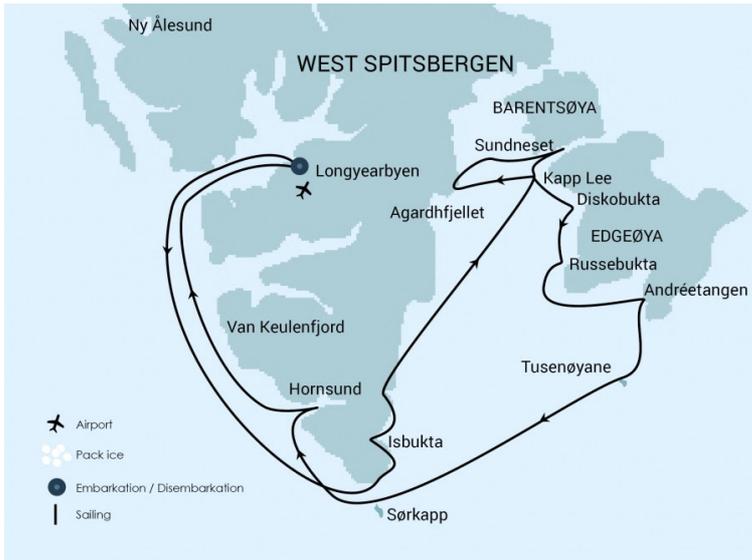


# East Spitsbergen - Arctic Academy

## Dutch scientific expedition to Spitsbergen



Title:	East Spitsbergen - Arctic Academy
Dates:	13 Jul - 22 Jul, 2022
Tripcode:	OTL08-22
Duration:	9 nights
Ship:	m/v Ortelius
Embarkation:	Longyearbyen
Disembarkation:	Longyearbyen
Language:	English speaking voyage
Important:	Voyage dedicated to science and research

## ITINERARY

*PLEASE NOTE: N.B. This is a voyage, with a group of scientists on the ship, who will follow-up on the investigations which Dutch researchers began on Edgeøya in the 20th century. The passengers will be given the opportunity to share the experiences of the scientists, but will also have the opportunity to join some rather extended walks to special places of interest. All itineraries are for guidance only. Programs may vary depending on ice, weather, and wildlife conditions. Landings are subject to site availabilities, permissions, and environmental concerns per AECO regulations. Official sailing plans and landing slots are scheduled with AECO prior to the start of the season, but the expedition leader determines the final plan. Flexibility is paramount for expedition cruises. The average cruising speed of our vessel is 10.5 knots.*

This is a voyage, with a group of scientists on the ship, who will follow-up on the investigations which Dutch researchers began on Edgeøya in the 20th century. Academic voyage organized by the Dutch University of Groningen to the Island Edgeøya south of Spitsbergen. Voyage dedicated to science and research.

### Day 1: Largest town, biggest island

You touch down in Longyearbyen, the administrative center of Spitsbergen, the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago. Enjoy strolling around this former mining town, whose parish church and Svalbard Museum make for fascinating attractions. Though the countryside appears stark, more than a hundred species of plant have been recorded in it. In the early evening the ship sails out of Isfjorden, where you might spot the first minke whale of your voyage.

### Day 2: Seldom-seen south Spitsbergen

Today we aim to make landings at the rarely visited coast of south Spitsbergen, at the bay of Isbukta. We also hope to land at the mountain of Stellingfjellet, near the largest colony of Brünnich's guillemots in Spitsbergen.

### Day 3: Wild west side of Edgeøya

Sailing to Kapp Lee, we can see an interesting octagonal trapper's hut built in the early 20th century. Fifty years ago, a Dutch expedition began research of polar bears, reindeer, birds, and vegetation from this hut.

We then continue our investigation of seabird colonies, vegetation, and reindeer in the valley of Rosenbergdalen.

Often we see a herd of walrus on this beach, and there is also a fair chance of seeing polar bears here.

### Day 4: Ivory Gulls in Agardhfjellet

While some of our scientists will stay in the area of Kapp Lee today, others will sail to the east side of west Spitsbergen (west side of Storfjorden). Here we plan to walk to breeding places for ivory gulls in Agardhfjellet, which stands about 300 meters (980 feet) high. The valley leading to the outcrops that house the nests is littered with fossils of belemnites and ammonites.

### Day 5: Trapper's history in Freemansundet

Sailing into the waterway of Freemansundet, we plan to land at the tundra lowland of Sundneset, on the island of Barentsøya. Here we aim to visit the hut of a German scientific expedition (Würzbugerhütte) from sixty years ago before taking a brisk walk across the tundra in search of Spitsbergen reindeer and barnacle geese. After that, we plan to go on a Zodiac cruise near Freeman Glacier and visit a kittiwake colony in a canyon close by.

### **Day 6: Long island excursion in Diskobukta**

Today we cruise to Diskobukta on the west side of Edgeøya. After a scenic Zodiac cruise through the shallow bay, we land at Blankodden on a beach littered with whale bones and tree trunks that have drifted in from Siberia.

