

Jewels of the Arctic

Aboard *Sylvia Earle* | 24 June – 7 July 2024





Jewels of the Arctic

24 June – 7 July 2024

Longyearbyen

DAY 1 | Monday 24 June 2024

Latitude:
78°15.1'N
Longitude:
015°02.3'E

Wind Speed:
NE 07 knots
Barometer:
1002 hPa

Course:
256°
Speed:
10.2 knots

Air Temp:
10°C

Today we started the day with a skip in our step knowing we were only hours away from our in-depth adventure around Svalbard! After a hearty breakfast, we said goodbye to our luggage and met in the hotel lobby for our tour around Longyearbyen.

Our journey took us to some fascinating local highlights, including Camp Barentz, where we enjoyed a presentation in the large '*lavvo*' – a traditional building common in northern Norway. Here we heard tales of living in the remote Arctic before we met the camp's friendly huskies.

Before we knew it, the time had come to make our way to the ship.

As we approached the wharf, we could see the *Sylvia Earle* alongside, the ship's majestic X-Bow making it hard to miss.

We embarked the ship at the port and were greeted by many friendly faces, who guided us upstairs to check in at reception before the ship's crew helped us navigate the decks to our cabins – our home away from home for the next 14 days. We then enjoyed some delicious refreshments together in the Tektite Bar before Howard, our Expedition Leader, called us into the lecture theatre to welcome us aboard.

Fjortende Julibreen Glacier | Lilliehöökreen Glacier

DAY 2 | Tuesday 25 June 2024

Latitude:
79°07'47" N
Longitude:
011°49.30' E

Course:
076.2°
Speed:
2 knots

Wind Speed:
NNW 3,8 knots
Barometer:
1000 hPa

Air Temp:
8°C

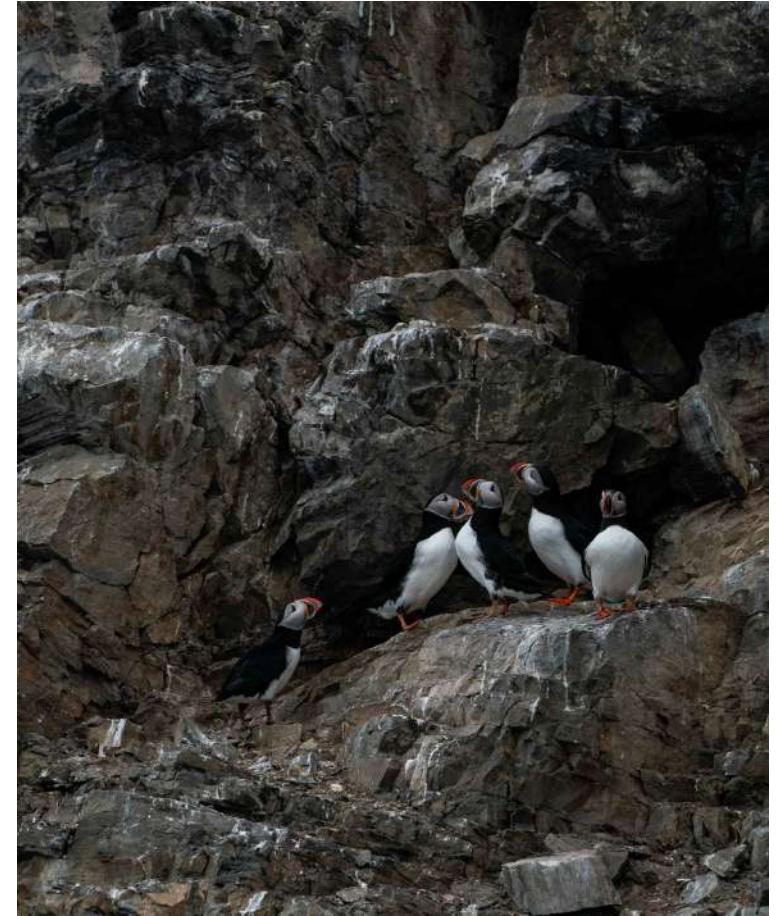
Zodiacing ashore, we observed that the vegetation above the beach was a remarkably brilliant green, while the cliffs above were striking white. As we approached, it became clear that these unexpected colours were explained by a bird colony, which painted the cliff white with droppings, while further droppings fertilised the slopes below. This site, known as the Hanging Gardens of Svalbard, is a lush oasis in a land where most life just struggles to exist.

High above us, the seabirds on the cliff screamed their identity with unrelenting cries of 'kittiwake, kittiwake.' During our time at the Hanging Gardens, reindeer and barnacle geese also paid visits, and

a small, decomposed carcass, consisting only of a white pelt, was witness to arctic fox presence.

