

# **POLAR BEARS IN THE CHANGING ARCTIC: NEW SCIENTIST DISCOVERY TOURS**

Welcome to Aurora Expeditions' special edition Polar Bears in the Changing Arctic expedition, in partnership with New Scientist Discovery Tours.

Embark on an unforgettable adventure to the Arctic, a land of awe-inspiring beauty and untamed wilderness. Focusing on the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago, we slice through pack ice to find walrus and bearded seals, and sail along spectacular fjords surrounded by jagged mountains that pierce the sky. June is a prime time to witness the Arctic's vibrant wildlife in action. Marvel at a plethora of species on land and at sea, from Arctic foxes and polar bears to marine giants like humpback and fin whales returning from their tropical wintering grounds. As ice retreats, the tundra blooms and towering cliffs echo with millions of nesting seabirds - a truly unforgettable natural spectacle. Whether you are travelling solo, as a couple or with friends, you will share this adventure with like-minded individuals who cherish the wonders of nature and science.

This unique cruise will be co-hosted by New Scientist Discovery Tours, known for its amazing, science-filled tours, cruises and expeditions, all inspired by the journalism of New Scientist, the world's most popular weekly science and technology publication. Now, in partnership with Aurora Expeditions, New Scientist Discovery Tours is setting sail to the polar regions to provide breathtaking and illuminating travel experiences that combine the extraordinary natural surroundings with a focus on science and discovery. Enjoy a vibrant program of expert-led talks, workshops, shore visits and Zodiac cruises, covering topics from polar science (including glaciology and marine biology) to the big-picture questions about life, the universe, and what it means to be human.



o be human.

### **ITINERARY**

Day 1 Arrive in Oslo

Wild Earth Travel

0800 945 3327 (within New Zealand) | +64 (0) 3 365 1355 | 1800 107 715 (within Australia)



wildearth-travel.com

# info@wildearth-travel.com

Having made your way to Oslo, you will be met by a representative of Aurora Expeditions and transferred to our group hotel. Upon arrival at your included hotel, please visit the Aurora Expeditions hospitality desk to collect your luggage cabin tags and to speak with our ground operations team, who may have information to share with you about pre-embarkation or to provide you with information about where to dine, withdraw cash or purchase last minute items from a local pharmacy or supermarket.

The remainder of your time is at leisure. All meals today are at your own expense.

Accommodation: Oslo Hotel (to be advised)

#### Day 2 Fly to Longyearbyen, embarkation

Spitsbergen is the largest island in the Svalbard archipelago and offers Arctic wilderness at its best. Phenomenal fjords, magnificent mountain ranges, and a polar desert rich in fossils set the stage for heroic tales of early exploration.

See walrus hauled out on sea ice or beaches, stretch your legs on tundra walks carpeted in brightly coloured wildflowers, and visit towering cliffs noisy with nesting guillemots and puffins. This expedition has been thoughtfully designed and includes a mix of activities, such as expert-led talks, engaging workshops and exhilarating Zodiac cruise safaris. You will be accompanied by engaging guest speakers from the world of science chosen by New Scientist Discovery Tours, along with the highly knowledgeable and supportive expedition team. Learn about topics including glaciology, climate, marine biology, and the history of polar exploration, deepening your connection to this remote and rugged archipelago.

If you've chosen an optional activity such as kayaking, you'll have the chance to enjoy it when conditions allow. For those eager to take a polar plunge, once conditions are suitable, you'll hear the call to prepare for an exhilarating dip a memory to savour for years to come.

#### Days 3-7 Spitsbergen

our day-to-day itinerary, choosing the best options, based on the prevailing weather, sea-ice conditions and the possibility of encounters with wildlife.

Phenomenal fjords, magnificent mountains ranges, and a polar desert rich in fossils, set the stage for heroic tales of early exploration. See walrus hauled-out on sea ice or on beaches. On land, we stretch our legs on walks across tundra carpeted in brightly coloured wildflowers. We visit towering cliffs noisy with nesting guillemots and puffins, and scree slopes that hold Svalbard's largest little auk colonies.

If you have chosen an optional activity such as kayaking, you will have an opportunity to enjoy that activity when conditions allow. For those who are enthusiastic to participate in a polar plunge, as soon as conditions are suitable, you will hear the announcement to prepare for an exhilarating dip - a memory you will savour for years to come.

