In the Footsteps of Franklin: Greenland and Canada’s High Arctic

Explore the best of Greenland’s west coast on this 13-day voyage, including one of the fastest and most active glaciers in the world. Crossing into Canadian waters en route to Resolute, you’ll encounter spectacular limestone bird cliffs and Beechey Island, the eerie site of the Franklin Expedition.

EXPEDITION IN BRIEF:

- Unique Arctic wildlife - polar bears, walrus, whales, and massive sea bird colonies
- West Greenland and Canada’s High Arctic
- Traditional Canadian Inuit and Greenlandic communities
- Ilulissat, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Beechey Island, Franklin Expedition is a National Historic Site of Canada
- Tundra hiking for all fitness levels
- Zodiac cruising
- Kayaking adventure option on selected voyages

DID YOU KNOW? The world’s largest island - Greenland - is more than 80% covered in ice and it is said the name comes from the time of Erik the Red, who gave it this name in an effort to make it more appealing to potential settlers.
Adventure Options

Booking an Adventure Option on your Sea Explorer expedition is a great way to enhance your Polar experience. These options are all subject to availability and fill up quickly, so be sure to book yours early.

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 in small groups of 10-16 people, multiple times per voyage, kayaking adventures are only done 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 physical requirements and cost of each option is available by contacting your Polar Travel Adviser.

INCLUDED OPTIONS

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 eke out a living in this polar environment. You’ll find each hike is different - exploring communities, shorelines or glaciated landscapes, often on the lookout for wildlife. Hiking participation is optional and your Expedition Team will advise you of what you can expect prior to each excursion.
**Itinerary**

**DAY 1 Copenhagen, Denmark**

Enjoy an included night in Copenhagen and meet your fellow travelers.

**DAY 2 Embarkation Day in Kangerlussuaq**

After landing in Kangerlussuaq, you’ll be transferred to the port and then take your first Zodiac ride out to the ship. In the afternoon, we will travel down one of the longest fjords in Greenland.

**DAYS 3-7 West Greenland**

Ancient archaeological sites, massive fjords, Zodiac excursions and tundra hikes await you in Greenland. Sisimiut, our first planned stop, has the feel of a small fishing village with a great harbor for walking around and taking photos. You’ll get to watch a demonstration of traditional kayaking before venturing further north to Ilulissat.

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Ilulissat is home to the Sermeq Kujalleq glacier, one of the fastest and most active glaciers in the world. In addition to some spectacular Zodiac cruising, there is also a refreshing longer hike along a boardwalk to a beautiful lookout in Ilulissat.

Heading further north into the Upernavik Archipelago, you may spot whales and seals. The most northern discovery of any Viking artefacts in the world are at Upernavik; while nearby Kullorsuaq is a small settlement that sustains itself on fishing, whaling and sealing.

Your northern most stops in Greenland are Dundas and Qaanaaq, where glaciers and archaeological sites are found. In Qaanaaq, you’ll visit the local museum; a great way to gain a deeper appreciation for what it takes to live this far north.

**DAY 8 Cobourg Island**

You’ll leave Greenland today as we sail over to Canada and visit Cobourg Island. Polar bears and various species of whales may also been seen here!

It is also an important bird area, where the cliffs are packed with thick-billed murres, northern fulmars, black-legged kittiwakes, guillemots and glaucous gulls.

**DAYS 9-11 Lancaster Sound**

Exploring the Canadian High Arctic, you’ll have numerous hiking and birding opportunities. The first of which usually takes place at Dundas Harbour on Devon Island. Your beach hike here will be highlighted by visiting the remains of a Royal Canadian Mounted Police post. At Croker Bay, an actively calving glacier often litters the bay with numerous icebergs.

Another important bird area, Prince Leopold Island is home to more than...
500,000 seabirds, while the Canadian National Historic Site of Beechey Island is the site of a small grave site, with markers for men who died during Sir John Franklin’s tragic expedition in 1845-46.

One of the best archaeological sites in the high Canadian arctic can be found at Radstock Bay, your final landing site before your journey home.

**DAY 12 Disembarkation Day in Resolute**

Named after the HMS *Resolute*, one of the ships sent to search for Franklin’s ships, the HMS *Erebus* and HMS *Terror*. This is where you’ll check back into Canada with the Canadian Border Services and say goodbye to the *Sea Explorer* and be transferred to the airport for your flight to Toronto and overnight at an airport hotel.

**DAY 13 Departure**

Today you can make your way home at your leisure or spend some more time in Toronto.

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**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.

