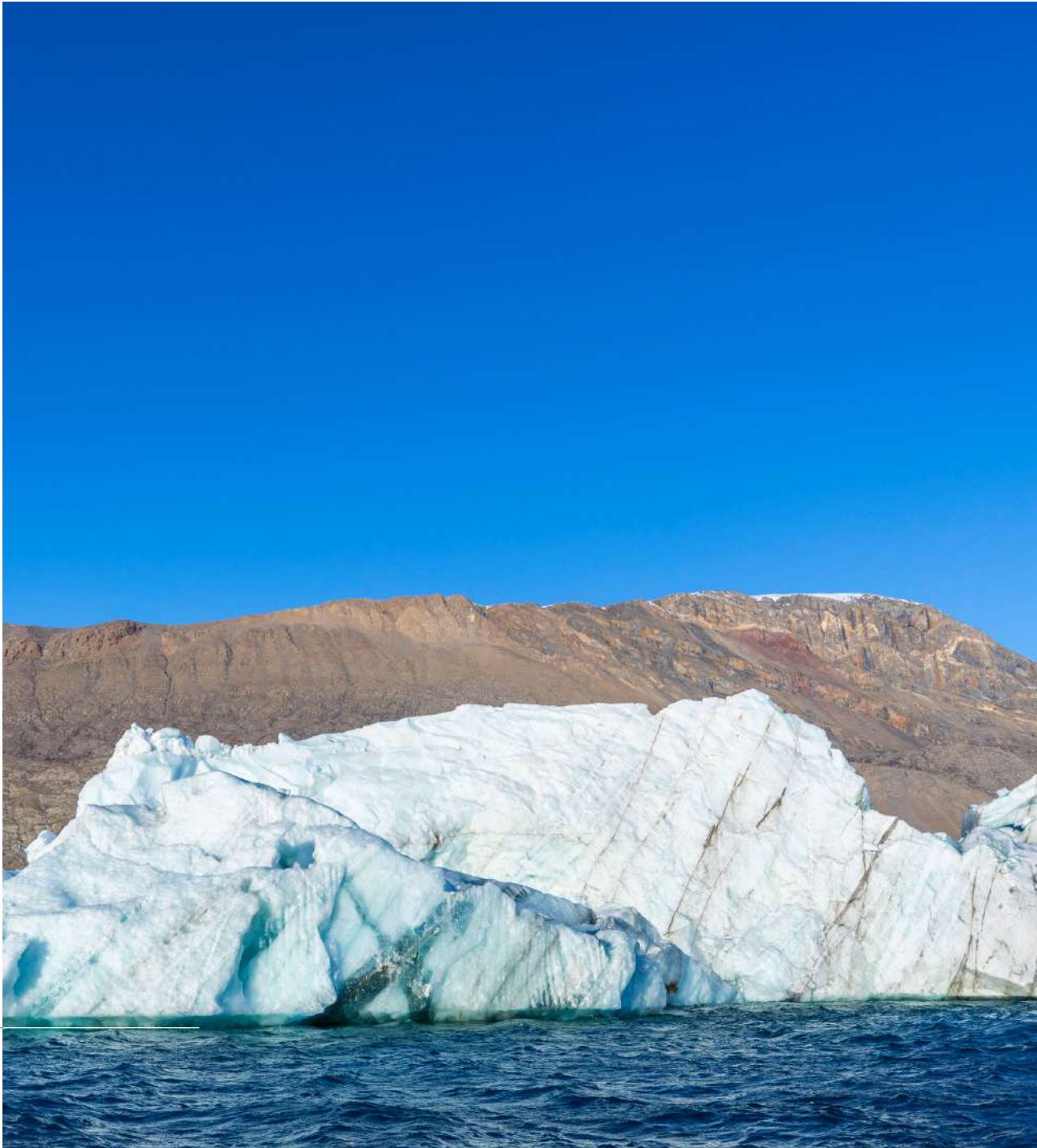




# Northern Lights Explorer

Aboard *Greg Mortimer* | 9 – 26 September 2024



# Northern Lights Explorer

9 – 26 September 2024

# Kirkenes

DAY 1 | Monday 9 September 2024

Latitude:  
69° 43.7'N  
Longitude:  
030° 03.8'E

Course:  
Alongside  
Speed:  
Alongside

Wind Speed:  
4 knots S  
Barometer:  
1023 hPa

Air Temp:  
21°C

After breakfast, we had some free time to roam through town before commencing a locally guided tour early afternoon.

Following our guided tour, we made our way to the *Greg Mortimer*. As we disembarked the buses, we were greeted by some of the Expedition Team and then directed to Justine and Adrian for our first photo of the trip. At the top of the gangway, the rest of the Expedition Team and crew welcomed us on board.

After checking in and enjoying refreshments at the Elephant Island Bar, the stewards helped us navigate the decks to our cabins and settle into our 'home away from home' for the next couple of weeks.

Onboard Expedition Manager, Justine, and Hotel Director, Alex, then walked us through life on board and Dr Javier ensured we knew how to stay healthy during our voyage.

Before dinner, it was time to exchange our expedition jackets, and the kayakers had a quick meet and greet with their guides Dan and Vanja.

The restaurant was buzzing with new friends as we enjoyed a delicious dinner prepared by our talented galley team and served by the fleet's friendliest waitstaff.















# Honningsvåg (Magerøya)

DAY 2 | Tuesday 10 September 2024

Latitude:  
71° 04.6' N  
Longitude:  
026° 38.5' E

Course:  
235°  
Speed:  
10 knots

Wind Speed:  
3.5 knots  
Barometer:  
998 hPa

Air Temp:  
15°C

After a bumpy night sailing from Kirkenes, our ship, the *Greg Mortimer*, finally arrived in Honningsvåg.

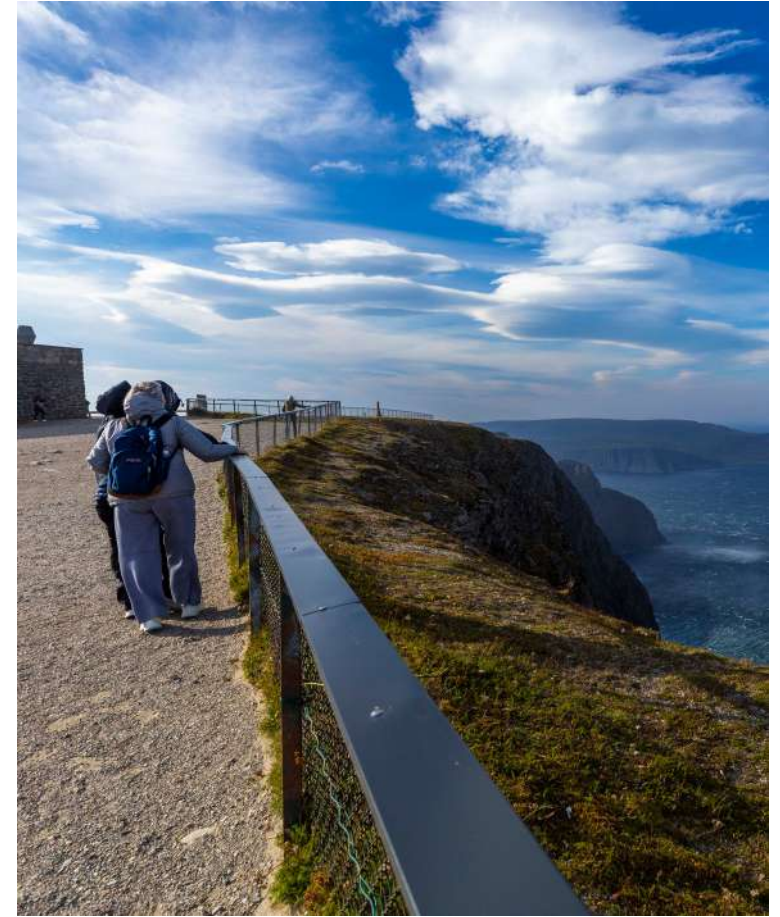
Divided into three groups, we embarked on distinct and thrilling excursions. The first group explored the behind-the-scenes workings of the local seafood industry, gaining intriguing insights into this crucial sector. The second group set off on a trek to Kirkeporten, braving strong winds to reach the stunning natural arch that offered breathtaking views. The final group enjoyed a panoramic journey to the North Cape, where the dramatic landscapes were matched only by the gusty weather.

