Canada to Greenland: Baffin Bay Explorer

On this adventure, we’ll explore some of the most isolated regions in the world as our small ship and Zodiacs take us to areas that are otherwise inaccessible. The unrivalled natural beauty of these remote lands is simply breathtaking: you can’t help but marvel at the red heart-shaped mountain of Uummannaq, the soaring rock faces of the Sam Ford Fjord, the freshly calved bergs in the Ilulissat Icefjord, and the sheer ruggedness of islands inhabited only by iconic arctic creatures such as walrus and polar bears. In one mystical expedition, you’ll experience the wonder of the wilderness of these two historic islands.

EXPEDITION IN BRIEF

- Explore the Ilulissat Icefjord, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Visit Sam Ford Fjord, one of the most beautiful and isolated places on the planet
- View arctic wildlife, such as walrus and possibly polar bears
- Cruise in a Zodiac
- Visit traditional settlements and meet Greenlandic and Inuit locals

DID YOU KNOW? Greenland is the world’s largest non-continental island. Much of its landmass, however, is covered by an ice cap that can reach a thickness of two miles (3 km). With ice as old as 250,000 years, the ice cap influences weather and climate; it also contains enough freshwater that if it melted, the sea level would rise about 20 feet (six meters).
Adventure Options

Booking an Adventure Option as part of your expedition is a great way to enhance your polar experience. These options are subject to availability and fill up quickly, so be sure to book yours early. Please note that Adventure Options are weather dependent.

**KAYAKING**

Imagine gliding along the surface of a bay in the presence of icebergs and glaciers! Our kayaking adventures are the best way to feel at one with the sea. Taken by small groups of 10 people, multiple times per voyage, kayaking adventures are only conducted during calm weather conditions. We recommend you have some prior kayaking experience, including the capability to do a wet exit.

*More information about your Adventure Options, including necessary experience, physical requirements and cost, is available by contacting your Polar Travel Adviser.*

**INCLUDED ACTIVITIES (VARY BY DEPARTURE)**

**HIKING**

Hiking is a great way to appreciate the immense windswept landscapes of the Arctic. The tundra comes alive during the brief arctic summer, with bursts of color from shrubs and plants that live in this polar environment. You’ll find that each hike is different: you’ll explore communities, shorelines or glaciated landscapes, often on the lookout for wildlife. Hiking participation is optional, and your Expedition Team will advise you of what levels of activity you can expect prior to each excursion.
DAY 1 Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

Your arctic adventure begins in Ottawa. Explore the Canadian capital on your own, before spending the night at your well-appointed hotel.

DAY 2 Embarkation Day in Iqaluit, Nunavut

After breakfast, board our charter flight to Iqaluit, where your first Zodiac ride will transfer you from shore to ship. You’ll experience the power of nature, as the tides here are the second highest in Canada, rising up to 39 feet (12 meters) twice a day. On board, you’ll meet your Expedition Team, the captain and his officers.

DAY 3 Monumental Island

Off the southern coast of Baffin Island, this small, isolated island is completely uninhabited, except for the large population of impressive arctic animals that call the rugged terrain home. With your experienced expedition staff, you’ll get up close, exploring the rocky shoreline in a Zodiac, scouting for hauled-out walrus and polar bears prowling for food.

DAY 4 Kekerten Island and Pangnirtung

Today, you cross north of the Arctic Circle. Wandering the historical remains of a whaling station on the uninhabited island of Kekerten, it’s easy to envision what life was like during the height of whaling in the Cumberland Sound area. This National Historic Site of Canada was charted by Scottish whaler Captain William Penny in 1840 and soon became a major whaling destination. The site was abandoned around 1926, after whaling declined and local Inuit families moved to the mainland community of Pangnirtung, where a trading post was established by the Hudson’s Bay Company.

As you cruise toward the picturesque Pangnirtung, you’ll see why this Inuit hamlet at the mouth of the Pangnirtung Fjord is called the Switzerland of the Arctic. Tucked beneath the snow-capped peaks of Mount Duval, Pang is also a renowned artists’ haven. Stop by the studio at the Uqqurmiut Centre for Arts & Crafts to view the traditional

WANT TO STAY LONGER OR ARRIVE EARLIER?

Contact our Polar Travel Advisers via email, live chat or phone (1.888.892.0073) for seamless, worry-free booking of all trip extensions.
colorful tapestries that have attracted worldwide attention for decades. Here, you’ll also get a sense of local Inuit activities, such as sealing, fishing and hunting.