We may also climb to the rim of a narrow gully that is inhabited by thousands of kittiwakes, black guillemots, and piratical glaucous gulls.

During the breeding season, the base of the cliffs here is patrolled by Arctic foxes and polar bears searching for young birds that have fallen from the nesting ledges.

Alternatively, we might land at Plurdalen, where extensive oil explorations were carried out 40 years ago.

### **Day 7: Russian history in Habenichtbukta**

Russian Pomors built a hunting station in Habenichtbukta, where they lived during the 18th and 19th centuries. Though we are not permitted to enter this area, we can enjoy views of it as we sail past.

We intent to land nearby, making an inland excursion into an area where we may see divers, ducks, geese, and reindeer among the area's ponds and lakes. It is believed that, two centuries ago, a group of stranded Russian sailors once lived in this area for many years, surviving solely on reindeer.

### **Day 8: Walruses and whale skeletons**

Moving on to Andrétangén in Tjuvfjorden, we have a good opportunity to observe a herd of walruses near an old trapper's station.

Some distance inland, near a lifted shore in a surf zone formed thousands of years ago, we can see the ancient skeletons of stranded whales. Later in the day, we aim to sail by the protected area of Tusenøyane, or Thousand Islands.

We may alternatively land at Halvmaneøya, an uninhabited island and nature preserve southeast of Edgeøya that used to be a bear trapping area. Remains from that period can still be seen here.

### **Day 9: Spectacular Hornsund**

We start the day by quietly cruising the side fjords of the spectacular Hornsund area in southern Spitsbergen, enjoying the scenery of towering mountain peaks.

The mountain of Hornsundtind rises to 1,431 meters (4,695 feet), while the peak of Bautaen shows why early Dutch explorers gave this island the name Spitsbergen, meaning "pointed mountains."

There are 14 magnificent glaciers in the area and a fair chance we will encounter seals and polar bears.

We may also visit Isbjørnhamna Polish Research Station, where the friendly staff can give us an insight into their various research projects. Behind the station, the mountains are home to thousands of pairs of nesting little auks.

### **Day 10: There and back again**

Every adventure, no matter how grand, must eventually come to an end. You disembark in Longyearbyen, taking home memories that will accompany you wherever your next adventure lies.

**Included in this voyage**

- Voyage aboard the indicated vessel as indicated in the itinerary
- All meals throughout the voyage aboard the ship including snacks, coffee and tea.
- All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac.
- Program of lectures by noted naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff.
- Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes.
- Transfers and baggage handling between the airport, hotels and ship only for those passengers on the group flights to and from Longyearbyen.
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme.
- AECO fees and governmental taxes.
- Comprehensive pre-departure material.

**Excluded from this voyage**

Any airfare, whether on scheduled or charter flights

Pre- and post- land arrangements.

Transfers to / from the vessel outside Spitsbergen.

Passport and visa expenses.

Government arrival and departure taxes.

Meals ashore.

Baggage, cancellation and personal insurance (which is strongly recommended).

Excess baggage charges and all items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar, beverage charges and telecommunication charges.

The customary gratuity at the end of the voyages for stewards and other service personnel aboard (guidelines will be provided).

# CABINS & PRICES

## Quadruple Porthole



2 portholes  
 2 upper / lower berths  
 Private shower & toilet  
 Desk & chair  
 Flatscreen TV  
 Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
 Hair dryer  
 Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

20600 USD



Sharing berth  
 Share your cabin with others for the best price

5150 USD

## Triple Porthole



2 portholes  
 1 upper / lower berth + 1 single lower berth  
 Private shower & toilet  
 Desk & chair  
 Flatscreen TV  
 Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
 Hair dryer  
 Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

22050 USD



Sharing berth  
 Share your cabin with others for the best price

7350 USD

## Twin Porthole



2 portholes  
 2 lower berths  
 Private shower & toilet  
 Desk & chair  
 Flatscreen TV  
 Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
 Hair dryer  
 Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

14700 USD



Single cabin  
 Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate).

12495 USD



Sharing berth  
 Share your cabin with others for the best price

7350 USD

## Twin Window



2 windows  
2 lower berths  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied. 15900 USD



Single cabin  
Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate). 13515 USD



Sharing berth  
Share your cabin with others for the best price 7950 USD

## Twin Deluxe



3 windows  
2 lower berths  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Small sofa  
Refrigerator  
Coffee & tea maker  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied. 17000 USD



Single cabin  
Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate). 14450 USD



Sharing berth  
Share your cabin with others for the best price 8500 USD

## Superior



2 windows (minimum)  
1 double bed  
1 single (sofa) bed  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone & WiFi (supplemented)  
Refrigerator  
Coffee & tea maker  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space



Complete cabin  
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied. 19000 USD



Single cabin  
Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate). 16150 USD