Upon returning to the *Greg Mortimer*, we relished a satisfying lunch on board. Jonathan, our historian, then delivered an engaging lecture on the history and culture of Norway, enriching our understanding of the region. As we sailed past the iconic North Cape en route to Tromsø, the anticipation of more adventures was palpable.

The evening concluded with a warm welcome cocktail hosted by Captain Alexandru, setting an exciting tone for the days ahead. Expedition Leader, Isabelle, provided a briefing, outlining our upcoming plans, and Adrian shared insights about the northern lights.











# At Sea, Tromsø

DAY 3 | Wednesday 11 September 2024

Latitude:  
70° 08.0' N  
Longitude:  
020° 15.5' E

Course:  
230°  
Speed:  
6.7 knots

Wind Speed:  
6 knots SE  
Barometer:  
1008 hPa

Air Temp:  
18°C

As we left the rugged coast of Finnmark county in strong winds, we were pleasantly surprised to wake up in Troms county with flat seas, blue skies and amazing scenery all around. With narrow fjords and mountains up to 2000 metres tall, it was a remarkable navigation, sailing south towards Tromsø.

After lunch, with no time to waste, we headed off on an excursion to the Science Centre to learn about the northern lights via a great film and presentation. After the film we headed back to the city centre to explore the streets of the 'Paris of the North' – Tromsø. Tromsø, with its proud history as the gateway to the Arctic, has some nice cafés, bars and some great museums. Tromsø is the biggest city in the north

of Norway, with almost 20 per cent of the population being students, which makes it a lively city, especially at night!

Later on, in the evening, about half of us left for a special Aurora Borealis Husky dinner! What a great experience it was; many dogs and even some puppies to play with, all with the scenic mountains of Kvaløya as the perfect backdrop. We were served a delicious tomato bacalao and some great Norwegian cakes as we waited for the daylight to drop and the northern lights to come out. It was well worth the wait, what a show we had! Starting off a little faint in the distance, as the sky got darker, a spectacular show appeared for all to see.















# Inner Passage, Svolvær (Lofoten)

DAY 4 | Thursday 12 September 2024

Latitude:  
33° 5'N  
Longitude:  
016° 27.2'E

Wind Speed:  
12 knots SSE  
Barometer:  
1008 hPa

Course:  
270°  
Speed:  
10.1 knots

Air Temp:  
14°C

Following breakfast, Rune gave us a lecture on the Norwegian fishing industry; not before, however, he carefully orchestrated the entire theatre into singing traditional Norwegian songs to get everyone in the Norwegian spirit.

In the early afternoon we arrived in Svolvær and broke off into our selected groups for the afternoon. The hikers headed for Tjeldbergtind and faced its consistent upward slope and challenging steeper sections as they weaved their way to the top for some spectacular views over the area.

The fishing village walk snaked its way along the waterfront before

crossing over to Pig Island, the tiny isle that has housed many a fisherman over the years. Surrounded by cod-drying racks, we admired the lofty peaks that encased the town and took in the reality of the industry that has supported this part of Norway.

Finally, half of us boarded buses and went out to the Laven restaurant inside an old horse stable on the Hovgard property. The land sits directly opposite a pristine beach and supplied exquisite meals prior to showing a film on the northern lights. We then proceeded down to the beach in anticipation of tonight's light display and weren't disappointed as the greens, whites and purples danced across the sky.













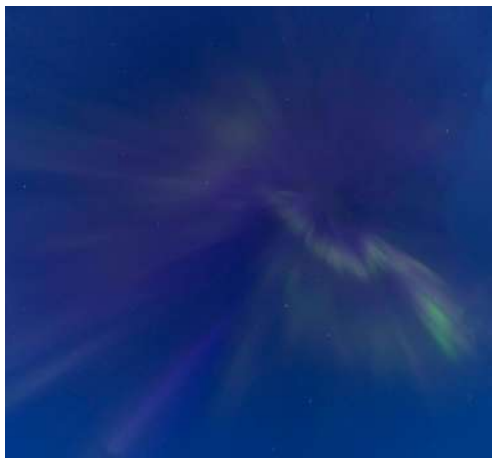
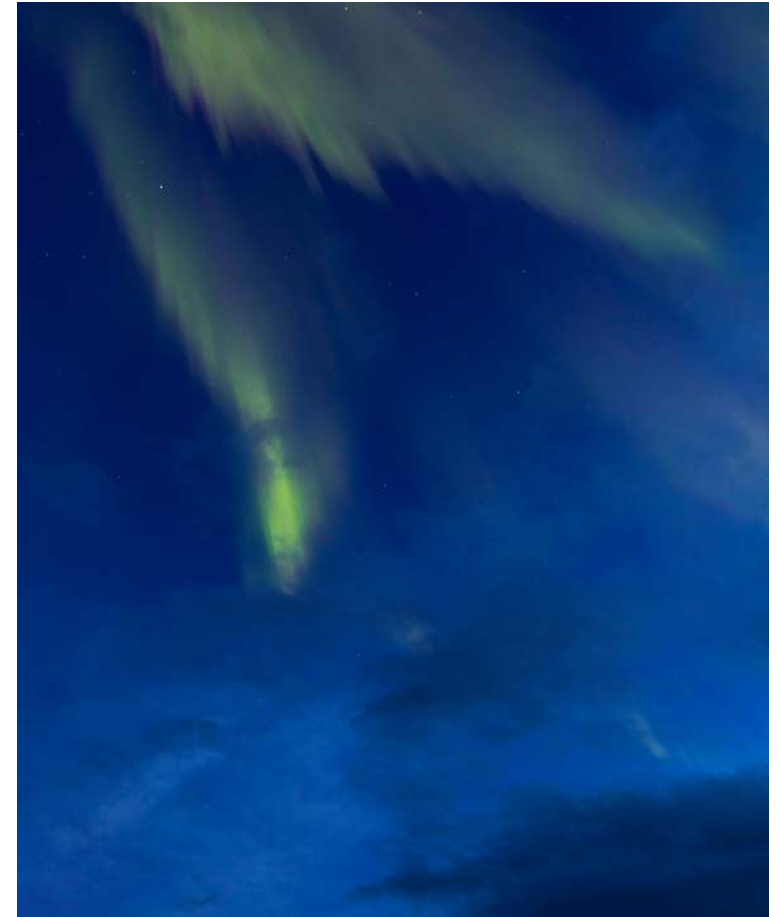














# Leknes, At Sea

DAY 5 | Friday 13 September 2024

Latitude:  
68° 08.8' N  
Longitude:  
013° 34.7' E

Wind Speed:  
2.7 knots SSW  
Barometer:  
1008 hPa

Course:  
At Port  
Speed:  
At Port

Air Temp:  
11°C

Boarding buses, the Expeditioners set out across the island to walk on the rocky shoreline and beaches of the coastal Norway. Once out of the buses, though, it became quickly apparent that the winds were too strong even for walking, and a hasty retreat was made to the Lofoten Viking Museum at Borg.

In the museum, Expeditioners enjoyed the historical exhibit and buildings. Built on the site of an incredible excavation of one of the largest longhouses sites in Europe, its size and rich artefacts attesting to the wealth and far reach of Norse traders in the early ninth century. Through raid and trade, and then a later series of interconnected settlements, the Norwegian merchants spread their network as far as the Mediterranean and across to Greenland, and beyond to the far shores of eastern Canada. Wealthy homes like that

at Borg, here in the Lofotens, the springboard for these ambitious expeditions out across the known and unknown world.

Walking up to the longhouse, we were introduced to this world through the carefully reconstructed space; a building built alongside the excavation that is its template. Inside were carefully made clothing, tools, and household items. All crafted in the same method and manner as the originals, it was a unique vision into life in that period.

