Northwest Passage: In the Footsteps of Franklin

Cruising through the maze-like, icy channels of the legendary Northwest Passage is like sailing deep into the history of the High Arctic. On this immersive 17-day expedition through the fabled sea route, you’ll explore the same landscapes and waters that have enchanted adventurers for hundreds of years, tracing their footsteps. Pay your respects at the final resting place of three of Sir John Franklin’s lost crew. Visit traditional Inuit communities, and bone up on ancient cultures at remote historical sites. Learn about the whaling heyday of the 1800s and, if you’re lucky, spot present-day whales frolicking in their natural surroundings. On this active adventure, Zodiac, kayaking and hiking excursions make it easier than ever to encounter the unique wildlife that call this mysterious realm of dramatic fjords, glaciers and mountains home.

**EXPEDITION IN BRIEF**

- Experience highlights of Greenland and the Canadian Arctic
- Explore colorful Greenlandic villages and shop for traditional Inuit handicrafts
- View iconic arctic wildlife, such as whales, walrus and muskoxen
- Hike the colorful tundra
- Cruise in a Zodiac to get up close to glaciers, fjords, icebergs and more

**DID YOU KNOW?** The largest island in the Arctic Archipelago and the fifth-largest island in the world, Baffin Island is the location of some of most breathtaking fjords on the planet. Encircled by five bodies of water, the island is surrounded by sea ice most of the year and lies almost entirely in the Arctic Circle.
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 the 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.
**Itinerary**

**DAY 1 Arrive in Ottawa, 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 Fly to Kangerlussuaq, Greenland and Embark**

After breakfast, board your charter flight to Kangerlussuaq, a small seaside community that’s your gateway to Greenland. Enjoy your first Zodiac ride as you’re transferred from shore to ship. Out on deck, take in your new surroundings before you set sail on your arctic adventure.

**DAYS 3 AND 4 Exploring West Greenland**

Locals call Maniitsoq the Venice of Greenland, as it’s situated in an archipelago intersected by natural canals. Soaring, snow-capped mountains surround the small, rocky town, whose name means “the uneven place.” Playful humpback whales spend summer in the waters around here.

The Greenlandic capital of Nuuk is a haven for history and culture lovers. Stroll down to the waterfront to see the Hans Egede Church and Hans Egede statue, named for the missionary who established the settlement in 1728. Marvel at the famous remains of 500-year-old fully dressed mummies, discovered under a rock outcrop in 1972 by two brothers out hunting, at the Greenland National Museum. The Nuuk Art Museum and Katuaq Culture Centre are also worth visiting.

**DAY 5 At Sea**

Say goodbye to Greenland’s shores as you traverse the Davis Strait in pursuit of the Canadian Arctic. Presentations by on-board experts will prepare you for the adventures that lie ahead.

**DAYS 6 TO 15 Canada’s High Arctic**

Visit towering fjords, historical sites and traditional Inuit communities as you follow the footsteps of famous explorers from long ago in the Canadian High Arctic.

The picturesque Inuit hamlet of Pangnirtung, nicknamed the Switzerland of the Arctic, is nestled beneath the jagged peaks of Mount Duval. An artist’s hub, Pang is renowned for its traditional Inuit arts and crafts, especially lithographs and intricate tapestries. At the Uqqurmiut Centre for Arts & Crafts, watch
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.
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 Kangerlussuaq, 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.

KANGERLUSSUAQ AND EMBARKATION
Your flight to the Arctic is expected to depart from Ottawa to Kangerlussuaq 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.

Final Day and Departure

DISEMBARKATION IN RESOLUTE
Your ship is scheduled to arrive back at the pier in Resolute, 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.

