



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Former NASA Astronaut Dr. Sandra H. Magnus Joins Aurora Expeditions for Jewels of the Arctic: Greenland Solar Eclipse Expedition**

**[Sydney, Australia, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025]** – Aurora Expeditions, a world leader in small-ship expedition travel, is thrilled to announce that former NASA astronaut Dr. Sandra H. “Sandy” Magnus will be joining an upcoming voyage in August 2026, offering passengers a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to explore the world’s most remote destinations alongside a true space explorer.

Dr. Magnus, a veteran NASA astronaut and aerospace engineer, has spent over 150 days in space, including missions to the International Space Station (ISS) and participation in the final space shuttle flight, STS-135. With an extensive career spanning NASA, the U.S. Department of Defense, and global aerospace initiatives, she brings an unparalleled perspective on science, exploration, and the human drive to push boundaries.

As a special guest on this exclusive expedition, Dr. Magnus will share her insights through engaging lectures and guided discussions. She will draw connections between space and the polar regions, emphasizing the importance of scientific research, environmental stewardship, and the spirit of discovery that unites both disciplines.

*“Aurora Expeditions is dedicated to fostering a deeper connection between our travelers and the natural world,”* said Michael Heath, CEO at Aurora Expeditions. *“Having Dr. Magnus onboard offers an extraordinary chance to learn from a pioneering explorer whose experiences extend beyond our planet.”*

#### **About the Expedition**

**Jewels of the Arctic - Greenland Solar Eclipse Trip Dates:** Sunday August 2<sup>nd</sup>, to Sunday August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026

This unique and breathtaking journey takes travelers through Svalbard, where near-endless daylight illuminates a world of polar bears, walrus haul-outs on sea ice, and towering cliffs alive with guillemots and fulmars. The adventure continues into East Greenland, home to Scoresbysund, the largest fjord system in the world, where passengers will visit the remote

Inuit settlement of Ittoqqortoormiit, cruise among sculpted icebergs, and walk across tundra bursting with colorful blooms.

### **Expedition Highlights**

- **Witness a solar eclipse** – a truly unforgettable experience in one of the most pristine regions on Earth.
- **Observe Arctic wildlife**, including polar bears hunting on pack ice, ringed seals, and Arctic foxes beneath cliffs teeming with seabirds.
- **Push through pack ice in Svalbard**, searching for incredible wildlife encounters.
- **Experience Greenland's vast wilderness**, quietly approaching musk oxen and reindeer on tundra walks.
- **Zodiac-cruise along vast glacial fronts and into Øfjord**, where the setting sun paints towering 2,000-meter (6,562-foot) cliffs in brilliant shades of pink.

*"I have spent my career exploring the vastness of space, but there is still so much to discover right here on our own planet," said Dr. Magnus. "I'm excited to partner with Aurora Expeditions and share in the adventure of exploring Earth's polar regions."*

Spaces for this extraordinary voyage are limited. For more information or to reserve your place, visit [www.aurora-expeditions.com](http://www.aurora-expeditions.com).

~ENDS~

For all media enquiries, please contact

Jocelyn Black

Communications and Content Manager

[Jblack@auroraexpeditions.com](mailto:Jblack@auroraexpeditions.com)

### **Notes to Editors**

#### **About Aurora Expeditions**

Aurora Expeditions is an award-winning Australian-owned adventure travel company that has pioneered experiential travel for over 33 years. A Certified B Corporation™ and proudly

Carbon Neutral, at the heart of each experience is a commitment to the protection and preservation of our planet.

Founded on the guiding principles of adventure and endless exploration, our carefully curated small-ship voyages offer immersive activities, more time off ship and thoughtful enrichment programs in some of the planet's most remote and incredible places.

Aurora's two purpose-built small ships, *Greg Mortimer* and *Sylvia Earle* are designed for global discovery. The company's third ship, *Douglas Mawson*, will set sail in December 2025.