In the afternoon, we got to know a glacial front even better, with Zodiac cruises before the sweeping front of the Lilliehöökreen Glacier. Every few minutes, it seemed, we heard rumbles and splashes marking a new glacial calving. Kittiwakes like icebergs, and lots of them congregated around some of the small bergs that drifted in the bay. One of these was long, narrow, and had a rounded face that looked like a cat's. As we were about to head back to the ship, the cat decided to roll over, sending the kittiwakes springing into the air.









Hamiltonbukta | Gravneset

DAY 3 | Wednesday 26 June 2024

Latitude:
79°48.7'N
Longitude:
011°36.6'W

Course:
227.8°
Speed:
6.4 knots

Wind Speed:
S 10 knots
Barometer:
996 hPa

Air Temp:
5°C

A calm overnight transit across the north Spitzbergen coast has us waking up as we enter Røde Fjord, heading for our morning's destination at Hamiltonbukta.

Our sharp-eyed Captain Jorge spotted a polar bear snoozing in the grass atop an islet, so we get into the Zodiacs and head off in a string formation. Soon we are 'round-robinning', getting glimpses of our prone *Ursus maritimus*, black nose and feet pads standing out in contrast to the white fur.

After 40 minutes he had a roll and a stretch, raising up his beautiful big head and in one fluid movement, stands up and ambles down to

the shoreline, giving us great views of this arctic apex predator before he slides into the water and swims away to a far shore.

During lunch, we retraced our overnight route, in search of clearer weather. We glided into Magdalenefjorden and dropped anchor close to the landing site at Gravneset. It was one of many places on this coast where during the 1600s, whalers from Netherlands and England established sites for processing whale blubber into oil. We examined the remains of the blubber ovens, imagining how different the place would have been when the bloody and industrial process of whaling was in full swing.





