



# Norway Spitsbergen Polar Bears & Pack Ice Adventure Cruising

## Explore Landscapes & Wildlife of North Spitsbergen

Thank you for checking out our adventures and for downloading this itinerary. Please note that this itinerary may be subject to change depending on the specific departure date. Be sure to check with us before scheduling any flights.

**We love talking travel!**  
Contact us at [info@mtsobek.com](mailto:info@mtsobek.com)  
or call **800-974-0300**





# Feel the difference

with **Mountain Travel Sobek**

## **Unrivaled Expertise**

MT Sobek started it all! Since our first Everest Base Camp trek in 1969, we've been leading award-winning adventures and building authentic connections in far-flung locations around the world. We were named Best Adventure Tour Company in 2022 by USA Today's 10 Best Readers' Choice Awards.

## **Unique Trip Design**

Our adventures are perfectly paced, with incredible attention to detail — the right mix of fun, learning, and challenge that guarantees lifelong memories. Plan nothing, enjoy everything. We take care of all of the logistics so that you can have more time to do what's most important: relax, take in the experience, and enjoy!

## **Small Groups**

We keep our groups intentionally small — usually fewer than 10 people. This allows you a more intimate experience with the people and wildlife you encounter. With a smaller group size, we can take advantage of many unexpected invitations and opportunities that would be impossible with larger groups.







## Leading the Way

### World-Class Local Guides

Our knowledgeable and passionate expert guides effortlessly create an immersive local experience for you. They are trained to the highest professional standards and are at the heart of everything we do. They make it possible to meet the challenges of adventure travel, and help create lasting memories and lifelong friendships... we can confidently say our guides are the best in the business.





# Why take this trip with us?

## REASON 1

MT Sobek's Polar Value Promise means that we offer in-house services to help plan and execute your polar adventure with no added cost.

## REASON 2

Over 30 years of offering polar voyages we have built strong relationships with polar service providers and ships that cruise the High Arctic.

## REASON 3

We choose ships and operators that maintain a high level of commitment to safety, people, value, quality, environment, well-being, and customer service.

## At A Glance

### ACTIVITIES

Expert polar interpretation and presentations, professional navigation through Arctic waters, wildlife experiences, hiking, and Zodiac cruising.



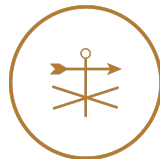
### LODGING

Ice-strengthened and well-appointed polar expedition ships offer a comfortable and safe way to explore the Arctic. Enjoy healthy cuisine and wellness services onboard.



### CLIMATE

The air is very dry. Expect a mix of sun, clouds, wind, rain, and possible snow. Daytime temperatures are usually 38°-50°F.



## KNOW BEFORE YOU BOOK

### Pricing

Please call for an exact quote or additional dates. Pricing varies by cabin category. A 30% nonrefundable deposit is needed to secure your reservation.

This cruise is not privately chartered for MT Sobek travelers. In order to offer the widest selection of travel dates and flexibility for our guests, MT Sobek works directly with the ship owner to book MT Sobek travelers on scheduled departures throughout the year, and we are pleased to offer our in-house expertise and services to assist you every step of the way.





# Norway Spitsbergen Polar Bears & Pack Ice Adventure Cruising

## Explore Landscapes & Wildlife of North Spitsbergen

Discover the realm of the polar bear, a savagely beautiful land of ice and snow, glassy fjords, and expansive tundra on this exciting Arctic adventure. Cruising the Svalbard Archipelago aboard a comfortable, ice-strengthened vessel, you'll discover Spitsbergen, the largest island in Svalbard — known to Vikings, traders and early explorers. Enjoy prime viewing exploring cliffs by ship and Zodiac and watching for polar bears, walrus, or beluga whales breaching in the icy water. No two trips are alike, but each one offers rare opportunities to experience the wild and wonderful Arctic.

## 8 Days

**Start:** Longyearbyen, Norway

**End:** Longyearbyen, Norway

**Departing:** May, June

**Activities:** Adventure Cruising, Safari & Wildlife

**Lodging:** Luxury Ship, Comfortable Small Ship

**Group Size:** Up to 170 passengers

### ACTIVITY:



Check [mtsobek.com](https://www.mtsobek.com) for date-specific pricing.

“

*“We have traveled throughout the world, but never experienced a level of service and attention to detail as we did with MT Sobek.”*

- Dennis G.



# The Itinerary

DAY  
01

## Arrive Longyearbyen

Touch down in Longyearbyen, the administrative center of Spitsbergen, the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago. Enjoy strolling around this former mining town, whose parish church and Svalbard Museum make for fascinating attractions. Though the countryside appears stark, more than a hundred species of plants have been recorded in it. In the early evening, the ship sails out of Isfjorden, where you might spot the first minke whale of your voyage.

**MEALS:** Dinner

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DAY  
02

## Sail to Raudfjorden

Embark for Raudfjorden, on the north coast of Spitsbergen. Take in the spectacular expanse of the fjord, bordered with glaciers and frequented by ringed and bearded seals. Hike the cliffs and shoreline, home to thriving seabird colonies, rich vegetation, and polar bears.