**DAY 5 At Sea**

As our ship steams briefly south, enjoy the views of the southern coast of Baffin Island. While you spend this day at sea, join expedition staff as they look for whales and birdlife out on deck. This is your chance to relax with a glass of wine or hot tea and simply take in the wondrous beauty around you.

**DAY 6 Cumberland Peninsula**

We continue sailing around the Cumberland Peninsula, letting the weather guide us in choosing our shore landings, as we explore this scenic region.

**DAY 7 Sam Ford Fjord**

Situated about 380 miles (450 km) north of the Arctic Circle, in the land where the sun never sets, Sam Ford Fjord is truly one of the most isolated places on the planet. Yet this little-explored area of Baffin Island is one of the world’s best big-wall playgrounds, attracting intrepid climbers eager to scale the sheer rock faces that shoot straight out of the sea. Have your camera ready, as the number of huge formations here are awe inspiring.

Tonight, you’ll traverse Baffin Bay, saying goodbye to Canadian shores. Expedition staff will preview the excitement still to come in Greenland—glaciers and mummies!

**DAY 8 Uummannaq and Qilaqitsoq, Greenland**

In the morning, you’ll visit the abandoned settlement of Qilaqitsoq (also known as Qilakitsoq), where a ghoulish discovery was made in 1972: the two graves of eight fully dressed mummies, thought to have drowned circa 1475. The remains of three women and a child are kept at the Greenland National Historic Museum in Nuuk, the Greenlandic capital.

You’ll want to be out on deck as we approach the stunning sight of Uummannaq, its colorful peaked houses perched on the rocky foothills of the red heart-shaped mountain that gave the community its name. Founded as a Danish colony in 1758 on the Nuussuaq mainland, five years later the settlement moved here, where seal hunting was more plentiful. A hike up a gently sloping hill overlooking the seaside town will yield a panoramic view of icebergs, sea and mountains.

**DAY 9 Eqip Sermia**

Today, sail to one of the most breathtaking places in Greenland: the beautiful Eqip Sermia. As you trace the front of the massive calving glacier from a safe distance, the sounds and sight of huge chunks of ice crashing into the sea are simply spectacular.

**DAY 10 Ilulissat**

Have your camera out as you approach Ilulissat. The nearby Ilulissat Icefjord, a tidal fjord covered with massive ice, has fascinated scientists for over 250 years. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is the sea mouth of the Sermeq Kujalleq (Jakobshavn Glacier), the fastest-moving glacier in the world, which produces at least 10 percent of all of Greenland’s calf ice. In fact, the young icebergs you see here will eventually end up off the coast of Newfoundland years later. Exploring the beauty of this natural phenomenon, you’ll be rewarded with breathtaking vistas of glaciers and ice caps.

**DAY 11 Itilleq**

Surrounded by sea, fjords and mountains, the picturesque village of Itilleq is situated on an island with no freshwater source (a facility desalinates seawater). The community, whose main trade is fishing and hunting, will welcome us and show us their way of life. Later, join locals in a friendly soccer match.

**DAY 12 Kangerlussuaq**

After disembarking in Kangerlussuaq, a former U.S. military base, you’ll be transferred to your charter flight to Ottawa, where you’ll spend the night at your included hotel.

**DAY 13 Ottawa, Ontario, Canada**

Today, make your way to the airport or spend a relaxing day exploring in the city.
Arrival & Departure Details

Welcome! As you prepare for your journey, you may be interested to know the details of your arrival and departure. Since air transportation to and from your voyage is not included in the cost of your expedition, you will need to arrange flights from your home to the starting point, and home again from the finishing point. Quark Expeditions® can assist you with booking air arrangements on an individual basis, or feel free to contact your preferred travel agent or airline. Here are the details for your expedition.

Arrival Day and Embarkation

ARRIVING IN OTTAWA
You may arrive in Ottawa at any time during Day 1 of the itinerary, and make your own way to the included hotel.

On arrival at the hotel, you will receive a welcome letter outlining the departure information for the following day’s flight. An agent representing Quark Expeditions® will be available in the lobby of the hotel this evening to answer any questions about the charter flight(s) scheduled for the following morning.

Please note: There is a strict luggage limit of 44 lbs (20 kg) checked luggage and 11 lbs (5 kg) cabin baggage on the flights between Ottawa and Iqaluit, where the ship is docked. Should you have additional luggage, it can be stored at the hotel in Ottawa. There is NO option to pay for additional luggage.

IQALUIT AND EMBARKATION
Your flight to the Arctic is expected to depart from Ottawa to Iqaluit on Day 2 of the itinerary, after breakfast. Although the scheduled flight time will be communicated in your welcome letter, there is significant variability based on weather conditions. You should be prepared to depart the hotel for the airport on our group transfer at any time.

