LAND OF THE ICE BEARS
AN IN-DEPTH EXPLORATION OF ARCTIC SVALBARD

JUNE 5-15, 2017 | ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER

dukealumnitravels.com
Travel to the Arctic with us for a genuinely exploratory experience. Thanks to National Geographic Explorer’s tools and expert staff, you can actively engage. Savor the thrill of crunching through the pack ice. Kayak for eye-level encounters. Zodiac where few have gone before. Search for walruses, whales, and polar bears. Discover the undersea. Shoot with an onboard National Geographic photographer and more.
DEAR DUKE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

The Arctic is all about radical simplicity—elemental rock sculpted by millennial forces, the carpeting tundra, the impassive massiveness of tidewater glaciers, and lordly bears stalking the lace-like vastness of the pack ice. Timeless and essential, wild and beautiful, the Arctic is mythic—providing the thrill of pure discovery in pure wildness.

Our voyage aboard the 148-guest National Geographic Explorer delivers the best of the Arctic—featuring the ‘capital’ of Arctic nature: Svalbard. Svalbard is one of the few places on Earth where the polar bear can be reliably found in its natural environment. And spotting a polar bear in the wild, a life-list must for many, is a chance to experience the Arctic on a visceral level.

With years of Arctic exploration, Explorer’s ace spotters have honed their skills; they know how to find isbjorn, the ice bear. And the captain knows how to approach the animals—respectfully—for optimal sightings. They have learned their behavior, understand how they tend to move in the pack ice, and consequently, know where to find them—to deliver the thrill for you.

Clearly, finding and observing polar bears in their wild habitat is the pinnacle experience of exploring the Arctic, but this voyage offers so many other utterly fascinating things—a waterfall gushing from a great glacier terminus, throngs of seabirds, blankets of wildflowers, iconic reindeer and walrus, and the chance of spotting several species of whales.

You travel there in safety and comfort aboard an ice-strengthened expedition ship along with the best ice team in the world. With a range of innovative tools for exploring, including a fleet of Zodiacs and kayaks, Explorer is the perfect mobile platform for discovering all the fascinating aspects of the Arctic. In addition to a team of naturalists, the undersea specialist and National Geographic photographer help you explore and capture every facet of your journey. As the Duke group grows in size, a Duke representative will be engaged to join the voyage and enhance this already rich educational experience.

Join us and experience the joy of observing a beautiful animal secure in its native habitat, and of the elegiac ache at the prospect of what looms, given melting ice. To make your reservation, please return the enclosed reservation form or call 800-FOR-DUKE.

Forever Duke,

Beth Ray-Schroeder ’83
Director, Duke Alumni Travels, Duke Alumni Association

Cover photo: Polar bear mother and cubs on pack ice.
Left: National Geographic Explorer noses up to give guests a view of ice cap and waterfall.
Ship’s Registry: Bahamas
THE ARCTIC: NATURE IN ITS PUREST FORM

A mere 600 miles from the North Pole, located in Norway’s High Arctic, Svalbard is true wilderness, a pristine blue-white land of towering glaciers, lapidary fjords, teeming bird colonies, huddles of walrus hauled out on pebbled beaches, and reindeer grazing on tundra ablaze with wildflowers.

But few experiences are as profound as locating and observing bears in Svalbard. To be on *National Geographic Explorer* in the Arctic, maneuvered with near-surgical precision by a skilled ice master as it draws close to a bear hunting on the pack ice or a mother bear instructing her young cubs, is simply enthralling. To be able to hover there, observing these creatures that remain completely undisturbed by the people gazing raptly from the deck rail or by their whirring camera motor drives, is one of life’s most satisfying experiences.
Clockwise: Polar bear on the pack ice; Atlantic walrus hauled out on ice floe; glacier terminus, Svalbard; bearded seal; a reindeer lopes along the tundra.
THE PERFECT PLATFORM TO EXPLORE THE ARCTIC

National Geographic Explorer is the only expedition ship designed and equipped by individuals with a collective 175 years of expedition experience. Through the ship’s agility and the skill of her captain, you can experience unprecedented encounters with beauty, wildness, and serenity in the Arctic. Explorer is the best-equipped expedition ship in the world, featuring exceptional accoutrements that make her an excellent base for exploration. A fleet of Zodiacs, the best landing craft in the industry, and 36 untippable sea kayaks allow for up-close discovery, while state-of-the-art undersea video technology offers a unique opportunity to see beneath the ocean’s surface while staying dry.

