

POLAR BEARS INTERNATIONAL HOSTS

SVALBARD ARCTIC EXPEDITION

Expedition (noun): a journey or voyage undertaken by a group of people with a particular purpose, especially that of exploration or scientific research.

JULY 16 - 26, 2026



ATTENTION ARCTIC ADVENTURERS, ANIMAL LOVERS, BIRDWATCHERS, AND WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHERS!



Polar Bears International invites you on an unforgettable 11-day/10-night land and sea expedition through Svalbard, Norway's spectacular Arctic archipelago.

By land and aboard the R/S Kinfish, you'll explore a true Arctic wonderland—sailing deep fjords, hiking near glaciers, and taking in dramatic mountain landscapes rich with history. Along the way, watch for remarkable wildlife, from reindeer and summer wildflowers to seabirds, marine life, and iconic Arctic species including polar bears, walruses and whales.

Your journey is complemented by rare and memorable lodging, from thoughtfully designed Arctic outposts to remote wilderness stays that place you fully with the landscape. Guided by our expert team, this immersive journey offers extraordinary access to the Arctic—and a deeper understanding of why protecting it is vital to the future of polar bears.

With limited availability, don't wait to reserve your spot on this Arctic expedition!



SVALBARD IS A PLACE WHERE NATURE
DOMINATES IN EVERY SENSE—ITS
RUGGED BEAUTY, DRAMATIC GLACIERS,
AND THE SHEER VARIETY OF WILDLIFE
MAKE IT ONE OF THE MOST
BREATHTAKING AND HUMBLING PLACES
ON EARTH.

TRIP ITINERARY

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Arrival and Departure Details

As you plan your journey, you might be interested in your arrival and departure details. Since international airfare is not included in your expedition's cost, you can arrange your flights accordingly.

Day 1: Arrive / Overnight in Longyearbyen

Arrive in Longyearbyen at your leisure on Day 1*, with most flights arriving by midday. Upon arrival, you'll be greeted at the airport and transferred to the Basecamp Hotel—a distinctive and welcoming lodge in the heart of town. Settle in, then head out to explore Longyearbyen, the world's northernmost town and largest settlement on Spitsbergen. Today offers a relaxed introduction to Arctic life, culture and history.

**You may consider arriving in Longyearbyen one day early in case of flight or luggage delays. Any extra hotel nights and meals are not included in the trip price.*

Day 2: Longyearbyen to Isfjord Radio

Spend the morning discovering more of Longyearbyen and what makes this remote community so remarkable. In the afternoon, board a boat for the journey across Isfjorden to the Isfjord Radio Adventure Hotel, where you'll spend the next two nights in exceptional comfort at the edge of the wilderness. After arrival, join your hosts for a guided walk around the historic station, once a vital communication hub for explorers and trappers. The day concludes with a multi-course dinner featuring regional ingredients and inventive Arctic-inspired cuisine.

Day 3: Isfjord Radio

Wake up surrounded by Arctic wilderness and prepare for a full day of guided adventures. Choose from a range of activities that invite you deeper into this pristine landscape. After a day of exploration, unwind in the sauna while taking in sweeping coastal views—sometimes accompanied by passing whales. Later, enjoy a refreshing drink before sitting down to an elegant dining experience inspired by the flavours of the Arctic.

Day 4 - 10: Embarkation and Expedition Cruising

After a restful morning, you'll board the R/S Kinfish, your home for the next seven days of expedition cruising. From the water, experience Svalbard's dramatic coastline—towering glaciers, deep fjords, and remote shorelines—while embracing the quiet beauty and sense of discovery that define Arctic travel.

Day 11: Disembarkation / Departure from Longyearbyen

This morning, you'll disembark at the Longyearbyen port. Airport transfers are provided and afternoon departures from Longyearbyen are recommended as you begin your journey home.



TRIP HIGHLIGHTS

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Your Expedition Team

Your expedition is led by an expert team with deep knowledge of polar history, marine biology, glaciology, ornithology, and photography, all trained extensively for Arctic travel. Their passion and experience enrich every day of the journey, while safety remains a top priority. Along the way, knowledgeable guides, including a Polar Bears International scientist, share insights into Svalbard's past, its rapidly changing environment, and its vital role in polar bear conservation.