Before lunch the local hosts introduced the group to life in the Viking era, and to the story of the house, before serving a delicious soup with traditional barley bread. With their enthusiastic storytelling, and the unique atmosphere of the place, it was a meal to remember.









# Day at Sea, En Route to Jan Mayen

DAY 6 | Saturday 14 September 2024

Latitude:  
67° 28.1'N  
Longitude:  
09° 13.5'E

Wind Speed:  
32 knots SSW  
Barometer:  
1028 hPa

Course:  
305°  
Speed:  
12 knots

Air Temp:  
7°C

Today was a sea day, our first of the expedition.

Marine biologist, Dani, brought life to our mid-morning by giving a great lecture about whales and our relationship with them. It was both entertaining and very informative and there were plenty of questions at the end.

After lunch naturalist Ian gave a talk called 'A Thousand Wild Dawns' which leaped from the Arctic to the Antarctic and ended up in Cornwall where he lives. It was all about his time working as a wildlife cameraman in some of the wildest places in the world.

The rest of the afternoon was spent enjoying some downtime. Folks

reading, watching movies, having a massage, or simply catching up on lost sleep.

Around 6pm, many of us gathered in the Elephant Island Bar to enjoy a drink and settle in for another informative recap presented by the team. Adrian kicked it off with an update on the northern lights, which was followed by Dani's informative presentation on reindeer. Jonathan then talked us through the complex and dramatic role that Norwegians played in the second World War as an occupied nation.

After a delicious dinner, Nicole hosted the trip's first 'Polar Reads' session in the library. A great first meeting, with two more to come.





# At Sea, Jan Mayen

DAY 7 | Sunday 15 September 2024

Latitude:  
68° 07' N  
Longitude:  
006° 07.3' E

Course:  
309°  
Speed:  
12 knots

Wind Speed:  
35 knots S  
Barometer:  
1000 hPa

Air Temp:  
0°C

Following breakfast, a crucial part of the expedition experience kicked off: the mandatory AECO (Association of Arctic Expedition Cruise Operators), Zodiac, and polar bear safety briefings. This session, led by the ship's expert guides, ensured that all of us are well-prepared for the unique challenges and thrills of polar expedition.

Next on the program was Marcos's lecture on the different forms of ice. His presentation provided fascinating insights into how ice shapes the polar environments, enhancing our understanding and appreciation of the stunning landscapes we will encounter.

In the afternoon, the focus shifted to Jan Mayen, an island of intriguing contrasts. Marcos, Jonathan and Rune presented an introduction to Jan Mayen, covering its geological features, including the world's northernmost active volcano, as well as its history and how life is on the island today. Their combined expertise provided a comprehensive understanding of this remote arctic island.

As evening descended, the *Greg Mortimer* arrived at Jan Mayen, offering Expeditioners a chance to witness the island's beauty from the ship's deck. Through the fog and rain, the view was nothing short of breathtaking.









# Day at Sea, En Route to East Greenland

DAY 8 | Monday 16 September 2024

Latitude:  
72° 1 27' N  
Longitude:  
014° 07.2' W

Course:  
295°  
Speed:  
11 knots

Wind Speed:  
18 knots  
Barometer:  
1026 hPa

Air Temp:  
2°C

Mid-morning, Jonathan presented 'An Introduction to Greenland', which gave us an overview of this fascinating island we're fast approaching. Thankfully the seas had moderated, which made for easier movement around the ship, but fog has reduced visibility and the air temperatures have dropped noticeably. Late in the day there was even ice forming on the outer decks, requiring us to be extra cautious. In the afternoon Daniel gave us another perspective on the lives of the Greenland Inuit, including the plight of modern hunters dealing with the effects of climate change. Later we made a Citizen Science cloud survey on deck 8 with Marcos and learned how this

information provides the ground-truthing for NASA weather satellites orbiting the earth.

Nicola's Arctic Book Club 'Polar Reads' met after dinner in the library for the reading of Christine Ritter's fascinating memoir, *A Woman in the Polar Night*. The group has grown in popularity, with nearly double the number of readers tonight.

Around 8pm we finally sailed across the 12-nautical-mile boundary that marks Greenland's territorial waters. We had finally arrived at our next destination.





# Nordfjord, Blomsterbugten

DAY 9 | Tuesday 17 September 2024

Latitude:  
73° 42.2' N  
Longitude:  
24° 15' W

Course:  
353.8°  
Speed:  
9.7 knots

Wind Speed:  
15 knots NNW  
Barometer:  
1027 hPa

Air Temp:  
-4°C

Our first full day of adventure began bright and early, marking the end of our three-day crossing from Norway. With the morning light, East Greenland revealed itself in all its vastness. Towering mile-high cliffs surrounded us as we approached Nordfjord, our morning destination. The Waltershausen Glacier was a sight to behold—an 11-kilometre-wide glacier front, a gigantic wall of ice! Temperature hovered around -4°C, and the wind chill made it feel even colder, but spirits were high as we set off on a thrilling Zodiac exploration of the area. The breathtaking scenery made every moment unforgettable.

Returning to the warmth of the ship, we were treated to a delicious lunch that re-energised us for the day ahead. Most of us gathered shortly after in the observation lounge on deck 8, or braved the chill on the outer decks to take in the views as we sailed towards

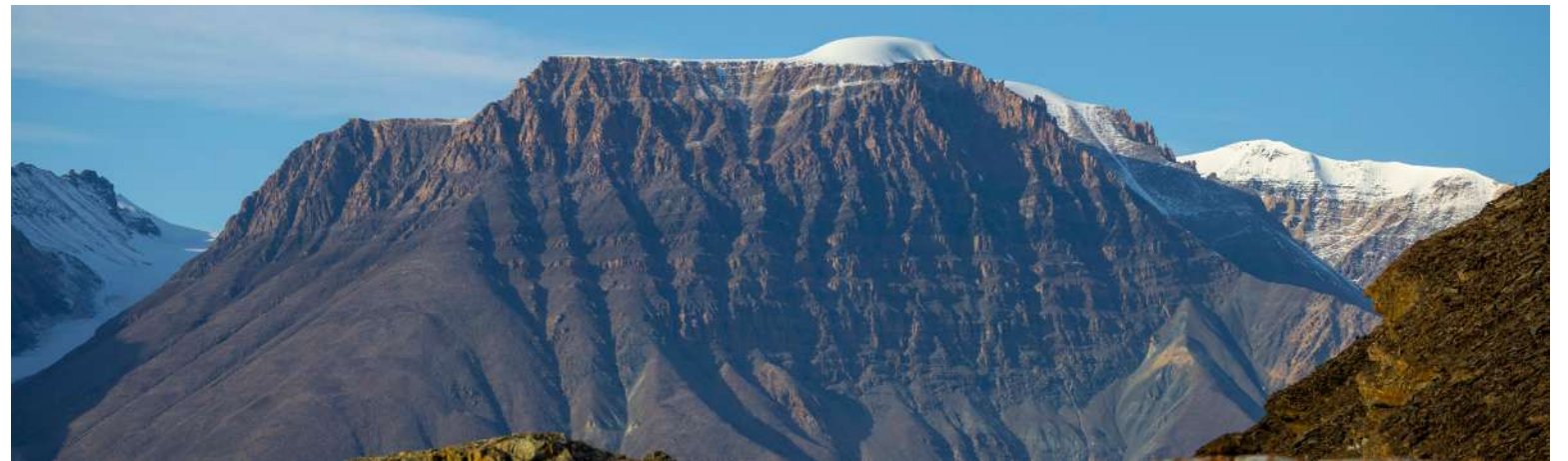
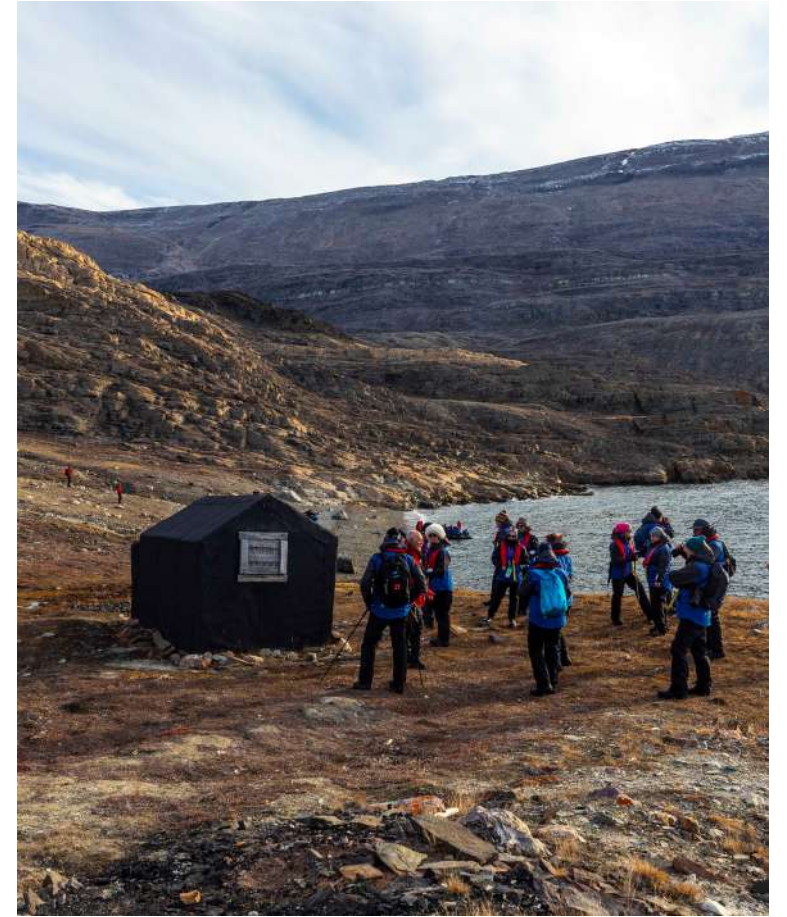
our afternoon destination, Blomsterbugten. The fjords of Greenland were in full display—stunning geological formations that seemed to mimic rainbows, towering mountains, glaciers snaking down into the sea, and icebergs scattered like jewels. To top it all off, we spotted musk oxen grazing in the distance.