CONTINGENCY PLAN
In the unlikely event that the plane is unable to depart on the planned date of the charter flight, you will be provided a full day of activities in Ottawa, meals included. If the weather is not suitable on Day 3, you will enjoy an additional day of activities and meals in Ottawa. On Day 4 should the charter flight not be able to take off by 14:00, Quark Expeditions® will officially cancel the voyage and provide letters for all clients to submit to their travel insurance providers under the trip delay/interruption and cancellation clause.

Quark Expeditions® will make every effort to ensure your program takes place, but due to weather conditions, flying in this region can be difficult and is beyond our control. Quark Expeditions® will not offer passengers a refund in the event of a trip delay or cancellation due to the charter flight being unable to depart as planned.

We strongly recommend that all expedition guests purchase a comprehensive travel insurance policy including trip delay, cancellation and interruption insurance, in addition to the required medical coverage. Please note that international airfare may not be covered by insurance in the event of a cancellation. Please ask your Polar Travel Adviser about travel insurance.

LET US HELP YOU BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS!
To book flights to complement your expedition, contact a Polar Travel Adviser (1.888.892.0073) for seamless, worry-free booking of all flights.
Final Day and Departure

**DISEMBARKATION IN KANGERLUSSUAQ**
Your ship is scheduled to arrive back at the pier in Kangerlussuaq, between 7 am and 8 am local time. After breakfast, and once the ship has docked, you will have time to bid farewell to your Expedition Team and shipmates before completing your disembarkation. The process takes about an hour. After disembarkation, you will transfer to the airport for the return charter flight to Ottawa.

**DEPARTING FROM OTTAWA**
Upon arrival in Ottawa, there will be a group transfer to your included post-expedition hotel. After breakfast the following morning, you may make your way to the airport to connect with your homeward flight, or stay longer if you have booked additional accommodation.

*Please note: Weather conditions can always delay our arrival, and airline schedule changes have also been known to occur. Booking flexible tickets is always encouraged, as we cannot be held responsible for delays due to unforeseen circumstances.*

**Included Hotel Accommodations**
Your included accommodation begins on Day 1 of your itinerary, and the specific hotel(s) will be indicated on your final voyage confirmation. If you are arriving prior to Day 1 of your expedition or are staying after the disembarkation day, please contact your Polar Travel Adviser for hotel options. Since accommodation space is limited, you are encouraged to request any extra nights as early as possible.

**Arrival and Departure Transfers**

**OTTAWA AIRPORT TRANSFERS**
Arrival and departure transfers in Ottawa are not included; however, your Polar Travel Adviser can arrange them for you.
Inclusions

THIS EXPEDITION INCLUDES

• Shipboard accommodation with daily housekeeping
• All breakfasts, lunches, dinners and snacks on board
• All shore landings per the daily program
• Leadership throughout the voyage by our experienced Expedition Leader
• All Zodiac transfers and cruising per the daily program
• Formal and informal presentations by our Expedition Team and special guests as scheduled
• Photographic journal documenting the expedition
• Waterproof expedition boots on loan for shore landings
• An official Quark Expeditions® parka to keep
• Coffee, tea and cocoa available around the clock
• Hair dryer and bathrobe in every cabin
• Comprehensive predeparture materials, including a map and an informative Arctic Reader
• All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program
• All luggage handling aboard the ship
• Emergency evacuation insurance to a maximum benefit of US$500,000 per person

THIS EXPEDITION EXCLUDES

• Mandatory transfer package*
• International airfare
• Passport and visa expenses
• Canadian eTA required for non-Canadian or US visa-exempt passengers
• Government arrival and departure taxes not mentioned above
• Meals ashore unless otherwise specified
• Baggage, cancellation, interruption and medical travel insurance—strongly recommended
• Excess-baggage fees on international flights
• Mandatory waterproof pants for Zodiac cruising, or any other gear not mentioned
• Laundry, bar, beverage and other personal charges unless specified
• Phone and Internet charges
• Voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for shipboard staff and crew
• Additional overnight accommodation
• Optional kayaking activities

MANDATORY TRANSFER PACKAGE INCLUDES

• One night’s pre- and post-expedition hotel accommodation in Ottawa with breakfast
• Charter flight from Ottawa to Iqaluit
• Transfers to and from the ship
• Transfers between the airport and hotel in Ottawa
• Charter flight from Kangerlussuaq to Ottawa

Package cost: $1,895

Note: Baggage allowance on charter flights is 44 lbs (20 kg) checked and 11 lbs (5 kg) carry-on.