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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DAY  
03

## Discover the Monaco Glacier

Weather permitting, sail into Liefdefjorden and cruise within sight of the 5-kilometer (3.1 mile) face of the precipitous Monaco Glacier, a favorite feeding spot for kittiwakes, and hunting ground for polar bears. If weather is uncooperative, sail along the west coast of Spitsbergen as an alternate route.

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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DAY  
04

## Cruise the Hinlopen Strait

Enter the Hinlopen Strait, home to bearded seals, ringed seals, polar bears and blue whales. Cruise among the ice floes of Lomfjordshalvøya in the Zodiacs, and view the bird cliffs of Alkefjellet with their thousands of Brünnich's guillemots. If conditions permit, make a landing on Nordaustlandet on the east side of the Strait, to look for reindeer, pink-footed geese, and walrus.

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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DAY  
05

### Stop at the Seven Islands

Get close to the North Pole at Nordaustlandet in the Seven Islands. Reach 80° north, just 870 km (540 miles) from the geographic North Pole. Anchor for several hours among the pack ice, watching for polar bears, before turning west again.

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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DAY  
06

### Sail on the Continental Shelf

Retrace the route west, keeping watch for polar bears and elusive Greenland bowhead whales. Sail the edge of the continental shelf about 40 nautical miles west of Spitsbergen, where fin whales forage during the summer in the upwelling zones that run along the Spitsbergen banks. Scan the waters at the mouth of Kongsfjorden, for sightings of playful minke whales.

**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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DAY  
07

### Voyage Back to Longyearbyen

Watch for walrus in the approach to Forlandsundet, or sail into St. Johns Fjord or the mouth of Isfjorden, landing at the cliffs of Alkhornet, home of nesting seabirds. Enjoy views of Arctic foxes, searching for fallen eggs and chicks, and reindeer, grazing on the sparse vegetation. Arrive in Longyearbyen by evening.



**MEALS:** Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner

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## **Depart Longyearbyen**

The trip comes to and end upon disembarkation in Longyearbyen, taking home memories of the wild and beautiful Arctic, which will forever be a part of you.

**MEALS:** Breakfast





## Where You'll Stay

**These accommodations may be subject to change depending on your date of travel.**

### **m/v Ortelius**

The *Ortelius* has the highest ice-class rating and a broad, heavy design. It offers a collection of comfortable and spacious 190 square-foot cabins, all with en-suite bathrooms. Extensive open-deck space maximizes wildlife viewing. The ship offers a wide range of adventure activities, including hiking, kayaking, snowshoeing, and scuba diving. It also offers a helicopter pad used on select Weddell & Ross Seas voyages.

### **m/v Plancius**

*Plancius* was built in 1976 as an oceanographic research vessel for the Royal Dutch Navy and sailed for the Dutch Navy until June 2004. The vessel was completely rebuilt as a comfortable passenger vessel in 2009. The *Plancius* accommodates 108 passengers. The vessel offers a restaurant/lecture room and spacious observation lounge with large windows, offering a full panoramic view. Its large open deck spaces (with full walk-around possibilities on deck 4), provide excellent opportunities to enjoy the scenery and wildlife.

### **m/v Hondius**

m/v *Hondius* is the first-registered Polar Class 6 vessel in the world, meeting the latest and highest Lloyd's Register standards for ice-strengthened cruise ships. The vessel offers high-quality accommodation for 170 passengers with one deck consisting of a large observation lounge and separate lecture room. Though elegantly designed in stylish décor, this vessel holds true to Oceanwide's distinctive cozy and informal atmosphere. The vessel employs a tough fleet of rigid-hull inflatable Zodiac boats that enable efficient access to shore and near-shore activities. Kayaks are also available.

# Departure Dates

This trip is available to run in: May, June

**Book early for a greater choice of available dates.**  
Once you book, your price is GUARANTEED!

June 6-13, 2024

June 13-20, 2024

June 18-25, 2024

June 27-July 4, 2024

June 3-10, 2025

June 10-17, 2025

June 12-19, 2025

June 23-30, 2025

June 24-July 1, 2025



# What's Included

## PRICE INCLUDES

- Per person pricing based on occupancy in a Porthole Cabin
- Expertise and services of our experienced adventure guides
- All accommodations as noted in the itinerary
- All breakfasts, almost all lunches and dinners as noted in the itinerary
- Snacks and water between meals
- Additional regional guides and experts on many trips
- Comprehensive Trip Planner with detailed pre-trip information
- Private guided tours at historic sites, museums, wineries and other select attractions as noted in the itinerary
- Special events and other select attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All gratuities at hotels and restaurants
- Equipment and experienced guides for activities as described in the itinerary
- Park and other entry fees (unless otherwise noted)
- Fares for trains, ferries and other modes of travel as listed in the itinerary
- Select transfers as mentioned in the itinerary
- Baggage transfers and portorage

## PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- International airfare, airport taxes, and excess baggage fees
- Alcoholic beverages (MT Sobek provides wine at select events)
- Gratuities for MT Sobek guides and guide-drivers
- Travel Protection Program
- Personal expenses



**MT SOBEK™**

The Adventure Company | Est. 1969

# YOUR ADVENTURE AWAITS.

**70 Countries | 150+ Destinations | Infinite Possibilities**

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**AND BOOK TODAY!**