Meet Your Expedition Leader: Hilde Fålun Strøm

An experienced Arctic guide and expedition leader, Hilde has lived in Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Norway, since 1995. A long-time resident and accomplished citizen scientist, she serves as an ambassador for Polar Bears International both in Svalbard and beyond. Hilde co-founded Hearts in the Ice, a nonprofit dedicated to inspiring climate action. In 2019 she and her co-founder spent 19 months living in a remote trappers' hut in the High Arctic, conducting outreach and citizen science projects. In 2023, Hilde was recognized as one of the Explorers Club 50—honoring 50 individuals making a significant impact on the world. **Hilde brings a unique and thoughtful perspective to every expedition she leads, ensuring that guests gain a deeper understanding of their surroundings.**



Possible Excursions

During our expedition cruising, your expedition team must consider sea conditions, ice, and weather when planning the route and itinerary. The following offer a glimpse of what locations you may experience during your expedition, whether by ship, Zodiac cruise, or shore landing.

- **Magdalenefjord:** This stunning fjord is known for its dramatic glaciers, steep mountains, and historical whaling sites, and it offers great wildlife viewing.
- **Kongsfjord:** An area of scientific importance featuring glaciers and a polar research station, and often visited by whales and seabirds.
- **Ny-Ålesund:** One of the world's northernmost settlements, this research town is a hub for Arctic scientific exploration with historic ties to polar expeditions.
- **Moffen Island / 80 degree North:** A small, remote island famous for its large walrus populations and a key stop for reaching the northernmost part of the Svalbard archipelago.
- **Liefdefjord:** Known for the beautiful Monacobreen glacier and rich wildlife, including seabirds and the occasional polar bear sighting.



TRIP DETAILS

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Included Activities

Here are some of the activities you can look forward to during our Arctic expedition. Thanks to the ship's compact size, we can access areas larger vessels cannot, providing a more intimate and exclusive Arctic experience.

- Unique lodging experiences that provide a true Svalbard experience, including a modern trapper's hotel and a remote boutique hotel
- Hiking through the vibrant polar landscape with experienced guides who can accommodate various skill levels
- Photographing and viewing Svalbard's stunning landscapes and wildlife, including reindeer, birds, walrus, and other marine mammals, like whales and polar bears
- Learning about the region's cultural heritage and history from expert guides and locals
- Cruising by Zodiac to explore places the ship can't reach—whether it's accessing remote shorelines or spotting wildlife
- Enjoying insightful talks and presentations from experts and locals throughout the expedition
- Exploring majestic glaciers and fjords, including Smeerenburgfjorden, Krossfjord and Lilliehöök Glacier
- Celebrating crossing the 80th parallel and taking the exhilarating Polar Plunge into Arctic waters
- Immersing yourself in the serenity of Svalbard, with its tranquil silence and the midnight sun, where daylight never ends



Meals

Throughout the expedition, you'll enjoy delicious, nourishing meals inspired by the Arctic. Our culinary team can accommodate most dietary needs with advance notice. Please share any requirements at the time of registration so we can ensure a seamless experience.

Preparing for Your Adventure

You will receive a recommended packing list, additional trip details, and a suggested reading list in preparation for your Arctic Expedition. This information covers everything you need before your arrival, as well as what you'll need while at Isfjord Radio, on board the ship, exploring the Svalbard landscape, or touring Longyearbyen.