THE PRIVILEGE OF COMFORT & COMMUNITY

National Geographic Explorer provides a welcoming home in the remote Arctic. She is a beautiful ship, built with careful attention to details and comfort. Her 81 cabins, including many with balconies, are well-appointed and relaxing, while her public spaces, with their expansive windows, maintain a dialogue with the sea and the scenery. And she fosters an intimate, learning-oriented expedition environment. This is not the passive state of cruising; this is active engagement with the environment and its creatures, seeing and then turning to companion experts for answers to questions, or a sense of context—especially valuable in the High Arctic which plays such a vital role in the climate change discussion.

Opposite (clockwise from top): The bridge is always open; guest takes in the magnificent scenery from the library; kayakers off Svalbard’s pristine coast; Explorer can safely navigate polar passages; a close-up look at the ice and its inhabitants via Zodiac.
TRAVEL WITH AN A+ EXPEDITION TEAM

Your expedition leader is an outstanding individual, a leader who attracts and inspires the naturalists, marine biologist, geologist, glaciologist, historian, and undersea specialist who accompany your voyage. They help us spot polar bears in the vast whiteness of the Arctic pack ice to deliver unprecedented observations, and experience the thrill of genuine discovery. Their commitment and passion engage you, and their knowledge illuminates the facets of all you see and do during your expedition. In addition, a wellness specialist helps you benefit from the tonic of wellness, while a video chronicler records the entire voyage creating a permanent record.

Veteran naturalist Bud Lehnhausen, with years of polar experience, shares his love and knowledge of the Arctic and its wildlife.

SHOOT WITH TOP PROS

Whether you think of yourself as a photographer or simply want to capture the moments at the heart of your voyage, you’ll take your best photos ever on this voyage. A top National Geographic photographer is on board to provide inspiration and advice gleaned over the course of a significant career. Plus, a Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor is at your service to help you understand your camera and its settings, the basics of composition, and the scenery and wildlife you aim your camera at. And regardless of your skill level, you’ll return home a more confident photographer with fantastic photos.

National Geographic photographer and freelance photojournalist Massimo Bassano has been featured in National Geographic Traveler and many European publications.

Opposite (clockwise from top): Guests photographing polar bears; ace spotter scans the ice for bears; naturalists point out wildlife during Zodiac outings; undersea specialist lowers ROV to capture undersea images for playback in the lounge.
DAYS 1 AND 2: U.S./OSLO, NORWAY
Depart on an overnight flight to Oslo. Upon arrival, check into the Thon Hotel Bristol (or similar). Explore this charming city, and stroll among the famed Vigeland sculptures—hundreds of life-size human figures set in terraced parkland. Visit the Fram Museum, dedicated to the wooden ship sailed by Norwegian explorers Nansen and Amundsen.

DAY 3: OSLO/LONGYEARBYEN/EMBARK
Depart Oslo on a charter flight, and enjoy breathtaking vistas en route to Longyearbyen. Embark National Geographic Explorer, your base for the next six days. (B,L,D)

DAYS 4–9: EXPLORING SVALBARD
This voyage is undertaken in the spirit of discovery, and our travel in the archipelago is exploratory by design. In a region ruled not by humans but by polar bears, we let nature guide our course. Svalbard lies north of the high Arctic archipelago situated between Norway and the North Pole, Svalbard is a place of deep fjords, snowcapped mountains, massive sheets of ice, and magnificent polar bears. Travel under the midnight sun aboard National Geographic Explorer, and experience nature in its purest form.
Arctic Circle, where the summer midnight sun never sets. With a fully stabilized ice-class expedition ship, we are able to probe the ice in search of wildlife. Our exact day-to-day itinerary remains flexible, depending on local ice and weather conditions. Zodiacs and kayaks take us close to experience the region’s geologic features and the wildlife that flourishes during the summer months. With a National Geographic photographer and a seasoned naturalist staff, venture to the foot of vast tidewater glaciers, kayak among sparkling icebergs, and explore fjords that split the coastline. Hike through miniature gardens blooming on the tundra, and search the edge of the pack ice for polar bears, walruses, seals, reindeer, and arctic foxes. Svalbard is one of the few places where the polar bear can be reliably found in its natural environment. (B,L,D)