Alkefjellet | Torrelnesset | Bråsvellbreen

DAY 4 | Thursday 27 June 2024

Latitude:
77°58.7'N
Longitude:
024°53.9'E

Course:
183°
Speed:
14 knots

Wind Speed:
SE 13 knots
Barometer:
1005 hPa

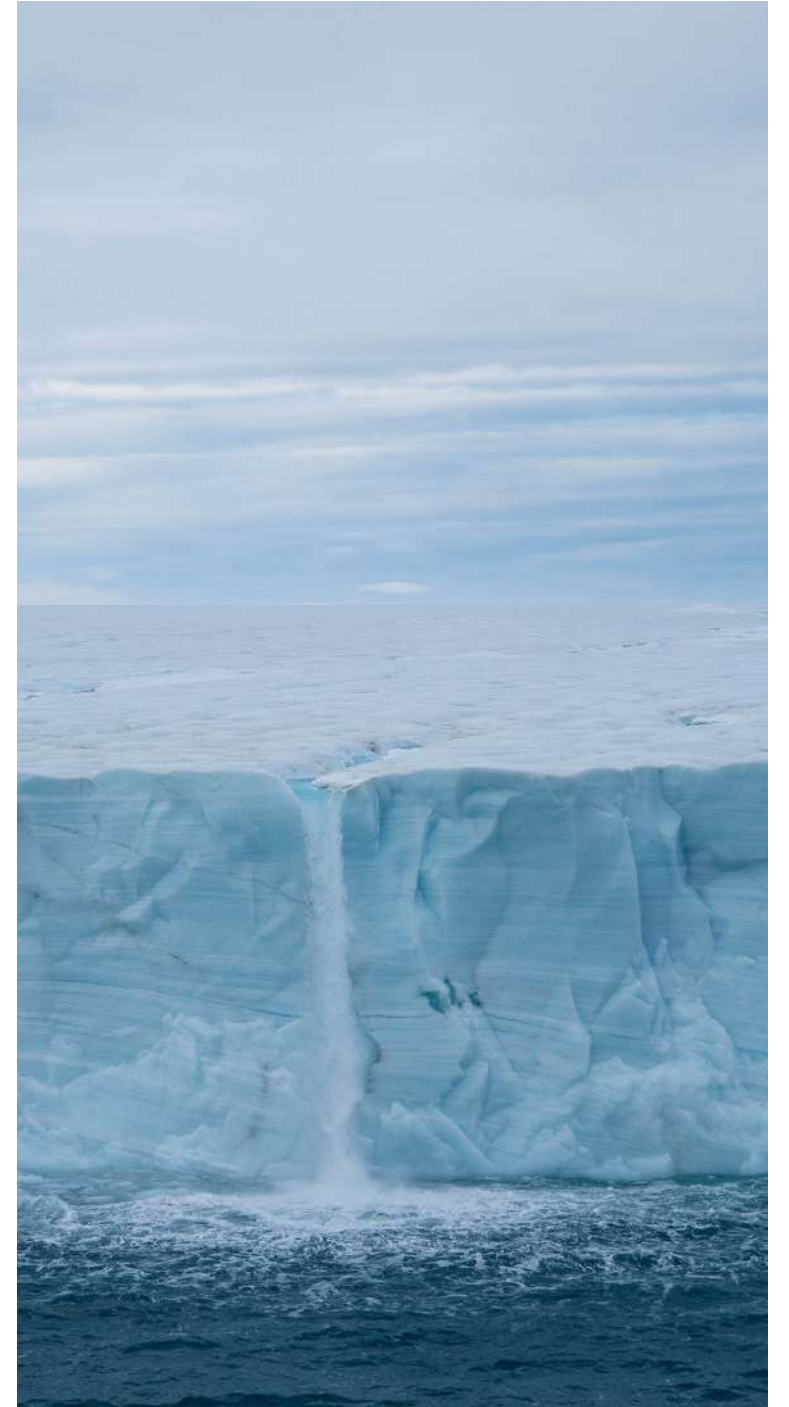
Air Temp:
7°C

As the Zodiacs approached the cliffs through the waves, the cacophony of thousands of birds filled the air. The sight was mesmerising: countless guillemots and other seabirds densely packed on narrow ledges, each vying for space. The cliffs appeared alive with constant movement, a bustling avian city against the backdrop of the rugged, icy landscape. A visit to Alkefjellet is a testament to the raw beauty and incredible biodiversity of the Arctic, leaving us with lasting memories of this extraordinary journey.

After safely returning to the ship, we sailed east, leaving behind the island of Spitsbergen and its pointy mountains. We crossed the

Hinlopen Strait towards Nordaustlandet, the second largest island of the Svalbard archipelago. The landscape of eastern Svalbard is truly different. We landed in one of the most barren places on earth, Torrelnesset, where walrus rested on the shore. Some of us went for a walk over the raised beaches, an amazing geological phenomenon where the land rises as the ice on top of it melts. The wind was intense, and the warmth of our home away from home called us back.







Freemansundet | Ryke Yseøyane | At Sea

DAY 5 | Friday 28 June 2024

Latitude:
75°09.8'N
Longitude:
08°57.64'E

Course:
241°
Speed:
14.4 knots

Wind Speed:
NE 12 knots
Barometer:
1012 hPa

Air Temp:
10°C

The captain took the *Sylvia Earle* in to approach the eastern end of Freemansundet, which is the channel separating Barentsøya from Edgeøya. We headed south towards a small group of islands that no one on board had ever visited before. The Ryke Yseøyane, named after a 17th-century whaling captain, is a tiny group of islets clustered together near the east coast of Edgeøya.

The east side of Heinøya, the main island, was where two adventurous Norwegians built a cabin in 1967. Due to the sea ice surrounding the islands they were marooned there until 1969 and only one survived! We saw eider ducks, brent geese and a few red

phalaropes near this lagoon as well as the usual jaegers and glaucous gulls patrolling.

After this operation it was time to head to sea to make our way further west towards Greenland. The sun came out as we had our last glimpses of the Svalbard archipelago.

A day at sea was also a great excuse for a luxurious afternoon tea session, which was followed by our historian, Ben, who gave us a presentation on the Pomors. These were Russian people from the coast of the White Sea, who settled here in Svalbard possibly as early as the 1500s to make a living from the surrounding wildlife.





At Sea | Jan Mayen

DAY 6 | Saturday 29 June 2024

Latitude:
71°51.4' N
Longitude:
06°19.7' W

Course:
225.8°
Speed:
13.8 knots

Wind Speed:
E 8.2 knots
Barometer:
1005 hPa

Air Temp:
6°C

The morning began with a leisurely lie-in. For the first time on this expedition, we had the luxury of enjoying a calm start to our day, savouring the gentle sway of the ship. Despite being at sea, our day was to be filled with activities. The Expedition Team had thoughtfully arranged a series of workshops and lectures, enriching our understanding of the arctic landscapes and wildlife we had encountered during our time exploring Svalbard. Our first morning activity was a captivating lecture by David, who delved into the Arctic's unique environment.

Following on from David's lecture, we dived into an exciting workshop with Heidi, who introduced us to the captivating water

birds of the Arctic. We mastered the art of using binoculars and joined a Citizen Science bird survey, taking note of any birds we sighted.

After lunch it was time to Join Wes outside on Deck 7 to take part in NASA's Cloud Survey, giving us the opportunity to contribute to climate research by observing and recording the cloud formations we could see.

Afternoon tea was served, offering an array of delicious treats that gave us a delightful sugar high before sitting back down in the lecture theatre to be captivated by Heather's fascinating lecture, guiding us through the life cycle of the polar bears.



At Sea | Jan Mayen

DAY 7 | Sunday 30 June 2024

Latitude:
70°53.5'N
Longitude:
010°34.9'W

Course:
263°
Speed:
11.2 knots

Wind Speed:
SE 4 knots
Barometer:
1004 hPa

Air Temp:
5°C

Today, the *Sylvia Earle* continued its journey southwest towards Jan Mayen, slicing through the dense fog. The morning was dedicated to sailing, but it was packed with a varied program to keep us engaged.

