slip soles and make sure the parka is never far away in case of the call "Whales!" comes over the loudspeaker and you have to dash outside. Wear layers since it is comfortably warm aboard the ship - and often cold on deck.

Currency & payment

Refreshments from the bar and souvenirs will be charged to your cabin. The day before departure you can settle your bill with the Hotel Manager and pay by credit card (Visa or MasterCard) or cash (Euro or Dollar). We do not accept cheques of any kind. The prices and standard currency on board our vessels is the Euro. Other currencies may be accepted at the discretion of the hotel manager at prevailing rates.

Electric current

The electrical supply aboard the ship is 220v, 60Hz. Electrical outlets are standard European with two thick round pins. You may need a 220v/110v converter.

Gratuities

The customary gratuity to the ship's service personnel is made as a blanket contribution at the end of the voyage which is divided among the crew. Tipping is a very personal matter and the amount you wish to give is at your discretion. As a generally accepted guideline, we suggest US\$8 to US\$10 per person per day. It is better for the crew, if you can give them cash US Dollar.

Non-smoking policy

On board our vessels we have a non-smoking policy. It is

prohibited to smoke inside the ship. You can smoke in the designated smoking areas. Please respect the wishes of non-smokers.

Your physical condition

You must be in good general health and you should be able to walk several hours per day. The expedition is ship-based and physically not very demanding. Although we spend as much time as possible ashore, you are welcome to remain aboard the ship if you like. To join most excursions, you must be able to get up and down the steep gangway from the ship to the water level to board the Zodiacs. Staff will assist you in and out of the boats. This will become progressively easier with practice. Ashore it can be slippery and rocky. You are travelling in remote areas without access to sophisticated medical facilities, so you must not join this expedition if you have a life-threatening condition, or need daily medical treatment.



treatment.

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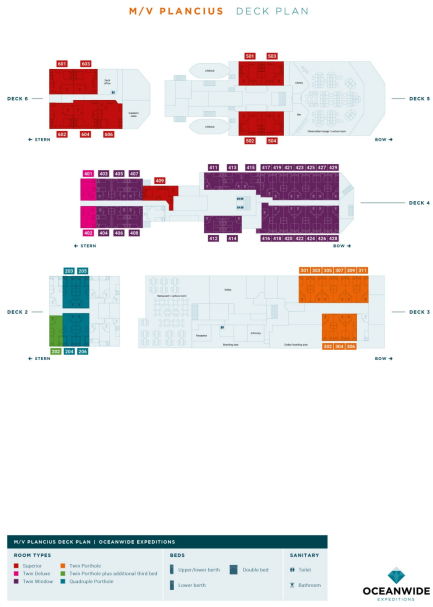




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**INSIDE YOUR SHIP**



**Quadruple Porthole**



**Superior**



**Triple Porthole**



**Twin Deluxe**



**Twin Porthole**



**Twin Window**





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**PRICING**

25-Aug-2026 to 08-Sep-2026

Quadruple Porthole	8350 USD pp
Triple Porthole	10100 USD pp
Twin Porthole	11650 USD pp
Twin Window	12850 USD pp
Twin Deluxe	13650 USD pp
Superior	15150 USD pp

**Optional extras & upgrades**

**2 Transfer supplement 150 USD**

2 Transfer supplement (T) USD 150 pp for bus shuttle from Reykjavik (bus stop Harpa concert hall) to Akureyri (ship), approx. 6 hours