DAY 10: LONGYEARBYEN/DISEMBARK/OSLO
Disembark in Longyearbyen, the largest settlement in Svalbard, and enjoy time to explore. Founded by an American coal executive in 1906, this is one of the northernmost human settlements on Earth. Fly back to Oslo and overnight at the Radisson Blu Airport Hotel. (B,L)

DAY 11: OSLO/FLY TO U.S. (B)

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS
» Norway's Fjords, Pre-voyage, 5 Days
» Iceland's Natural Wonders, Post-voyage, 4 Days
Call for details.
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER

CAPACITY: 148 guests in 81 outside cabins.
REGISTRY: Bahamas. OVERALL LENGTH: 367 feet.
National Geographic Explorer is a state-of-the-art expedition ship and the flagship of the Lindblad fleet. She is a fully stabilized, ice-class vessel, with an ice-reinforced hull, enabling her to navigate polar passages while providing exceptional comfort. She carries kayaks and a fleet of Zodiac landing craft. An undersea specialist operates a Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) and sophisticated undersea video equipment, extending access to the underwater world.

PUBLIC AREAS: Bistro bar; chart room; restaurant; global gallery; library; lounge with full-service bar and state-of-the-art facilities for films, slideshows, and presentations; mud room with lockers for expedition gear, and observation lounge. An “open bridge” provides guests an opportunity to meet the officers and captain and learn about navigation.

MEALS: Served in single seatings with unassigned tables for an informal atmosphere and easy mingling. Menu is international with local flair.

CABINS: All cabins face outside with windows or portholes, private facilities, and climate controls. Some cabins have balconies.

EXPEDITION EQUIPMENT: Zodiac landing craft, kayaks, Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV), hydrophone, Splash-Cam, underwater video camera, aerial remote-controlled camera, video microscope.

SPECIAL FEATURES: A full-time doctor, undersea specialist, National Geographic photographer, Lindblad-National Geographic certified photo instructor, video chronicler, internet café, and laundry.

WELLNESS: The vessel is staffed by a wellness specialist and features a glass-enclosed fitness center, outdoor stretching area, LEXspa treatment room, and sauna.

Right from top: Dining room with unassigned seating and a casual atmosphere; comfortable Category 4 cabin with window; standard bathroom; fitness center with panoramic views.
Prices are per person, double occupancy unless otherwise indicated as solo.

**CATEGORY 1:** $10,220
Main Deck with one or two portholes #301-308

**CATEGORY 2:** $10,880
Main Deck with window #317-320, 335-336

**CATEGORY 3:** $11,320
Main Deck with window #313-316, 321-328, 337-340, 342, 344, 346, 348, 350

**CATEGORY 4:** $11,990
Upper and Veranda Decks with window #103-104, 107-108, 201-202, 204-207, 210, 212, 217, 226, 228

**CATEGORY 5:** $14,150
Upper Deck with balcony #209, 211, 214, 216, 218, 220-222, 224

**CATEGORY 6:** $16,530
Veranda Deck–Suite #101-102; Upper Deck-Suite with balcony #213

**CATEGORY 7:** $18,890
Upper Deck–Suite with balcony #215, 219, 230

**CATEGORY A SOLO:** $13,600
Main Deck with window #309-312, 329-334

**CATEGORY B SOLO:** $14,150
Upper and Veranda Decks with window #105-106, 203, 208

**CATEGORY 3 TRIPLE:** *
Main Deck with window #341, 343

*THIRD PERSON RATES: Available in the designated triple occupancy cabins at one-half the double occupancy rate. Cabins #341, 343, 101, 102, 215, 219, and 230 can accommodate a third person.

SOLE OCCUPANCY CABINS: Available in Categories A and B.

SHARED ACCOMMODATIONS: Available in Categories 1 and 2.

NOTE: Cabins #209, 211, 214, 216-218, 220, 222, 224, 226, 228, 303-306—These cabins have one queen-sized bed. All other double cabins have two lower single beds; some can convert to a queen-sized bed.
WHAT’S INCLUDED

ABOARD SHIP
✓ Accommodations
✓ All meals and beverages, including alcohol
✓ Cappuccinos, lattes & complimentary refillable water bottle
✓ 24-hour coffee, tea & soda on demand
✓ Hors d’oeuvres & snacks during lounge recap
✓ Fully stocked library
✓ Sauna
✓ Fitness center
✓ The guidance & company of the expedition staff
✓ Gratuities to the ship’s crew