We began our day with an energising lecture by Heidi, who passionately talked about identifying arctic plants we had encountered during the past week in Svalbard. We then headed to Deck 8 for our scheduled seabird and cloud surveys.

Suddenly, our attention was drawn to a spectacular sight – Beerenberg, the majestic volcano crowning the island of Jan Mayen, briefly emerged from the fog. Although the fog quickly closed

in again, everyone was excited and hopeful for another glimpse. Our patience paid off as the fog gradually lifted, revealing the breathtaking, glacier-covered volcano in all its summer glory.

After a quick lunch, we launched the Zodiacs and began disembarking at Kvalrossbukta on the northern coast of Jan Mayen. The staff from the meteorological station were there to greet us. From the beach, we set out on a hike to a viewpoint that offered a perfect panoramic view of the dramatic volcanic landscape rising from the sea. The area was teeming with puffins, kittiwakes, and guillemots nesting in the cliffs, adding to the enchanting atmosphere.





At Sea | Pack Ice | Greenland Sea

DAY 8 | Monday 1 July 2024

Latitude:
70°37.14' N
Longitude:
017°36.3' W

Course:
308,8°
Speed:
11.4 knots

Wind Speed:
N 15 knots
Barometer:
1000 hPa

Air Temp:
7°C

Today we continued our crossing of the Greenland Sea on the lookout for the first sign of sea ice that flows along Greenland's east coast out of the Arctic Ocean.

Our photographer, Fiona, inspired us to consider including the environment around the subject when taking photos, along with many other tips and tricks in an enlightening presentation. The citizen scientists among us spent time on deck with Heidi and Wes, doing bird and cloud observations respectively. The highlight being a several hundred little auks heading for the ice edge.

During free time in the afternoon, some braved the cooler, damper

weather on the outer decks to marvel at the growing numbers of little auks swimming about these icy waters 80NM off the Greenland coast. Others took to the jacuzzi to keep warm.

Our historian, Ben, gave an insightful tale of Nansen, focusing on his epic sled crossing of Greenland. The privations of one pipe a week and a shared sleeping bag for three men were examples of how he kept the weight down to make the trip. A hardy soul and revered polar explorer. We were left with a quote on which to ponder... "the difficult is what takes a little time, the impossible is what takes a little longer".



Pack Ice | Greenland Sea

DAY 9 | Tuesday 2 July 2024

Latitude:
69°33.26' N
Longitude:
021°29.6' E

Course:
255°
Speed:
6.8 knots

Wind Speed:
WN 3.9 knots
Barometer:
1005 hPa

Air Temp:
5°C

In the morning, we navigated the pack ice off the coast of East Greenland in our Zodiacs.

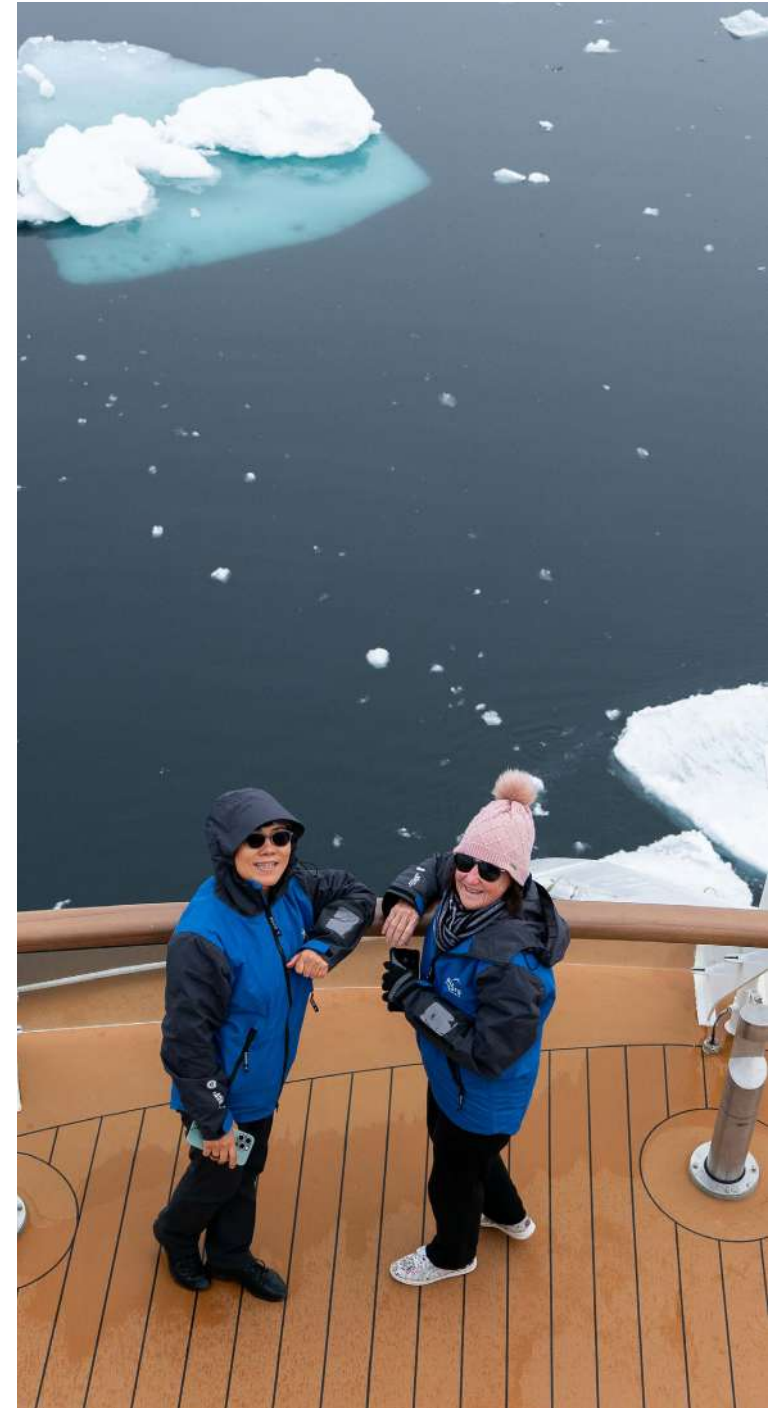
Our small, nimble Zodiacs allowed us to weave effortlessly through the dense ice floes. The stillness of the sea only added to the otherworldly experience, with the only sounds being the splash of water against the ice and the distant, echoing calls of seabirds.