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.
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
- 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 Kangerlussuaq
- Transfers to and from the ship
- Charter flight from Resolute to Ottawa
- Transfers between the airport and hotel in Ottawa

Package cost: $2,495

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

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1-888-892-0073

DATES & RATES

NORTHWEST PASSAGE In the Footsteps of Franklin

Expedition Aboard the Adventure Ship OCEAN ADVENTURER

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<th>Start/End</th>
<th>Triple Deck</th>
<th>Lower Deck Porthole</th>
<th>Main Deck Window</th>
<th>Superior</th>
<th>Deluxe</th>
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Mandatory transfer package available for $2,495.
All rates per person in USD.
West Greenland

POSSIBLE LANDINGS AND WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

KANGERLUSSUAQ

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

NUUK

Home to 15,000 people, Nuuk is the capital of Greenland and is the largest settlement on the island. The Hans Egede Church and the statue of Hans Egede near the waterfront are named after the missionary who founded the settlement. The Katuaq Culture Centre and Nuuk Art Museum are also worth exploring.
Canada

POSSIBLE LANDINGS AND WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

ARCTIC BAY

This traditional community has periodically been occupied by Inuit hunters during the past 5,000 years. The protective high hills and sheltered shores of this hamlet make for an ideal nesting habitat for various arctic birds, including thick-billed murres, snow geese, kittiwakes, ivory gulls and Ross’s gulls. Seals, narwhals and bowhead whales call the waters here home.

BEECHEY ISLAND

Named after Frederick William Beechey, an explorer with the Royal Navy, this is one of Canada’s most important Arctic sites and has been deemed a Canadian National Historic Site. During the Franklin expedition of 1845–46, two of Franklin’s ships, the HMS Erebus and HMS Terror, anchored here with perilous results. Three of Franklin’s crew died here and are buried at a marked gravesite.

BELLOT STRAIT

The 1.2 mile (2 km) wide Bellot Strait separates Somerset Island from Boothia Peninsula. During the transit, you sail past the northernmost point of mainland North America.

CAPE MERCY

In June 1585, British explorer John Davis (he of the Davis Strait) embarked on the first of three voyages to search for the legendary Northwest Passage. In August 1585, he reached this area at the northern entrance to the Cumberland Sound and named it Cape of God’s Mercy. Now known as Cape Mercy, it’s the site of a dramatic glacial fjord. Polar bears have been spotted ashore here.

CROKER BAY

A nearby glacier actively calves off chunks of ice, creating a birthing place for icebergs at Croker Bay. The bay was a popular stop during the 1800s, when a path to the Pacific (the Northwest Passage) was at the forefront of Arctic exploration.

FORT ROSS

In 1937, the Hudson’s Bay Company established a trading post on the coast of Somerset Island, named Fort Ross. Due to the harsh conditions and isolation of the post, it was closed in 1948. The store and manager’s house still stand.

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 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.

POND INLET

Europeans have been visiting Pond Inlet since the 1600s. The first visitors arrived seeking the Northwest Passage. In the 1800s, whalers brought wood and barter goods to the community. These visitors were Johnny-come-latelies, as the indigenous peoples had been living in the region for thousands of years, according to archeological evidence.

PRINCE LEOPOLD ISLAND

Impressive, near perfectly vertical cliffs surround part of this small island. This creates an ideal environment for nesting seabirds, and they nest here in vast numbers—more than 500,000 strong! Thick-billed murres, black guillemots and northern fulmars are most commonly seen here.

QIKIQTARJUAQ

Known until 1998 as Broughton Island, Qikiqtarjuaq boasts the highest mountains in North America east of the Rocky Mountains. From the cape, multitudes of icebergs can be seen coming down the Davis Strait, while whales, seals and narwhals cavort off its shores.
RESOLUTE

One of Canada’s most northern settlements, Resolute has everything from a grocery store and cable TV to a Royal Canadian Mounted Police station and a handful of hotels. It also has an airport, which is your gateway back home. About 200 people live in Resolute throughout the year. Hunting is a major source of income, while in the summer months, tourism contributes to the community’s stability.

SAM FORD FJORD

This fjord is a rock climber’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.

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.