



Beautiful Norway & the Realm of the Polar Bear High Arctic Cruise

YOU Experience Arctic Cruise Package
Departing Oslo 11th – 24th June 2018



14 Days
from
NZD \$9,699*

Per person twin share (Category 2 cabin)
No single rooms held. Subject to availability and
cost at time of booking. Includes airline taxes.

Highlights: 8 day Realm of the Polar Bear cruise onboard the MS Expedition. From close-up encounters with icebergs and glaciers to the region's plentiful wildlife, this is a voyage of non-stop highlights which includes exciting shore landings and Zodiac cruising.

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Itinerary

B Breakfast | **L** Lunch | **D** Dinner

Monday 11th June (B)	OSLO Your time is free for your own leisure. Hotel: Park Inn Radisson Blu Oslo Airport Hotel, Oslo (Run-of-house room, 1 night).
Tuesday 12th June (B)	OSLO TO LONGYEARBYEN After an early breakfast, walk across the link bridge to the airport for your morning flight to Longyearbyen. Upon arrival in Longyearbyen, you are met and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of the afternoon and evening is free for your own leisure. Hotel: Radisson Blu Polar Hotel (Run-of-house room, 2 nights).
Wednesday 13th June (B)	LONGYEARBYEN Your day and evening are free for your own leisure. No arrangements made. You may like to take an optional dog-sledding excursion. At this time of year, the snow has started to melt so it may be a dog-cart on wheels.
Thursday 14th June (B,D)	EMBARKATION DAY IN LONGYEARBYEN The day is then free for your own leisure. Embarkation around 4.00pm. Your Spitsbergen adventure cruise begins when you board our ship, the MS Expedition in Longyearbyen, the island's largest settlement. As you embark, you'll have great views of the mountainous landscape that serves as the backdrop to this seaside village. Ship: MS Expedition (Cabin as selected, 7 nights).
Friday 15th – Wednesday 20th June (B,L,D)	EXPLORING SPITSBERGEN Your voyage is spent travelling in the world in which the polar bear survives. The wildlife viewing opportunities are enhanced by exploring as many remote areas as possible. Spotting wildlife like polar bears, the arctic fox, Svalbard reindeer, and land or sea birds can be difficult, but well worth the effort. Ice and weather conditions permitting you can explore near sea ice, through fjords that lead to glaciers and icebergs, and discover bird nesting colonies, all from the platform of the ship. Alternatively, hop in a Zodiac to explore more closely, or be brought to land to visit historical sites and experience the tundra. The crew are always on the lookout for wildlife, ranging from endangered and rare polar species to sea mammals and birds. And, of course, you'll have your eyes peeled for polar bears - they can be found all throughout this region, but finding them can require patience and persistence. Early-season voyages often provide the greatest opportunity to see large ice floes in the Arctic pack ice, which usually means excellent wildlife viewing. Each day will be planned to take advantage of local ice and weather conditions. Distances are relatively short in the Archipelago and as there are no ocean crossings, the seas are normally calm. During these six days visit ice covered seas, fjords with breathtaking mountain scenery and glaciers flowing into the sea. You'll have the possibility to cruise in Zodiacs along the ice edge viewing seals or walrus, in fjords with glaciers spilling down to the sea or in front of spectacular seabird cliffs. The evening of your last full day of adventure will find the expedition ship anchored off Longyearbyen.
Thursday 21st June (B)	DISEMBARK LONGYEARBYEN Your adventure ends as it began, in the frontier-style settlement of Longyearbyen. After breakfast, you are transferred to the airport for your flight to Oslo. Hotel: Thon Opera Oslo (Run-of-house room, 3 nights).
Friday 22nd June (B,D)	OSLO After breakfast, you are taken on a half day guided city tour, taking in the main sights of Oslo city including a visit to the Viking Ships Museum (entry included). Your afternoon is free for your own leisure. This evening get together for a group dinner.
Saturday 23rd June (B)	OSLO Your day and evening are free for your own explorations.
Sunday 24th June (B)	DEPART OSLO Your morning is free. Check out 10.00am.



What's Included

- 8 day/7 night Chimu 'Realm of the Polar Bear' cruise onboard the MS Expedition. Twin share cabins/hotel rooms only held. Note: Single cabins/rooms on request, subject to availability.
- Two nights pre-cruise accommodation in Longyearbyen including transfers and breakfast daily as per itinerary.
- One night pre- and three nights post-cruise accommodation in Oslo as per itinerary including transfers, breakfast daily, group dinner, and Oslo morning city tour including entry into the Viking Ship Museum.
- Group transfers from hotel to the ship on embarkation day. Embarkation around 4.00 PM.
- All breakfasts, lunches and dinners on board throughout the cruise. Other meals as per itinerary.
- Leadership throughout the voyage by an experienced Chimu Expedition Leader, including shore landings and other activities.
- All shore landings per the daily program.
- All Zodiac transfers and cruising per the daily program.
- A pair of insulated, waterproof expedition boots on loan for shore landings – size USA 6 to 16.
- An expedition parka – yours to keep (available on day 1 of the cruise).
- Formal and informal presentations by the Expedition Team.
- All luggage handling aboard ship.
- Group transfer upon disembarkation from ship to airport.
- Return economy class fares and taxes from Oslo to Longyearbyen with Scandinavian Airlines.

What's Not Included

- International airfares. (Return Oslo to Longyearbyen economy class airfares included.)
- Passport and visa expenses. No visa required for Australian passport holders.
- Any meals ashore unless stated on the itinerary and inclusions.
- Gratuities.
- Excess baggage charges.
- Laundry, bar, beverage and other personal charges.
- Telecommunications charges.
- Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising, and any other gear not mentioned.
- Comprehensive travel insurance. See information on the following pages regarding travel insurance.

Contact: Kay Rogers for more information
07 579 3431 or kay@yourtravelbop.co.nz

*Terms & Conditions. A non-refundable deposit of \$2500.00 per person is required within 5 days of confirmation of your booking. At this time we require the completed booking form showing names as they appear on your passport and a photocopy of your current passport. Payments made by credit card incur the following merchant charges: Visa/Mastercard 1.4%, American Express 2.9%, Diners Card not available. A second progress payment of \$3,000.00 will be required by 10 January 2018. Final payment due by 20 April 2018. It is imperative that deposits and final payments are paid by the due dates provided. Failure to pay on time may result in the cancellation of your reservations. If a booking is made after this date, the full tour price is due at time of confirmation. See instore for full terms and conditions.