As we cruised, we were blessed with the sight of a few little auks, their black and white feathers striking against the icy backdrop. These small birds danced around us, diving into the water and emerging with a graceful ease that made it seem as if they were performing a well-rehearsed ballet. It was a rare and delightful sight that added a touch of magic to an already enchanting day.

The adventure was nothing short of exhilarating, as we braved the icy waters of Greenland for a polar plunge after getting back to the ship. This daring activity, where we dove into the frigid sea surrounded by stunning sea ice, was both a test of our courage and an electrifying experience.

In the afternoon, we set off on another remarkable expedition, walking on a sea ice floe off the east coast of Greenland. The vast expanse of ice stretched out beneath our feet, creating a surreal landscape of frozen beauty. The crisp, cold air and the distant sounds of cracking ice added to the sense of wonder and isolation. It was an unforgettable experience, immersing us in the pristine and majestic environment of the Arctic with the beauty of the Greenlandic steep mountains on the horizon.







At Sea

DAY 10 | Wednesday 3 July 2024

Latitude:
69°16.064' N
Longitude:
20°14.014' W

Course:
014.2°
Speed:
8.5 knots

Wind Speed:
N 30 knots
Barometer:
1000 hPa

Air Temp:
0°C

A captivating talk with Ben about his adventures with Greg Mortimer in Scoresby Sund transported us to the heart of the expedition, igniting a spark of wanderlust within each of us. His vivid storytelling painted a picture of exploration and discovery that lingered long after the talk had ended.

As the afternoon unfolded, the library became a hub of creativity and collaboration as we prepared our photos for an upcoming slideshow competition.

Teatime provided a moment of respite, a chance to reflect on the day's events and recharge for the virtual ships presentation by Ashley and Barbara. Their virtual exploration of distant waters sparked our imagination and fuelled our curiosity about the world beyond.

The day seamlessly transitioned into a social gathering at the Tektite Bar, where canapes and conversations flowed freely, forging connections and deepening friendships in the warm glow of camaraderie.

The evening culminated in an after-dinner talk by Elo, who regaled us with tales of her solo kayak trip off Greenland. Her spirit of adventure and resilience left an indelible mark on our hearts, inspiring us to seek out our own moments of discovery and growth in the days to come.



At Sea | Sailing towards Iceland

DAY 11 | Thursday 4 June 2024

Latitude:
68°18.7'N
Longitude:
020°58.9'W

Course:
232,5°
Speed:
7.5 knots

Wind Speed:
N 26.3 knots
Barometer:
1008 hPa

Air Temp:
4°C

The Denmark Strait is a focus of scientific research due to its role in ocean circulation and climate regulation. Our southerly course took us right down the convergence of the East Greenland Current and the Irminger Current. The East Greenland Current was responsible for the fast ice and dense pack ice that prevented us from reaching the coast of Greenland, and the Irminger is a branch of the warm North Atlantic Current that flows north along the Icelandic coast. The water temperature difference between leaving Eastern Greenland and nearing the Icelandic coast ended up being between 8°C and 9°C. This convergence of currents may have attributed to a much more complex cloud survey, later that day, than we had performed thus far.

Adrian, in his presentation on celestial navigation, showed us how the sextant was developed, how it is used to navigate by the sun,

stars and planets, and also instilled within us an appreciation of our place in the universe.

Heather revealed to us why Iceland is such a hot spot for volcanic activity. We learned about plate tectonics, the mid-Atlantic ridge and the formation of Iceland.