Once ashore, we split into three groups, each exploring different routes through the arctic tundra, experiencing the subtle beauty and magic that this place holds.

As the day came to a close, we were treated to a surprise: dinner under the open sky. An outdoor barbecue out on deck, surrounded by Greenland's awe-inspiring beauty; quite the perfect way to end this extraordinary day.







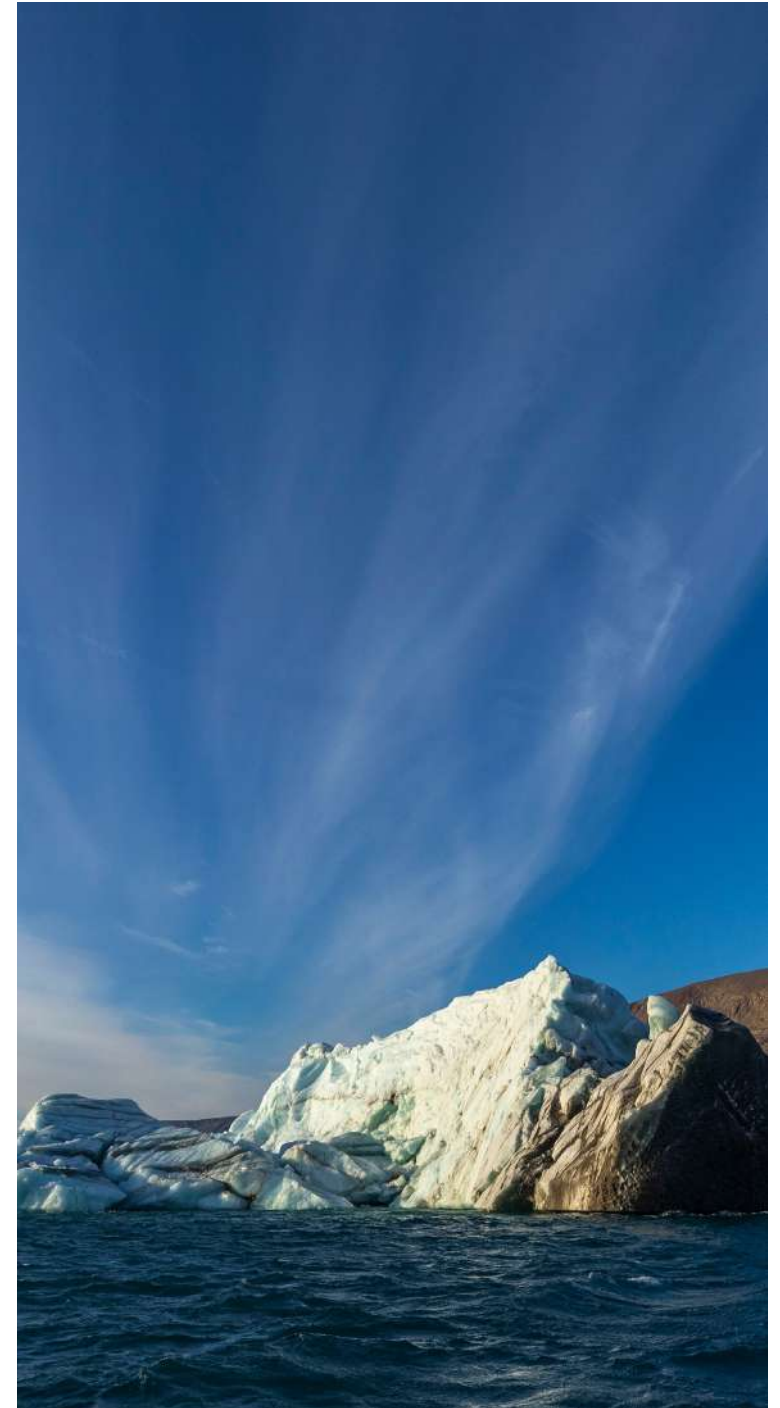


























# Maria Ø, Gateau Point, Alpefjord

DAY 10 | Wednesday 18 September 2024

Latitude:  
72° 54' 16 N  
Longitude:  
025° 03' W

Course:  
039°  
Speed:  
1 knot

Wind Speed:  
20 knots WSW  
Barometer:  
1028 hPa

Air Temp:  
-2°C

This morning, we planned to head to Maria Ø (Maria Island). We came ashore on a very protected little pebbly beach where there was plenty of evidence of previous human activity, with empty fuel drums gathered in groups just near the shore, a fox trap, the remains of an old wooden dog sled and various smaller remnants. The long walkers headed up a ridgeline to the north, where they were able to get views right over the island and the rising sun in the distance. The medium walkers headed in a similar direction but stayed a little lower in the valley, while the beachcombers wandered among the items on shore as Jonathan gave more information about the Sirius Patrol base nearby and the likely origins of the remains.

After a delicious lunch, we were finally at our afternoon stop a little further south into Kong Oscar Fjord at Gateau Point. Despite

being beautifully clear and sunny, we unfortunately encountered unexpected strong winds, which after assessing and discussing the various options, proved to be too high to allow us to operate safely. So, much to the disappointment of Marcos and many others, we had to change plans and instead headed deeper into the fjord towards Alpefjord further to the south.

The scenery was stunning, with perfect light on the multi-coloured mountains illuminating the bands of light and dark rock of various thicknesses and angles. It was a real contrast to Alpefjord, where we saw snow-capped, jagged peaks with vegetation on the lower slopes. In among this we were lucky enough to see a group of musk oxen grazing on the flat tundra, just as we turned around and headed back out again.