#### Day 8 Disembark in Longyearbyen, fly to Oslo

During the early morning, we cruise back into Longyearbyen. Farewell your Expedition Team upon disembarkation and enjoy some free time before transferring to the airport for your return charter flight to Oslo to continue your journey.

Note: the arrival time in Oslo is contingent on the approved allocated slot for our charter flight to and from Longyearbyen, which we expect to receive in March 2027.

#### Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.

The island of Spitsbergen is the largest in the Svalbard Archipelago and offers Arctic wilderness at its best. The members of our experienced Expedition Team, who have made countless journeys to this area, will use their expertise to tailor



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# **YOUR SHIP: GREG MORTIMER**

YOUR SHIP:	Greg Mortimer
VESSEL TYPE:	Expedition
LENGTH:	104 metres
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	132
BUILT/REFURBISHED:	2019

Purpose-built for polar expeditions, the Greg Mortimer combines over 25 years of expedition experience with cutting-edge nautical design. With a capacity of just 132 passengers, the ship offers an intimate, comfortable base for exploring the world's most remote regions while maintaining a focus on multiple landings, flexible itineraries, and a family-like atmosphere.

Designed with the revolutionary ULSTEIN X-BOW<sup>™</sup>, the ship handles rough seas with ease, offering a smoother ride and lower environmental impact. Hydraulic viewing platforms on Deck 5 provide unobstructed views of wildlife, while dedicated Zodiac launching areas make landings fast and efficient. The ship carries 15 Zodiacs for up to three daily excursions.

For adventurers, a spacious activity platform supports kayaking, climbing, diving and more, with quick gear access via the mudroom and drying areas. The ship is also Polar Code 6 compliant and features advanced safety systems, including backup propulsion and a fully equipped medical centre.

Onboard comforts include large observation decks, a 180° lounge, open bridge policy, and a well-stocked library. Enjoy family-style meals with complimentary drinks, and relax at the

Wellness Centre with a gym, spa, sauna, and massage services. Daily expert-led lectures enrich your journey with insights into nature, wildlife, and local cultures.

The Greg Mortimer offers a modern, safe, and environmentally conscious way to explore the polar regions - with all the comfort and spirit of true adventure.



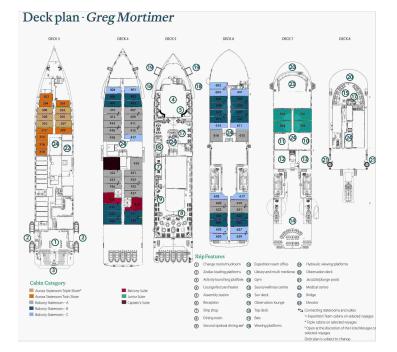
adventure.

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# **INSIDE YOUR SHIP**



### Aurora Stateroom Triple



Balcony Stateroom - A



Balcony Stateroom - C



Captain's Suite



### Aurora Stateroom Twin



Balcony Stateroom - B



Balcony Stateroom Superior



Junior Suite



Wild Earth Travel Small Ships, Big Adventures  $0800\ 945\ 3327\ \text{(within New Zealand)}\ |\ +64\ \text{(0)}\ 3\ 365\ 1355\ |\ 1800\ 107\ 715\ \text{(within Australia)}$ 



# **PRICING**

#### 20-Jun-2027 to 27-Jun-2027

Aurora Stateroom Triple	21895 AUD pp
Aurora Stateroom Twin	22495 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom - C	24495 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom - B	25895 AUD pp
Balcony Stateroom - A	27695 AUD pp
<b>Balcony Stateroom Superior</b>	30295 AUD pp
Junior Suite	36095 AUD pp
Captain's Suite	41195 AUD pp

### **Optional extras & upgrades**

#### Sea Kayaking. From 990 AUD

One of the most exhilarating ways to experience Antarctica, the Arctic and beyond. Sea kayaking holidays in the humbling wilderness of Antarctica, the Arctic, and some of the world's most biodiverse regions, are guaranteed to stir your soul. Paddle around brash ice and near icebergs of all shapes and sizes, absorbing the majestic scenery as it unfolds before you.

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