



East Greenland

Fjords and Northern Lights

22 Aug - 05 Sep 2023

15 days

Embarkation: Reykjavik (Iceland)

Disembarkation: Reykjavik (Iceland)

M/v Sea Spirit

Activities:



Itinerary



Day 1: Arrival in Reykjavík, Iceland (hotel night)

Welcome to Reykjavík, the world's northernmost capital city! We've arranged a hotel accommodation where you can rest after your flight and get ready for our upcoming Arctic adventures. Still have some energy left? Then use this opportunity to explore the city, which offers various points of interest and attractions for visitors. Enjoy the panoramic city view from the Perlan observation deck, the futuristic Hallgrímskirkja church towering over the city, cozy houses with colorful tin roofs, narrow streets, historic relics of the Viking era and breathtaking landscapes surrounding Reykjavik. We bet you'll fall in love at first sight! Walk along Laugavegur, Reykjavik's main shopping street, or visit the Whales of Iceland exhibition and the National Museum. For dinner Reykjavík offers countless options to enjoy an authentic Icelandic meal.



Day 2: Welcome Aboard!

After breakfast at your hotel, the morning is yours to explore the city. Take a leisurely stroll through peaceful gardens or appreciate the abundant birdlife at Tjörnin, a placid lake in the heart of the city. You can also use do some last-minute shopping for souvenirs and other necessities. Just don't go overboard with your clothing purchases: you'll soon be presented with your very own expedition parka that you can keep and waterproof boots to borrow for the duration of the cruise. Our expedition starts in the afternoon. You'll be transferred to the pier where our expedition team will offer a warm welcome aboard our comfortable vessel M/V Sea Spirit. Get settled into your spacious cabins and explore the ship — It'll be your home away from home during the extraordinary adventure to come. After departure, we'll kick off our adventure with a full schedule of info

briefings and introductions from the expedition staff. After a sumptuous dinner, step out onto the open decks to admire the spectacular views as we sail through Faxaflói. And keep your eyes open for whale encounters!



Day 3: Across the Greenland Sea

From Reykjavik we head southwest across the Greenland Sea toward East Greenland. In these far northern latitudes, we may encounter sea ice any time of the year, even in August. We'll keep an eye out for iconic marine mammals.

In previous eras, large numbers of various species of whales lived in the Greenland Sea. However, due to hunting (which was conducted up until the 20th century), these gentle giants were on the verge of extinction. Fortunately, populations are now recovering and, with a little bit of luck, we'll spot them on our cruise.

Want to learn more about the unique flora and fauna of the Arctic? Become an Arctic expert in no time with our onboard lectures

and briefings!



Day 4-7: Northeast Greenland National Park

East Greenland is famous for its giant icebergs the size of ten-story buildings, huge mountains, blooming tundra landscapes and the best spots in the world to see northern lights. Get ready for an unforgettable adventure, but remember — our exact itinerary heavily depends on weather and sea ice conditions. Rest assured, our experienced captain and expedition leader will take advantage of every opportunity to see wildlife, discover incredible scenery and land ashore.

You'll see Northeast Greenland National Park, an absolute bucket list item on your East Greenland cruise! This park is not just remote; it is of a massive scale – more than 100 times the size of Yellowstone National Park and larger than all but 29 nations around

the globe. Just imagine: miles and miles of untouched wilderness in the world's largest and northernmost national park! We'll sail through ice floes alongside the snowy peaks of the Franz Josef Fjord and Kong Oscar Fjord, and Zodiacs will carry us to the most inaccessible spots for landings on pristine polar beaches.

Due to its remoteness, fewer than 1,000 travelers visit Northeast Greenland National Park each year, so count yourself among the fortunate few to witness such a spectacular area.

Tidewater glaciers create colossal icebergs that float with the wind and tide throughout the fjord system. We'll be stepping ashore to explore the fields of multicolored tundra which are home to musk oxen and Arctic hare. These landscapes — vast, open, and seemingly untouched since the beginning of time — are a hiker's paradise. Throughout this area, we also find ancient Thule archeological sites, historical trappers' huts and modern Inuit hunters' cabins.



Day 8-12: Through the waters of Scoresby Sund

This part of our voyage focuses on the spectacular fjords, coasts and islands of Scoresby Sund. While sailing the waterways of this stunning fjord system, we are constantly watching out for marine mammals, including a variety of seals, walruses and narwhals, which can be spotted at any time. Narrow passages, colossal icebergs in sparkling blue waters and polychromatic mountains capped with fresh snow - a trip through Scoresby Sund sets a new standard for "scenic." We'll take advantage of summer weather to go ashore as often as possible for hiking, photography or simply enjoying landscapes found nowhere else on earth.

Small sheltered harbors like Hekla Havn and breathtaking landscapes of Vikingebugt will give you amazing photo ops. And don't

forget to sign up for kayaking right when booking the cruise so you don't miss out on exploring this beautiful area at your own pace.

We plan to visit the modern Inuit village of Ittoqqortoormiit, the only permanent settlement in the region and one of the most remote communities in the world. The village boasts a wonderful museum, bookstore, handmade crafts for sale, post office and an abundance of Greenlandic sled dogs.

It's late August and the short Arctic summer in East Greenland is almost over, which means as the night falls, the darkening sky becomes a stage for nature's greatest celestial performance — the Northern Lights. East Greenland is one of the best places in the Arctic to view this otherworldly natural phenomenon, so don't miss out on it! Step out onto the deck at night and hopefully you'll get to see these magic lights dancing in the sky.



Day 13: On the way back to Iceland

By now you've surely fallen in love with East Greenland, but it's time to head back across the Denmark Strait toward Iceland. Presentations and workshops by our expert staff, as well as our range of onboard recreation facilities, ensure that this day at sea is not idly spent. Enjoy an abundance of seabirds and whale watching from our panoramic open deck and your cabin's balconies.



Day 14: Dynjandi waterfalls - the jewel of the Westfjords

Welcome back to Iceland! Today is the last day of our expedition and we are going to spend it to the fullest! Our Zodiacs will take us to the Dynjandi waterfalls, also known as "the Jewel of the Westfjords." Dynjandi means 'thunderous' in Icelandic and you will soon understand why the falls got this name. These majestic waterfalls cascade approximately 100 m, falling in a trapezoidal shape: Dynjandi is twice as wide at the bottom than on top and looks exactly like a beautiful bridal veil.



Day 15: Disembarkation in Reykjavík, Iceland

Our adventure concludes at the port of Reykjavík. We disembark and provide transfer to the airport or to the city center in case you plan to extend your stay in Iceland. It is always sad to say goodbye, but why not join us on another expedition, like to Antarctica for example? We'll be delighted to welcome you aboard again on one of our future journeys!