Thomas segued right in with the present-day culture and economy of Iceland, beginning with some of the more recent experiences that Icelanders have had in their land of fire and ice. Ben gave us a great introduction to the expansion of Norse over 1,000 years ago and the settlements of Iceland and Greenland by the Vikings.

Ashley completed our day as she regaled us with the story of her Greenland sailing expedition. We are now and truly ready to get back to some exploring and expeditioning.



Ísafjörður

DAY 12 | Friday 5 July 2024

Latitude:
66°10.8'N
Longitude:
023°055'W

Course:
166,6°
Speed:
10,2 knots

Wind Speed:
NNW 11 knots
Barometer:
1010 hPa

Air Temp:
8°C

As we arrived in the Westfjords of Iceland, we were immediately struck by the breathtaking beauty of the landscape. The Westfjords are known for their rugged mountains, deep fjords, and remote villages, and Isafjörður, the largest town in the area, did not disappoint.

The town of Ísafjörður is nestled in a narrow fjord, surrounded by towering mountains on all sides. The streets are lined with colourful houses, each with its own unique character. The town has a rich history, dating back to the 16th century, and walking through its narrow streets feels like stepping back in time.

We were greeted by three residents of the island and the melodious calls of nesting puffins, eider ducks, and arctic terns. The island's nature reserve was a sight to behold, with thousands of puffins

nesting in the cliffs and eider ducks peacefully swimming in the surrounding waters with their newborn ducklings.

After a delightful morning in Ísafjörður, we set off for Vigur Island in the afternoon. We spent the afternoon exploring, taking in the natural beauty and having a long walking adventure around the island. The puffins captured our attention with their colourful beaks and comical waddling, whilst the arctic terns fluttered through the air, divebombing us as their wings caught the sunlight.

Since the Westfjords are known for their abundant marine life, we were hopeful to catch a glimpse of these majestic creatures. The ship cruised through the fjords, and soon enough, our patience was rewarded as we started to see humpback whales in the distance. One breached the surface, its massive body gracefully gliding through the water.





Thingeyri

DAY 13 | Saturday 6 July 2024

Latitude:
65°52.65' N
Longitude:
023°28.46' W

Course:
314°
Speed:
6,3 knots

Wind Speed:
NNE 11 knots
Barometer:
1010 hPa

Air Temp:
12°C

On our second day of adventuring here, we would be treated to what possibly will be the finest day of summer in the Westfjords.

Gentle waves lapped the side of the Zodiacs, and it became apparent that we had fortuitously timed our visit perfectly with the prime bloom of the famous (or infamous) Nootka lupins. These plants were imported to Iceland to help with the ongoing issue of soil conservation and nitrogen fixation in this windblown country. However, they are accepted as a double-edged sword since they also act very invasively to native species and tend to take over large areas. Their beauty is undeniable, though, and the long hikers enjoyed the blue hues as they ascended Sandafell summit.

Meanwhile, down in the community of Thingeyri, others were learning about the Viking era and trying their hands at baking

the tasty Viking flatbread on an open fire. Tunics, axes, and fur stoles completed the picture, and it was topped off with a visit to Thingeyri's reconstructed Viking village, showcasing the community commitment to their heritage here.

Bus driver Thor stalwartly transported us group by group out to the thundering Dynjandi waterfall. Dynjandi is probably one of Iceland's lesser known large waterfalls; however, it's safe to say that it is a contender for one of the most impressive too! Whether we strode out and got right to the base of the falls, or took time to meander and appreciate the lower falls, the weather gods smiled upon us and all were infused with the peace of Icelandic nature in the height of summer.



Reykjavik

DAY 14 | Sunday 7 July 2024

Latitude:
64°09.54' N
Longitude:
021°56.0' W

Wind Speed:
WWN 11 knots
Barometer:
1008 hPa

Course:
198°
Speed:
Alongside

Air Temp:
18°C

Here we are at the end of our adventure! Thank you for joining us on this magnificent journey through the Jewels of the Arctic, and we hope to see you again on the high seas someday.



BBQ



Polar Plunge









Kayaking Log

with Kayak Guides: Elo Berrier, Liz Macneil, Wes McNeil

25 June, AM – Fjortende Julibukta
2.3km

Our first paddle and what a beautiful day in the neighbourhood! After some time getting ourselves ready to paddle, we launched from the ship and made our way towards the billion-year-old rock cliffs. Paddling closer, Atlantic puffins started flying above us along whilst Brünnich's guillemots were on the cliffs protecting their eggs. Purple and yellow saxifrage painted the hillside, adding to the wonder of Julibukta. After some photos and smiles, we made our way back to the ship. Our shake down paddle was all shakin' off and we were excited for our kayak adventures to come!