TRIP COSTS

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INCLUSIONS

The price of the 11-day / 10-night trip includes:

- 1-night stay in Longyearbyen, 2 nights at Isfjord Radio and 7 nights aboard the ship
- Planned tours and activities in Longyearbyen
- Expert expedition guides and staff
- All Zodiac excursions
- All meals starting with dinner on Day 1, through breakfast on Day 11
- Presentations and interpretative talks by experts and locals
- All luggage handling aboard the ship
- Transportation between the airport, hotel, and port on embarkation and debarkation days

EXCLUSIONS

The trip price does not include:

- International airfare to and from Longyearbyen
- Passport and visa fees
- Emergency evacuation insurance
- Baggage, cancellation, interruption, and medical travel insurance (strongly recommended)
- Gear recommended on the Arctic Expedition packing list
- Voluntary gratuities for ship staff and crew at the end of the voyage
- Applicable taxes
- Bar, laundry, and other personal expenses
- Phone and internet charges (connectivity may vary by location)
- Additional overnight accommodations
- Meals ashore unless specified in the itinerary
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Any items not mentioned in the itinerary or inclusions above

Price per attendee: \$19,000 USD

***All cabins will accommodate double occupancy. Single occupancy supplement: \$12,000 USD (limited availability). If you would like to share a cabin, please let us know during registration.*

Max Occupancy: 10 Guests

NOTE:

Your included accommodations begin on Day 1 of your itinerary. If you would like to arrive before Day 1 of your expedition or extend your stay, please let us know at the time of registration. You will receive your hotel details with your trip confirmation.



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YOUR ACCOMMODATIONS

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Basecamp Hotel

In the heart of Longyearbyen, Basecamp Hotel offers a refined take on traditional Arctic trapper living. Thoughtfully designed with authentic details, the hotel provides a warm, immersive atmosphere and attentive, personal service. Each unique room features comfortable beds, private bathrooms, and no televisions—inviting you to unplug, slow down, and fully connect with the quiet beauty of the Arctic.

Isfjord Radio Adventure Hotel

Set on the remote west coast of Isfjorden, Isfjord Radio offers a rare stay at the edge of the Arctic. Once a vital radio station and now a thoughtfully restored boutique hotel, it places you amid open sea, vast skies, and dramatic mountain landscapes. Here, comfort and wilderness meet—relax in the panoramic sauna, enjoy gourmet meals crafted from local ingredients, sink into plush beds, and explore the surrounding terrain alongside experienced guides who bring this remarkable place to life.

R/S Kinfish

The R/S Kinfish offers an exceptional expedition experience designed for intimate exploration of the Arctic. Fully refurbished in 2018, this historic yet modern vessel is built for challenging conditions and equipped with advanced stabilization for smooth, comfortable cruising. With space for just 12 guests, her small size allows access to narrow fjords and secluded coves along Svalbard's coastline that larger ships simply can't reach.

On board, you'll find welcoming lounges, dedicated presentation space, excellent viewing platforms, and comfortable en-suite cabins with portholes just above the waterline—offering a front-row seat to the Arctic from your room. Days unfold at an unhurried pace, with shared meals featuring hearty Scandinavian cuisine, wildlife watching from the deck, and memorable moments like open-air aperitifs and a celebratory BBQ when weather allows.

R/S KINFISH DECK PLAN

Ship Name- 6V Kinfish

Ship Length - 37.25 m (122 ft.)

Ship Breadth - 7 m (23 ft.)

Speed - 9 Knots

Draught- 4.25 m

Tonnage- 329 GT

Hull - Ice1A

Passengers - 12

Classification - DNV GL



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THANK YOU



For further information please contact:

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polarbearsinternational.org



About Polar Bears International



Polar Bears International's mission is to conserve polar bears and the sea ice they depend on. The organization works to inspire people to care about the Arctic, the threats to its future, and the connection between this remote region and our global climate. Polar Bears International is the only nonprofit organization dedicated solely to wild polar bears and Arctic sea ice, and the staff includes scientists who study wild polar bears. The organization is a recognized leader in polar bear conservation.

For more information, visit www.polarbearsinternational.org



Meet our travel partner: Basecamp Explorer Spitsbergen

Basecamp Explorer Spitsbergen is a trusted Norwegian Arctic tourism operator, respected for innovative leadership that honours Svalbard's traditions and fragile environment. They deliver exceptional, sustainable travel experiences in some of the world's most remote and breathtaking places, including the Basecamp Hotel in Longyearbyen and the Isfjord Radio Adventure Hotel on the scenic west coast of Isfjorden.

For more information, visit www.basecampexplorer.com/conservation