ASHORE
✓ Hotel accommodations with breakfast
✓ Transfers to and from group flights
✓ The expertise of the expedition staff

ACTIVITIES
✓ All shore activities
✓ Zodiac & kayak explorations
✓ Lectures & presentations in the lounge
✓ Photo instruction
✓ Morning stretch classes with wellness specialist

SPECIAL OFFER
BRING THE KIDS: We believe sharing an expedition with your kids or grandkids is a life-enhancing experience. So, take $500 off the double occupancy price for each person under 18.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

EXPEDITION COST INCLUDES: Accommodations aboard ship; two hotel nights with breakfast in Oslo; all meals and beverages aboard ship, including alcohol; transfers to/from airport if traveling on group flights; all shore excursions, sightseeing, and entrance fees; use of kayaks; taxes, service charges, and all gratuities; services of a ship physician and Lindblad’s expedition staff.

NOT INCLUDED: Air transportation including charter flight; meals not indicated; extensions; passport and visa fees; baggage/accident/travel protection plan; voyage DVD; items of a personal nature such as email, telephone calls, and laundry.

SAMPLE AIRFARES: Round-trip Newark/Oslo: Economy from $1,180; Business from $3,960. Charter airfare (round-trip Oslo/Longyearbyen): $725 per person. Lindblad will assist in making your air arrangements for a $50 per person service fee. Charter flight must be ticketed by Lindblad (service fee will not apply). Fares subject to change.

RESERVATIONS: To confirm your place, an advance payment of US$1,500 per person is required at the time of reservation and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, or check. FINAL PAYMENT: Due 120 days prior to departure.

TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN: Travel insurance is available at an additional cost. Information will be sent to you by Duke Alumni Association upon registration.

SMOKING POLICY: Allowed only in designated outdoor areas.

RESPONSIBILITY AND OTHER TERMS & CONDITIONS: Certain other provisions concerning, among other things, limitations of Lindblad Maritime Enterprises liability for loss of property, injury, illness, or death during the voyage will be provided to all guests on the ship’s ticket sent prior to departure or upon request. By registering for a trip, the guest agrees to all such terms and conditions.

Prices listed in this brochure are as of publication date, and are subject to change. Lindblad Maritime Enterprises reserves the right to impose surcharges based on increases in the actual cost of fuel.

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*We strongly recommend that you purchase a travel protection plan.*
RESERVATION FORM: LAND OF THE ICE BEARS
ABOARD NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EXPLORER—JUNE 5-15, 2017

Please reserve __________ place(s).

Name 1:_____________________________________________________________________________
(As it appears on passport)

Name 1:____________________________________Date of Birth: _____________________________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Name 2: ____________________________________________________________________________
(As it appears on passport)

Name 2: ___________________________________Date of Birth: _____________________________
(Preferred name for name badge)

Street Address: ______________________________________________________________________

City:_____________________________________ State:  _________________Zip: _______________

Home Phone:  _____________________________ Cell Phone: _______________________________

Business Phone: __________________________________Fax:  ______________________________

Email: ______________________________________________________________________________

Accommodations:  □ Double  □ Single  □ Twin share w/friend
□ Share with roommate assigned by tour operator

Please indicate choice of cabin category in order of preference:
1st choice: ______________________________ 2nd choice: _________________________________

Please send me information on the:
□ Iceland extension □ Norway’s Fjords extension

□ Enclosed is my advance payment of $ ____________________________ (US$1,500 per person)
Check made payable to Lindblad Maritime Enterprises, Ltd.

□ Charge my advance payment of $ ____________________________ (US$1,500 per person)
to my □ Visa  □ MasterCard  □ American Express  □ Discover

Account Number:  __________________________________ Expires: _______________________
Cardholder Signature:  ____________________________ Date: _______________________

Please send reservation to:
Duke Alumni Travels
Box 90572
Durham, NC 27708
Phone: 800-FOR-DUKE
Secure Fax: (919) 660-0148
Email: travel@daa.duke.edu
EXPEDITION HIGHLIGHTS

» See the very symbol of the Arctic—the polar bear in its natural habitat, on the sea ice.

» Take naturalist-led walks, and cruise among beautiful icebergs in a Zodiac or a kayak.

» Experience the legendary midnight sun: the ethereal light of the northern summer.

» Watch for walruses, bearded and ringed seals, arctic foxes, and reindeer.

» Enjoy superlative photo ops and onboard photo assistance.