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**IMPORTANT REMINDER**

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

THIS EXPEDITION INCLUDES

• Shipboard accommodation with daily housekeeping
• All breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and snacks on board throughout your voyage
• All shore landings per the daily program
• Leadership throughout the voyage by our experienced Expedition Leader
• A daily program of lectures by noted naturalists
• All Zodiac transfers and cruising per the daily program
• Formal and informal presentations by our Expedition Team and Special Guests as scheduled
• Photographic Journal on DVD documenting the voyage
• A pair of 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 pre-departure 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 for all passengers to a maximum benefit of US$100,000 per person

THIS EXPEDITION EXCLUDES

• International airfare
• Passport and any applicable visa expenses
• Government arrival and departure taxes
• Any meals ashore with the exception of breakfast at the host hotel
• Baggage, cancellation, interruption, and medical travel insurance
• Excess baggage charges
• Laundry, bar, beverage and other personal charges unless specified
• Telecommunications charges
• The voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for shipboard staff and crew
• Any extra overnight accommodation required due to flight connections
• Optional sea-kayaking activities

MANDATORY TRANSFER PACKAGE INCLUDES:

• Pre expedition hotel night in Copenhagen airport hotel and breakfast
• Flight from Copenhagen to Kangerlussuaq
• Transfers to and from ship
• Flight from Resolute to Toronto
• Post expedition hotel night in Toronto and breakfast

Package cost: $1,825

Note: Baggage allowance on charter flight is 20 kilos checked and 5 kilos carry on
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF FRANKLIN: Greenland and Canada’s High Arctic

Expedition Aboard the Adventure Ship **SEA EXPLORER**

### Arctic 2014 Dates & Rates

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Mandatory Transfer package $1,750
Please note that these prices are guaranteed against fuel price increases. No fuel surcharge will be applied.

### Arctic 2015 Dates & Rates

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Mandatory Transfer package $1,825
Please note that these prices are guaranteed against fuel price increases. No fuel surcharge will be applied.

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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)**.
Greenland

POSSIBLE LANDINGS AND WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

KANGERLUSSUAQ

Kangerlussuaq and the Kangerlussuaq Fjord in Western Greenland present colorful buildings and potential for glimpses of Arctic wildlife such as musk oxen and caribou. Lush mountainous landscapes provide a great backdrop at this port of embarkation, while whales may be spotted at sea.

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 at 19m per day. More glacial ice is calved into the ocean here than anywhere else, except for Antarctica.

SISIMIUT

A village town, the second largest in Greenland, Sisimiut is a place to stretch the legs. Inhabited for more than 4,000 years the history here 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 to this settlement and the nearby Amerloq Fjord is another worthwhile landing site.

UPERNAVIK

In the Upernavik Archipelago the island and settlement of Upernavik provide one of the best opportunities for learning about Viking history in this part of Greenland. The museum here is well worth a visit.

KULLORSUAQ

Hunting and fishing remain the way of life in this small, traditional town. This part of the Upernavik Archipelago has fewer economic alternatives than further south. Whaling is an important part of the livelihood of many of the inhabitants here.

DUNDAS

Located in Northwest Greenland, Dundas is near a U.S. Air Base and area of some contention as the U.S. had a plutonium contamination here back in the 1960’s. All is well in Dundas itself though, with an impressive glacier for exploring.

QAANAAQ

The world’s most northern municipality and one of the world’s most northern settlements. Traditional means of living are strong here and the local museum helps shed some light on what it takes to live this close to the top of the world.

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POSSIBLE LANDINGS AND WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

**COBOURG ISLAND**

An important bird area, this uninhabited Canadian island is home to large concentrations of seabirds including thick-billed murres, northern fulmars, black-legged kittiwakes, guillemots and glaucous gulls.

**DUNDAS HARBOUR**

Located on Devon Island, there are remains of a Royal Canadian Mounted Police post here, dating back to 1924. The post was built to monitor and illegal fishing and whaling activities by other nations coming into Canadian waters. Historically this area has been settled for more than 3,000 years by Inuit and pre-Inuit cultures.

**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 1800’s when a path to the Pacific (the Northwest Passage) was at the forefront of Arctic exploration.

**PRINCE LEOPOLD ISLAND**

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

**BEECHEY ISLAND**

Named after Frederick William Beechey, an explorer of 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 his crew died and are buried at a marked grave site.

**RADSTOCK BAY**

The bay has been a popular research location for observing polar bears. Denning mothers favor this area and polar bears are frequently seen during summer months. A Thule site here provides insight into how the pre-Inuit people survived, and lived, in the Arctic.

**RESOLUTE**

One of Canada’s most northern settlements, Resolute has everything from a grocery store and cable TV to an RCMP station and handful of hotels. It also has an airport, which is your gateway back home.