# Ittoqqortoormiit, Hurry Inlet

DAY 11 | Thursday 19 September 2024

Latitude:  
70° 25.9' N  
Longitude:  
022° 03.8' W

Course:  
30.9°  
Speed:  
5 knots

Wind Speed:  
7 knots WNW  
Barometer:  
1020 hPa

Air Temp:  
-2°C

After a slightly later than usual breakfast, we were ready to visit the settlement with probably one of the most difficult names ever: Ittoqqortoormiit. With its colourful houses, it was really a beautiful view from the ship as we slowly got closer. A short Zodiac ride took us to the beach, and into town we went. A stand outside the tourist office showed us some local clothing, made of sealskin and polar bear fur; they also offered a taste of musk ox, really delicious. Just across the street the church was open, and we could enter and have a look at this small but wonderful wooden building. The local priest was there to tell us more about the fascinating history. The 'city' has just over 300 inhabitants, and many of them were out in the streets, smiling and welcoming us. There were also many four-legged friends running around, and we got a glimpse of how they feed the

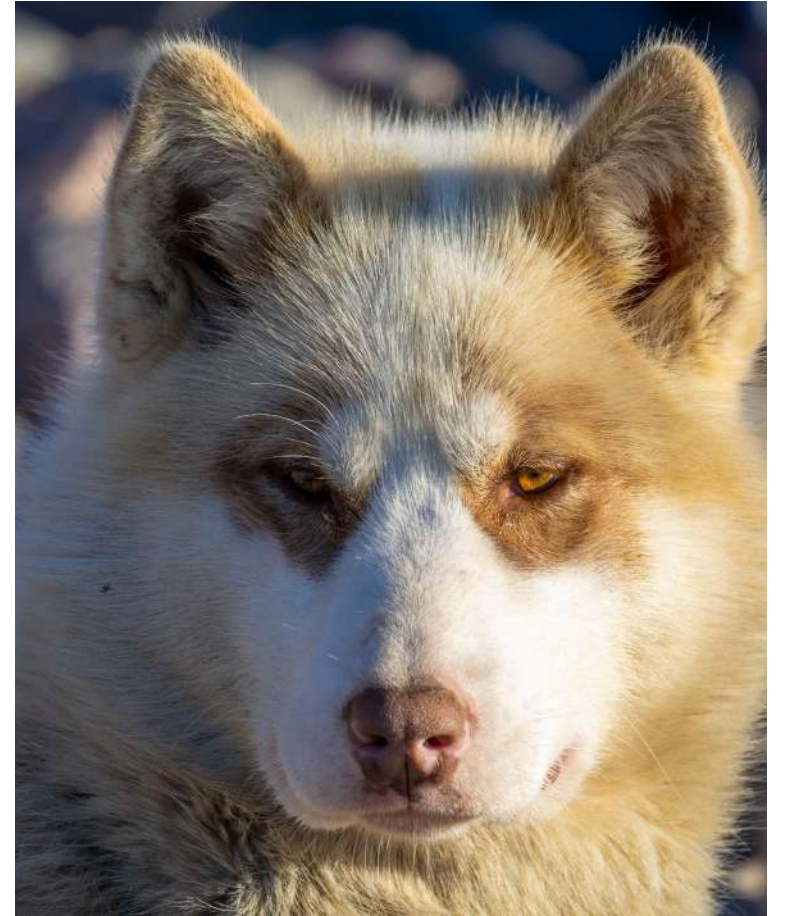
local dogs, and some of us even got to say hi to the small and cute puppies.

After a couple of hours in town, we headed back to the ship. For the first time ever, the *Greg Mortimer* hosted a dance and drum performance by some of Ittoqqortoormiit's younger people. It was great to see the traditional costumes, hear the drumming and singing as well as some dancing.

Inuuteq, who is helping roll out the new Oxen community projects and opportunities for operator engagement, presented the Captain with a plaque to commemorate the partnership with Aurora Expeditions and the *Greg Mortimer* and work with the Oxen Network.











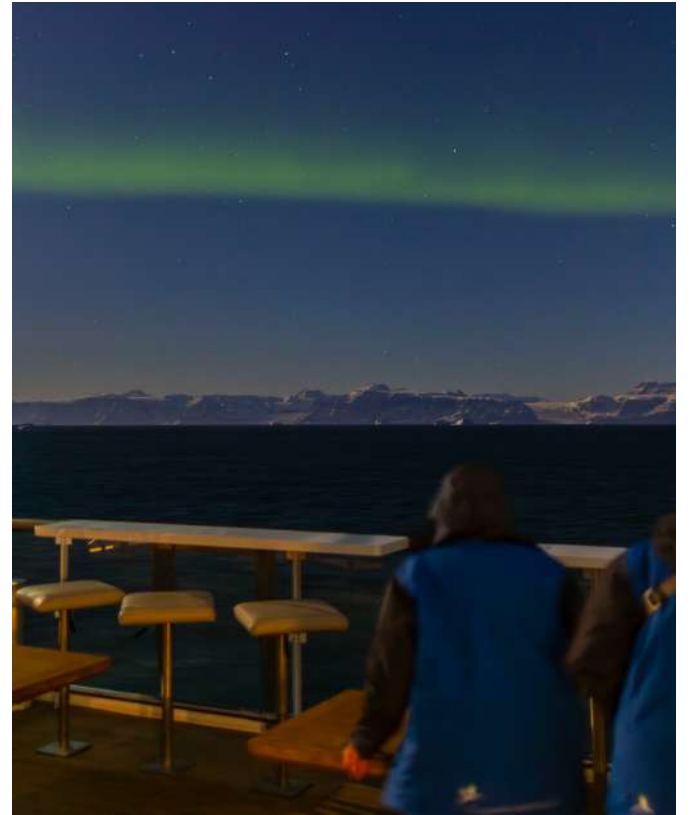














# Charcot Havn, Bjørnøya

DAY 12 | Friday 20 September 2024

Latitude:  
70° 46.8' N  
Longitude:  
025° 22.4' W

Course:  
089°  
Speed:  
0.3 knots

Wind Speed:  
6.4 knots W  
Barometer:  
1030 hPa

Air Temp:  
0°C

Our last day in Greenland began early in the breathtaking Scoresby Sund. The plan was to land at Charcot Havn, but once again, the Arctic reminds us of its unpredictability. The conditions weren't in our favour for a beach landing, so we adapted and shifted to a Zodiac exploration. The morning was nothing short of magical—the sun was high, the sky was a brilliant blue, and we glided through a bay dotted with massive icebergs, towering like frozen giants. The light danced off the ice, casting shimmering reflections across the water.

After a thrilling morning, we returned to the ship for lunch and prepared for our next destination—Bjørnøya (Bear Island). Once there, we ventured out in Zodiacs again, and halfway through our adventure, we made a landing under the towering mountains known

as Dragon's Teeth. These jagged peaks loomed above us, a stunning backdrop as we explored the rugged arctic shore.

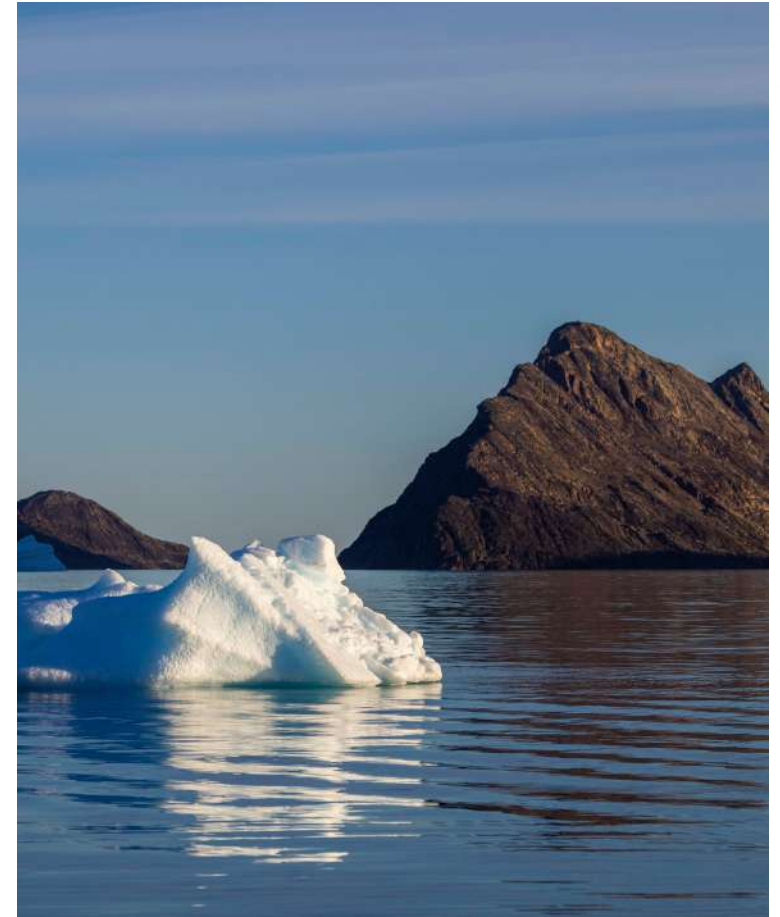
But the day was far from over! After dinner, we gathered to watch a film with Ian about his adventures with wolves in Greenland, a captivating glimpse into this wild land. Just as we thought the night was winding down, ready to head to bed—ding dong!! Adrian's voice came through the speaker—northern lights! One of the best nights of our journey unfolded before us. Greenland bid us farewell in the most spectacular way, with a dazzling sunset and an even more incredible display of dancing auroras, painting the sky like never before.