25 June, PM – Lilliehöökbrean 2.3km

This afternoon, we towed our kayaks a short distance to get in close to the Lilliehöökbrean glacier. As we learned, 'close' is a relative term when it comes to glaciers. To stay safe, we wanted to be around 500 to 600 metres away from the headwall. We all thought we were quite close to the glacier, when we first got in our boats, but when we measured it with a rangefinder, we were still over a kilometre away. The scale of this place was huge and the glacier face spread 11 kilometres wide. Lilliehöökbrean was quite active this day and we could hear it calving quite often, even though we only saw a handful of actual calvings. We learned how to paddle in brash ice and exploit the spaces between the chunks of ice to glide effortlessly through it. We took some time to just sit in the brash ice and listen to it crackle and pop as the air bubbles were released.



26 June, PM – Gravneset Magdalenafjorden 1.9km

What a trifecta of an excursion! Zodiac cruising, we passed by the walrus, watching them as they hauled out in a state of thigmotaxis (cuddling), keeping themselves warm and protected. Then it was off to witness the magical beauty of the little auks flying in flocks above our heads with the glacial mountains as a backdrop. Landing on shore, we saw the historical remains of the whaling days that decimated the bowhead population for over 50 years. On the water, a short and sweet paddle, we passed by harbor seals that swam around us like ninjas, popping their heads out one at a time... what a beautiful day in the fjorden!

30 June, PM – Jan Mayen

Jan Mayen is in the middle of the Denmark Strait and the likelihood of being able to land and Zodiac cruise is low, but having the conditions to kayak, is even lower. With Mount Beerenberg crystal clear on our approach, we journeyed through the thick

fog into the clear skies of Kvalrossbukta (Walrus Bay). Loading up in the Zodiacs, we made our way to shore for a walk around and hike to the view point... what an amazing view! Afterwards we loaded into the kayaks and went for a paddle around the mesmerising bird cliffs and even into a sea cave! Headed around the north side for a beautiful view of the volcano, we looped back around to soak in a bit more of the thousands of birds calling Jan Mayen home. What a beautiful day in the neighbourhood and an excursion that was loved by all!

2 July, AM – Pack Ice 5.7km

This was our second paddle in the ice, but it had a very different flavour than at Lilliehöökbrean in the brash ice. This was more open, but the ice was larger, made up mostly of large slabs of sea ice, with some bergy bits and growlers. These we had to skirt with a bit of space. When we stopped to take it all in, there was a different type of silence... no crackling bubbles, but the occasional heavy breathing of slabs of ice rising and falling in the mild swell. The water



was glassy, the reflections superb and what a distant background, of East Greenland's distant peaks rising from the ocean. We paddled by a raft of little auks and weaved in and out of the ice back towards the ship. What a special paddle.

5 July, AM – Ísafjörður 4.9km

The whole group paddled this morning to take advantage of our final few paddles, but to also opt for a peaceful paddle rather than a visiting a bustling Ísafjörður, with crowds of people. Elo led us northwards and away from the town out into Skutulsfjörður, the actual fjord leading to Ísafjörður. The surrounding terrain of Iceland felt very different than what we had been experiencing so far in the trip. The large walls of the fjord showed signs of being carved by multiple glacial events. And the green, spongy mosses and purple lupine suddenly seemed surreal. The water was a bit bouncy and there was a cold breeze, but being out and paddling just felt right. After paddling north for a while, we stopped to watch a harbor seal. We then headed back

towards town to give an opportunity for those who wanted to see a bit of town. More than half the group continued on with Wes to cross the fjord to the east side. The one-nautical-mile crossing was quite wavy and the wind had increased, but everyone completed it swiftly and smoothly.

5 July, PM – Vigur Island 5.7km

This afternoon was a bit more raft conditions; strong winds that let us enter in paddle-expedition mood. We took advantage of the geography and use the fiord and kayaking downwind with some shelter from the mountains around. Vigur Island was a protected area but very interesting, so at the end of the kayak session we visited Felicity and her family on their private island, and enjoined some tea and cakes to re-energise. Was a long and funny Zodiac cruise all the way back to the island from the end of the fiord, but we had fun and kept playing Elo's horseriding game.



6 July AM – Thingeyri | Dýrafjörður 8.1km

This morning was our final paddle of the expedition. We were greeted with light winds and calm seas in Dýrafjörður, the fjord that is the gateway to the small village of Thingeyri. A special honour for us today was to paddle with Jorge, the Captain of the *Sylvia Earle*. It was so great to see the Captain to get a chance to relax and get away from the ship and that huge responsibility. Knowing the wind would eventually rise, we paddled close to the docks to make a round of the miniature Viking ship replica moored there. Then we paddled downwind and deeper into the fjord. The wide U-shaped glacial valleys with blankets of purple lupine made for a stupendous backdrop. We would pass the occasional eider duck and little flurries of arctic terns fishing. We took a few moments on this peaceful paddle to raft up and Liz served us hot chocolate, while a very

curious grey seal kept an eye on us and kept following us through the continuation of our trip. Soon after our hot chocolate we crossed the full width of the fjord to the north. Eventually we all agreed to paddle back to end and get out at the ship. This serene and lengthy paddle was a perfect end to our voyage. The remaining afternoon focused on seeing the Dynjandi waterfall, having a celebration, and watching Liz's slide show capturing the nature of our trip. We were grateful for the chance to experience Svalbard by kayak and in great company, or to reflect on something more personal. It was a fitting and beautiful last outing to round out a great trip with very favourable conditions.