EXTEND YOUR STAY

Contact our Polar Travel Advisers via email, live chat or phone (1.888.892.0073) for seamless, worry-free booking of all trip extensions.
# CANADA TO GREENLAND Baffin Bay Explorer

*Expedition Aboard the Adventure Ship OCEAN ADVENTURER (formerly known as SEA ADVENTURER)*

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Mandatory transfer package available for $1,895.

All rates per person in USD.

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**HOW TO BOOK YOUR EXPEDITION & ADVENTURE OPTIONS**

To book your cabin or inquire about the availability of Adventure Options, contact a Polar Travel Adviser **1.888.892.0073 (+1.203.803.2666).**
Baffin Island

POSSIBLE LANDINGS AND WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

IQALUIT

The capital of the territory of Nunavut was originally named Frobisher Bay, after the body of water on which it is situated. It was founded in 1942, during the Second World War, as an American air base.

MONUMENTAL ISLAND

A rocky, remote island off the southern coast of Baffin Island, Monumental Island is completely uninhabited—except for the plentiful walrus you’ll likely encounter. The area is also a prime spot for viewing polar bears wandering along the shore in search of food.

PANGNIRTUNG

When the Hudson’s Bay Company built a trading post in Pangnirtung in 1926, local Inuit families moved to the tiny settlement. A Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachment was established two years later. A hospital was opened in 1929, but it wasn’t until 1962 that most of the Inuit who lived on Cumberland Sound relocated to Pang. The community has become internationally renowned for the tapestries and prints by local artists.

LOWER SAVAGE ISLANDS

Located just off the southeastern tip of Baffin Island, this now uninhabited and appropriately named archipelago situated near the mouth of Hudson Bay was, for several centuries, the location of an annual trading fair between the Inuit and the Europeans. Long, narrow channels separate the three rugged islands and provide the perfect means for exploring by Zodiac. Polar bears can often be seen prowling the steep slopes along the coast.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy—and excitement—of expedition travel. When traveling in extremely remote regions, your expedition staff must allow the sea, the ice and the weather to guide route and itinerary details. This itinerary is a tentative outline of what you’ll experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed.

KEKERTEN ISLAND

This small island in the Canadian Arctic Archipelago is of great historic significance. Not long after Scottish whaler Captain William Penny established a whaling station here 1840, the entire Cumberland Sound area became a major whaling destination. The most important station in the area from 1860 to 1880, during the height of bowhead whaling, the site eventually became a trading outpost of the Hudson’s Bay Company, until it was abandoned around 1926, after whaling declined and local Inuit families moved to the nearby community of Pangnirtung. The remains of a whaling station, burial ground and shipwreck make up this National Historic Site of Canada, which is spread across three islands.

SAM FORD FJORD

This fjord is a rockclimber’s dream. Tempting some of the most famous mountaineers and adventurers, its sheer rock faces form a severe barrier against the sea. The formations and contrasts make for stunning photographs.
Greenland

POSSIBLE LANDINGS AND WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

ILULISSAT

North of the Arctic Circle, this ice fjord is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Recognized as one of the fastest-moving glaciers in the world, the Sermeq Kujalleq glacier located here moves 62 feet (19 meters) per day. More glacial ice is calved into the ocean here than anywhere else, except for Antarctica.

KANGERLUSSUAQ

Kangerlussuaq and the Kangerlussuaq Fjord in West Greenland present colorful buildings and the potential for glimpses of arctic wildlife such as muskoxen and caribou. Lush mountainous landscapes provide a great backdrop at this port of disembarkation, while whales may be spotted at sea. Muskoxen, reindeer and arctic fox inhabit the tundra.

SISIMIUT

The second-largest town in Greenland, Sisimiut is a place to stretch your legs. Inhabited for more than 4,000 years, Sisimiut has a history that is a mix of Saqqaq, Dorset and Thule cultures. The colorful wooden houses here are typical of Greenlandic communities today. Nasaasaaq, an impressive mountain, provides a scenic backdrop for this settlement, and the nearby Amerloq Fjord is another worthwhile landing site.

ITILLEQ

In Greenlandic, Itilleq means “a hollow,” which is where this village is situated, on an island with no freshwater source. The village has approximately 130 inhabitants and offers picturesque views of colorful Greenlandic houses along the tundra.

UUMMANNAQ

Uummannaq was founded as a Danish colony in 1758 on the Nuussuaq mainland, but in 1763 it was moved to the nearby island, as seal hunting was more plentiful there.

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