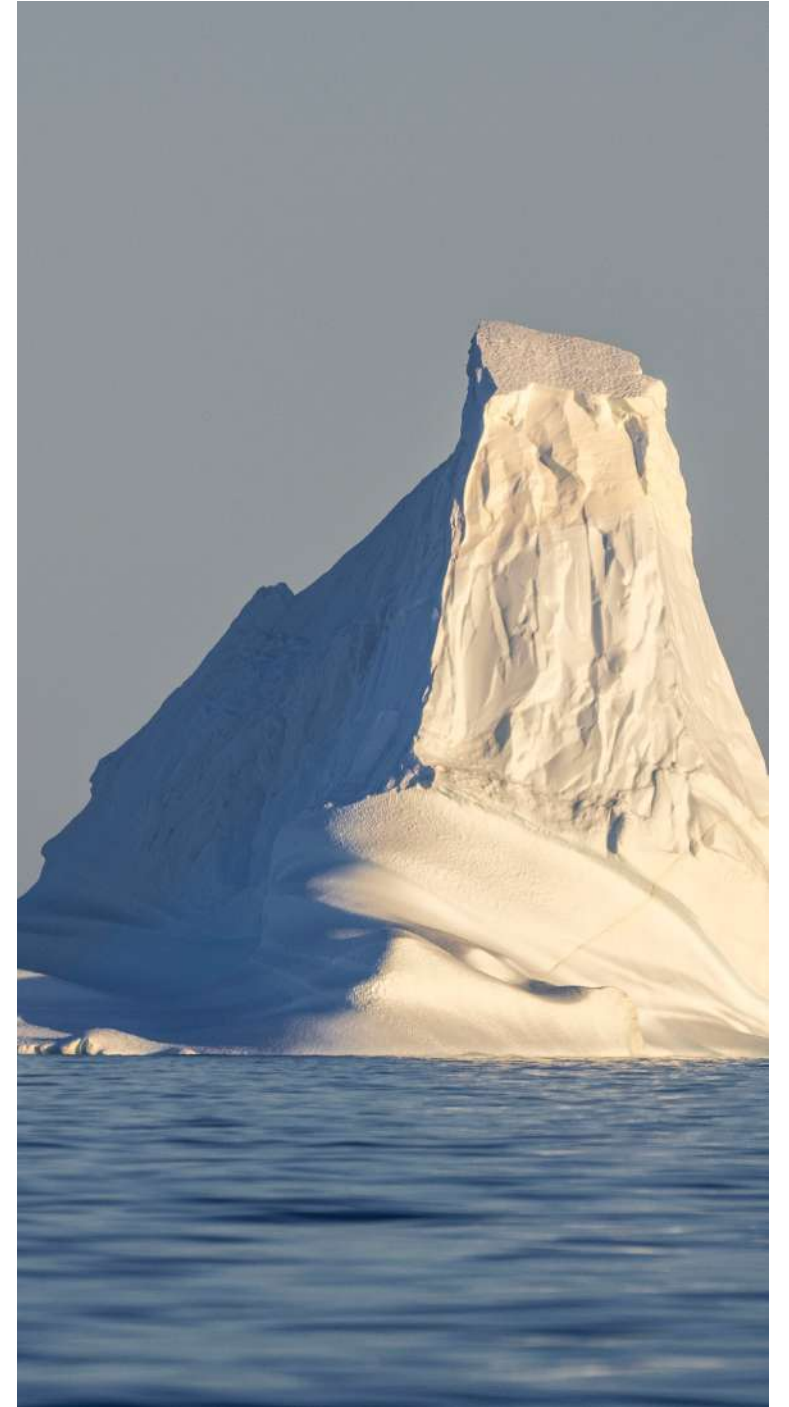












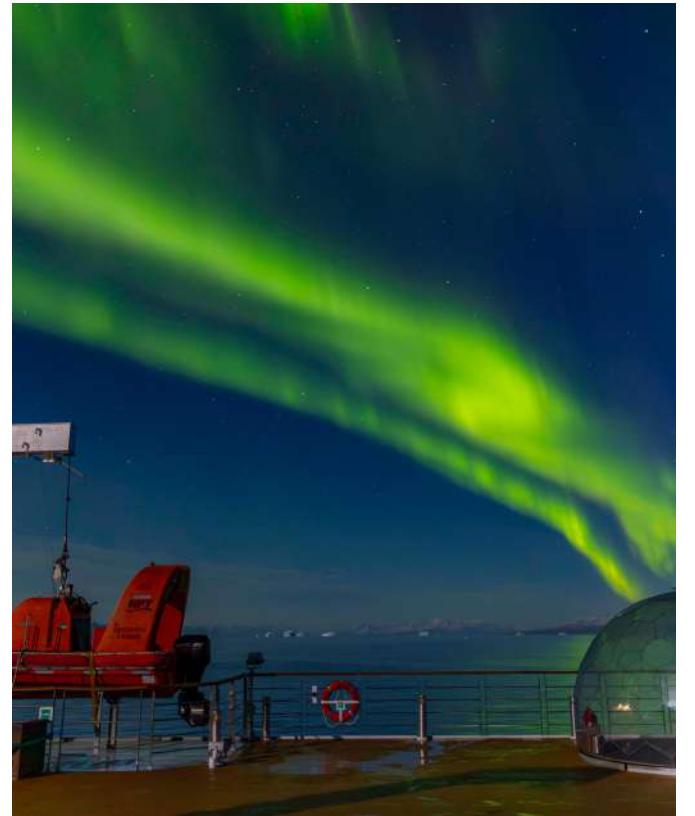














# Denmark Strait

DAY 13 | Saturday 21 September 2024

Latitude:  
68° 28.8'N  
Longitude:  
020° 49.8'W

Course:  
159°  
Speed:  
12 knots

Wind Speed:  
5 knots  
Barometer:  
1030 hPa

Air Temp:  
3°C

This morning found the *Greg Mortimer* leaving Greenland bound for Iceland. We sailed out of Scoresby Sund in a magnificent sunrise, which burnished the sky and sea a deep orange.

We have been very lucky in that we are travelling across an oily smooth ocean, which has made whale spotting really productive. For a couple of hours in the late morning we saw many minke whales and a few humpbacks. They seemed to be feeding and some came very close to the ship. There were also plenty of sea birds around, feeding in the same area; fulmar, kittiwake, guillemot and pomarine skua were plentiful around the ship and drew people out onto the

decks to watch the show. We must have been passing through a big shoal of fish, which attracted all the whales and birds.

Science bird survey up on deck 8. It was hard to keep people focused on the birdlife around when whales kept on appearing. Later in the afternoon, a couple of humpbacks cruised past the ship very close, heading in a westerly direction.

After a great buffet lunch, Marcos gave an interesting lecture, 'Iceland – Land of Ice and Fire', which really painted a picture of what to expect in the coming days.