Mammal Sightings

Mammal Species	June - July												
	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	1	2	3	4	5	6
Reindeer		•											
Polar Bear			•	•									
Arctic Fox				•								•	
Harbour/Common Seal		•	•									•	
Bearded Seal					•								
Harp Seal								•					
Walrus			•	•									
Minke Whale							•						
Humpback Whale						•	•			•	•		
Fin Whale					•	•							



Map



Jewels of the Arctic

24 June – 7 July 2024



Our Expeditioners

Nacho Sotelo Abbud

David Andersen

Charles Back

Fernando Bautista

Jackie Booy

Chris Booy

Dennis Borel

Luke Bullock

Zhengzhi Cao

Dianne Carrington-Plano

Caroline Chee

Robin Cline

Amaya Negrete Collado

Karen Conken

Suzanne Cook

Thomas Crvenkovic

Jay Dawson

Catherine Dawson

Deborah De Lazzari

Roberto De Lazzari

Jill Fosness

Lynda Frost

Ann Gladwin

Wendy Gonsher

Wei Guo

Ben Hale

Catherine Haley

Bill Haley

Karen Helbrecht

John Holmes

Sue Hosking

Peter Hosking

Roslyn Johannesen

Gordon Johnston

Sharon Jones

Craig Jones

Catherine Kirk

Linton Kirk

Jennifer Klaussen

Robert Larbalestier

Emma Larbalestier

Linda De La Torre

Shirley Lane-Smith

Chenrong Li

Ying Li

Te Shan Liang

Xuwen Liu

Xiaozhou Liu

Danielle Makler

Chris Makler

Jennifer Matthews

Peter Matthews

Matthew Meyers

Allen Michelson

Roseann Michelson

Erick Orellana

Susan Pitts

Carolyn Park

Liz Park

Graham Parker

Jane Parker

Dori Carlson-Peterson

Douglas Pinkerton

Jeffrey Place

Lorain Place

Joe Plano Jr.

Sarah Reid

Ron Rouwenhorst

Fran Rouwenhorst

Kim Rickels

Ramani Samaraweera

Jay Samaraweera

Natalia Serkalev

Vanessa Lindsay Smith

Carol Smucker

Timothy Stewart-Page

Chiew Eng Tian

Sue Trimble

Penny Wade

Mike Wade

Tim Worrell

Yan Yan

Na Zhang

Qi Zhang

Wanting Zhang

Expedition Team

Expedition Leader: Howard Whelan

Assistant Expedition Leader: Ashley Perrin

Onboard Expedition Manager: Barbara Ostwalt

Onboard Expedition Assistant: Reza Rusooly

Photography Guide: Fiona Wardle

Firearms Manager: Stephen Anstee

Geologist / Glaciologist: Heather Chrystie

Naturalist/ Citizen Science: Heidi Krajewski

Naturalist: David Cairns

Expedition Guide: Thomas Gov

First Responder / Medic: Jane Morris

Zodiac Manager: Ryan Kaempfe

Historian: Ben Maddison

Lead Kayak Guide: Elo Berrier

Senior Kayak Guide: Liz Macneil

Senior Kayak Guide: Wes McNeil

Mandarin Speaking Guide: Chen Zhongyuan

Mandarin Speaking Guide: Kovey Jiayi

Expedition Guide: Adrian Castellote Tena

Senior Officers & Heads of Department

Master: Jorge Ferdinez

Chief Officer: Andrey Gilevskiy

Third Officer: Bryan Salem

Deck Cadet: Jamie Tennant

Safety Officer: Andrus Pruul

Bosun: Ferdy Diaz Roque

Ship Doctor: Gloria Gonzalez

Chief Engineer: Srdan Jakovic

1st Engineer: Peter Alyenkov

IT Officer: Rene Reyes

Hotel Director: Balvant Singh

F&B Service Manager: Narendra Seeram

Head Bartender: Juan Carlos Gonzalez

Chief Purser: Jonalyn Galve

Executive Chef: Rosauro Soriano

Sous Chef: Alexander Mungcal

Hotel Controller: Alfredo Jr. Laquian

Receptionist: Kutsi Vazquez

Receptionist: Angeli Perona

Head Stateroom Attendant: Alexander Bartolome

Able Seaman: Rosendo Cruz

Able Seaman: Rajiv Rauinyar

Able Seaman: Anthony Brosas

Able Seaman: Muhammad Karier

Able Seaman: Lexter Fradiquela

Able Seaman: Eduardo Aloyan


Photography thanks to:

Fiona Wardle





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