# Akureyri, Iceland

DAY 14 | Sunday 22 September 2024

Latitude:  
65° 40.9' N  
Longitude:  
018° 04.9' W

Course:  
113°  
Speed:  
4 knots

Wind Speed:  
5 knots  
Barometer:  
1020 hPa

Air Temp:  
5°C

We docked at Akureyri, Iceland's second-largest city, and soon were off on buses for the day's exploration of the scenic wonders. The first stop was Goðafoss, one of the most spectacular waterfalls in Iceland. Legend has it that in the year 1000AD the then lawspeaker Þorgeir Ljósvetningagoði made Christianity the official religion of Iceland. After his conversion, Þorgeir threw his statues of the Norse gods into the waterfall Þorgeir earning the waterfall its name - waterfall of the gods.

The Lake Mývatn region had many fascinating views and experiences, but we were grateful that our visit was well past the time when the blackflies and midges (which give the lake its name) make life very uncomfortable. Bus 1 also stopped briefly at the Grjótagjá cave, which for decades was popular for bathing until eruptions in 1975 and 1984 and the resulting magma streams brought the temperature up to 60°Celsius.

The Mývatn Nature Baths were the combined lunch and bathing opportunity for Bus 1. There we enjoyed the very relaxing swim amid clouds of steam rising from the pools fed with geothermal water drawn from great depths. The complimentary drink, blue skies and sunshine made this a tremendous experience.

The long walking group focused on the Dimmuborgir area, strewn with enormous lava rocks and cliffs. These formations are the result of molten lava flowing over a pond during the eruption of Lúdentborgir and Prengslaborgir some 2,300 years ago. From there we walked up the steep slopes of Hverfjall crater and around the 9-kilometre loop rim trail for awesome views. Lake Mývatn's Skútustaðagígar pseudo craters were the lunch stop. Here we strolled the paths through the bowl-like landmasses. The last stop was the magnificent Dettifoss, reputed to be the most powerful waterfall in Europe.



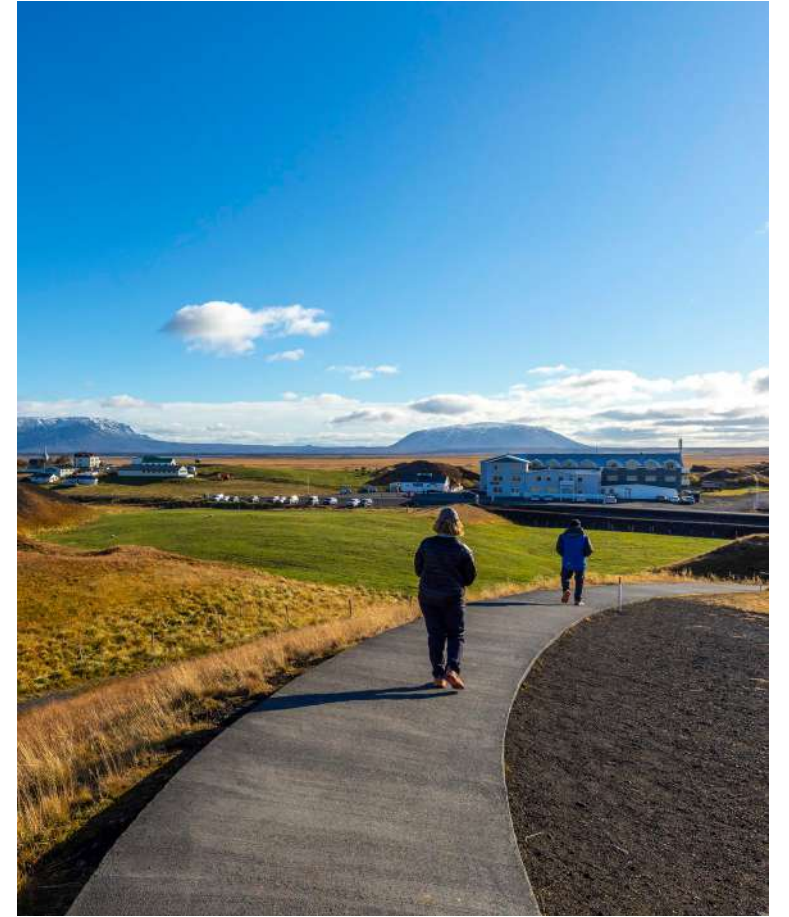














# Ísafjörður

DAY 15 | Monday 23 September 2024

Latitude:  
66° 25.4' N  
Longitude:  
23° 14.01' W

Course:  
200.4°  
Speed:  
12 knots

Wind Speed:  
10 knots N  
Barometer:  
1024 hPa

Air Temp:  
3°C

After a smooth sail around the northern tip of Iceland from Akureyri, we Expeditioners woke on board to smooth seas and the impressive cliffs of the Westfjords. The morning began with a lecture from Dani on humpback whales; meanwhile, some Expedition Team Members stayed on deck hoping for sightings of the animals as the ship approached Ísafjörður. Sure enough, just before Dani had finished her talk, the whales began to approach the ship and everyone rushed out of the lecture theatre up on to deck 8. At first there were just a few blows far off in the distance, but soon they began to multiply into over a dozen humpback whales that swam quite close to the ship. When the encounter slowed down and the whales left the ship behind, Dani's lecture continued, with some more real-world application for her information.

The calm conditions only improved on arrival into Ísafjörður, the sun coming out and the skies clearing. The radiant blue sky and the glowing green waters of the fjord were an incredible sight after the cold of the previous day. Off the ship at port, some Expeditioners hopped into Zodiacs and went ashore to hike up to a waterfall; others had town tours around the historic fishing village of Ísafjörður. The hikers were picked up a few hours later, wading out into the bay to join their Zodiacs, the low tide ensuring that each hiker got an extra 50 metres of walking into their afternoon.

The afternoon concluded by allowing everyone time to explore the town, to visit the local brewery and to soak up some more sunshine before returning to the *Greg Mortimer* for a briefing for the next day, and a well-deserved dinner on board.









# Pingeyri

DAY 16 | Tuesday 24 September 2024

Latitude:  
65° 53.2'N  
Longitude:  
23° 33.27'W

Course:  
105.7°  
Speed:  
7.4 knots

Wind Speed:  
5 knots  
Barometer:  
1020 hPa

Air Temp:  
3°C

Our third day in Iceland started bright and early as we approached the tiny village of Pingeyri, nestled in the stunning Dýrafjörður. With around 250 inhabitants, Pingeyri is surrounded by dramatic landscapes that make it feel like a hidden gem. By 8am, the Zodiacs were ready to shuttle us ashore for a day packed with adventure.

We had a variety of activities to choose from. Most of us opted to visit the majestic Dynjandi waterfalls, cascading over 100 metres. The tough lava layers created the steps that the river has later carved out. There are six waterfalls in Dynjandi. At the top is Fjallfoss, followed by Hundafoss, Strokkur, Göngumannafoos, Hrísvaðsfoss, and Sjóarfoss each fall seeming more spectacular than the last.

For those craving a bit of a challenge, the Sandafell hike offered panoramic views from the mountaintops surrounding the fjord. The climb was no easy feat, but the sweeping vistas at the summit made it well worth the effort. Lastly, some chose to explore the local Viking heritage at the Viking centre, where we donned traditional clothing, baked bread, and even sampled locally brewed beer, made with water from a nearby waterfall!

We ended the afternoon with a delightful surprise—refreshing drinks right outside the Viking centre, capping off a perfect day of exploration.





















# Snæfellsnes Peninsula

DAY 17 | Wednesday 25 September 2024

Latitude:  
64° 57.40' N  
Longitude:  
23° 14.01' W

Course:  
200.4°  
Speed:  
12 knots

Wind Speed:  
10 knots N  
Barometer:  
1024 hPa

Air Temp:  
3°C

Arriving in Grundarfjörður on a crisp morning, the landscape was transformed by fresh snow blanketing the mountains.

Group 2's first destination was the iconic Kirkjufell, the most photographed mountain in Iceland. Its distinct shape rising majestically against the backdrop of a bright-blue sky. Photographers and travellers alike scrambled for the perfect shot, capturing the mountain's and waterfall's beauty from every angle.

Next, there was an unexpected stop at Saxhóll Crater. The hike up the crater provided sweeping views of the surrounding landscape, revealing the rugged beauty of Iceland's terrain. The rich hues of the

earth contrasted beautifully with the autumn's colours, creating a stunning panorama.

Our journey continued underground at Vatnshellir Cave. Venturing into this volcanic cave was like stepping into another world, with unique rock formations and fascinating geological features.

After emerging from the cave, we enjoyed a delicious lunch in Arnarstapi. The coastal village provided a perfect respite, fuelling us for the next adventure—a 3.6-kilometre hike along the stunning shoreline. The path, winding through ancient lava formations, led us to Hellnar, which again presented the Icelandic raw beauty.





# Reykjavík

DAY 18 | Thursday 26 September 2024

Latitude:  
64° 07.9' N  
Longitude:  
21° 58.3' W

Wind Speed:  
30 knots W  
Barometer:  
1020 hPa

Aurora Expeditions thanks you for joining us aboard *Greg Mortimer* as we explored Northern Norway, East Greenland and Iceland's incredible scenery, wildlife and history. We hope to see you on the high seas again some day!

Course:  
In port  
Speed:  
In port

Air Temp:  
8°C





# BBQ









# Polar Plunge





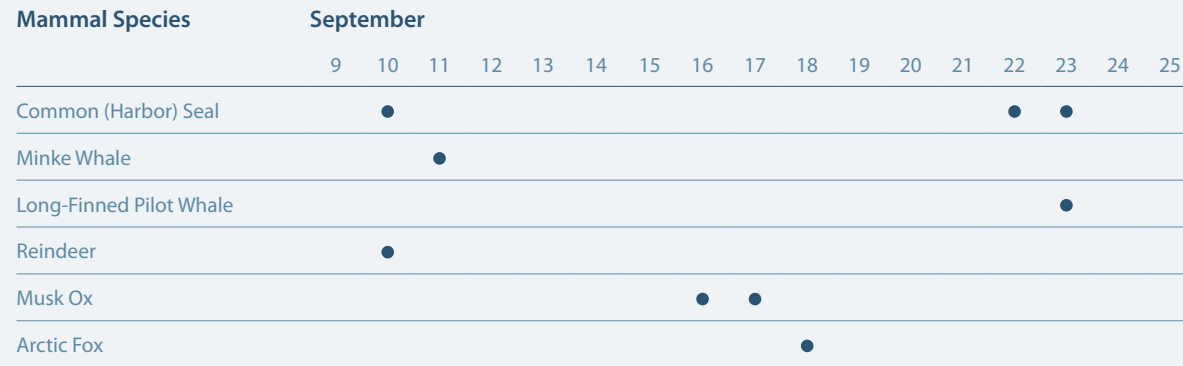








# Mammal Sightings





# Map



## Northern Lights Explorer

9 – 26 September 2024



# Map



- 15. Akureyri
- 16. Ísafjörður
- 17. Þingeyri
- 18. Grundarfjörður
- 19. Reykjavík

## Northern Lights Explorer

9 – 26 September 2024







# Our Expeditioners

Carole Adamson

Sylvia Alexander

Joan Alexander

Barton Alexander

Erica Allen

Kathleen Allen

Michael Allen

Barbara Amazon

Kip Amazon

Barbara Beltramo

Grace Bennett

Colleen Bettles

Susan Brant

Gail Brown

Robert Brown

Nataliya Bulhakova

Margaret Callaghan

Ellen Cattle

Israel Charo

George Clark

Sandra Clark

Peter Clark

Vanessa Cohen

Jacob Cohen

Fay Cohen

Garry Cohen

Elizabeth Collins

Gerard Conn

Angela Dixon

Kristie Ebi

Judith Eckert

Gail Fitzgerald

Barbara Franklin

Paul Franklin

Renate Franklin

Mark Gibson

John Ginivan

Terrence Greenlay

Anne Greenlay

Annette Haifer

Stephanie Harris

George Harrison

Lorraine Harrison

William Hartman

Marla Hartman

Jimin He

Jonathan Henderson

Barbara Henre

Diana Hosking

Jean Hutchinson

Scott Hutchinson

Anna Jackson

Patricia Keegan

Arthur Keegan

Julie Kidd

Masao Kitamura

Kyoko Kitamura

Cherry Kline

Oleksiy Kolomoyskyy

Inuuteq Kriegel (Oxen  
Network representative)

Kenneth Langford

Alison Lee

Lup Bong Leung

Xiaoling Liu

Gabriel Maeckelbergh

Kimberly Marzullo

Robert Marzullo

Leeann Mc Hugh

David Mc Hugh

Sharon Mutter

Martha Neighbor

David Newell

Russell Newkirk

Peter O'Brien

Ruth Omodt

Richard Omodt

John O'Reilly

Virginia O'Reilly

Sandra Parsonage

Bridget Perriman

Daniel Pliske

Rebecca Pliske

Carole Pollitt

Richard Pollitt

Neridah Rooseboom

Sarah Ross

John Ross

Brian Rozowsky

Barbara Rozowsky

Jennifer Rydberg

Ray Rydberg Jr

Kathryn Scott

Stefne Sears

William Sears

Paul Smith

Beverly Sosa

Richard Stephens

Blanche Stephens

Alexis Sykes

Stephen Tattersall

Stephanie Tattersall

Stephen Thomas

Huguette Viguet

Margaret Walker

Richard Whitaker

Maryelle Whitaker

Henry Wohltjen

Wing Wah Wong

Ian Yeo

Carol Yorke

Bonnie Zeiber

Dallas Zeiber Jr



# Expedition Team

**Expedition Leader:** Isabelle Howells

**Assistant Expedition Leader:** Tamsin Both

**Onboard Expedition Manager:** Justine Bornholdt

**Firearms Manager:** Graeme Snow (Snowy)

**Naturalist:** Ian McCarthy

**Naturalist:** Rune Kongsro

**Geologist/Citizen Science Coordinator:** Marcos Goldin

**Marine Biologist:** Dani Abras

**Historian:** Jonathan Chester

**Photography Guide:** Adrian Wlodarczyk

**Lead Kayak Guide:** Daniel Stavert

**Senior Kayak Guide:** Vanja Davidsen

**Expedition First Responder:** Nicole Genoud

**Onboard Expedition Assistant:** Ari Benzo Ciria

**Zodiac Master:** Sergei Andronov

**Icelandic Guide:** Sindri Gunnarsson

**Icelandic Guide:** Sigurdur Magnusson

**Icelandic Guide:** Sigurdur Andres Sigurdarson

**Icelandic Guide:** Throestur Sverrisson

# Senior Officers & Heads of Department

**Master:** Alexandru Taraoi

**Chief Officer:** Vladimir Kolesnikov

**Safety Officer:** Daniel Beto

**Bosun:** Bobby Payumo

**Deck Cadet:** Carlos Florido Carvalo Da Silva

**Ship Doctor:** Javier Martinez Rodriguez

**Support Doctor:** Juan Nicolas Diaz Rodriguez

**Chief Engineer:** Branimir Ujevic

**First Engineer:** Iurii Peretiaka

**Hotel Director:** Alex Barkar

**F&B Manager:** Rajesh Murao

**Chief Purser:** Pia Blanca

**Executive Chef:** Edgar Mangalinao

**Sous Chef:** Hubert Ramiro Barreto

**Head Waiter:** German Orlando Cayasso Wilson

**Hotel Controller:** Orlando Costa

**IT Officer:** Gerry Dcunha

**Receptionist:** Joy Acelar

**Receptionist:** Jonathan Valdez

**Head Stateroom:** Roniel Garcia

**Spa Manager:** Venila Vythilingum

**Able Seaman:** Angelo San Antonio

**Able Seaman:** Iwan Setiawan

**Able Seaman:** Hardik Dipakbhai Rao

**Able Seaman:** Roberto Ixtan Mejia

**Able Seaman:** Nikola Georgiev

**Able Seaman:** Francis Marvin Linga

Photography thanks to:

Adrian Wlodarczyk









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