

SMALL-SHIP EXPEDITION CRUISE

# Heart of the Arctic

August 2–15, 2026

From **\$9,995** to **\$19,995** USD

**Aboard *Ocean Nova***

**Starts:** Toronto, ON, Canada

**Ends:** Ottawa, ON, Canada

Charter Flights:

**Northbound Charter Flight:** \$1,595 USD

Toronto, ON, Canada to Kangerlussuaq, Greenland. Early-morning departure.

**Southbound Charter Flight:** \$1,045 USD

Iqaluit, NU, Canada to Ottawa, ON, Canada. Evening arrival.



## Itinerary

**August 2-15, 2026**

Day 1: Kangerlussuaq, Greenland

Day 2: Kangerlussuatsiaq Fjord (Evighedsfjorden)

Day 3: Nuuk

**Day 4:** At Sea—Davis Strait

**Day 5-6:** Ungava Bay

**Day 7:** Ungava Peninsula, QC, Canada

**Day 8:** Salluit

**Day 9:** Kinngait (Cape Dorset), NU, Canada

**Day 10-11:** Hudson Strait

**Day 12-13:** Frobisher Bay

**Day 14:** Iqaluit, NU, Canada

## HIGHLIGHTS

### **Travel Through Inuit Nunangat Alongside Inuit**

Experience the extraordinary privilege of journeying through Inuit Nunangat—the ice, water, and lands of Inuit.

Delve into a dynamic culture as you learn about the language, arts, cuisine, music, and traditions. Each facet is thoughtfully integrated into our on-board and onshore educational program, creating moments of authentic learning throughout your voyage.

As honoured guests in the Inuit homeland, you'll gain unique insights into the kinship between Inuit and the nuna (land). Connect with Inuit—artists, cultural educators, academics and more—who graciously share their knowledge and expertise.

Try your hand at Inuit games, sample country food, visit a local hamlet, or simply walk the tundra with Inuit expedition team members who share Inuit Nunangat, their homeland, with you.

### **Discover the Inuit art capital of the world**

Visit the world-renowned art studios of Kinngait, where you can meet talented artists and explore their unique creations. Discover both established and emerging artists, carvers, and printmakers, and have the opportunity to purchase one-of-a-kind works that showcase the community's rich artistic heritage.

### **Spot polar bears, whales, and seabirds in pristine Arctic environments**

Seek out the [amazing creatures](#) that call this rich region home and revel in the scenery as you go—from the ship, by Zodiac, or on hiking excursions.

Admire the bounty and beauty of the fjords of Greenland, the coast of Baffin Island, the tides of Hudson Strait, and awe-inspiring Ungava Bay.

### **Visit Nuuk, Greenland's intriguing capital**

Take your time to wander the city of Nuuk, which offers a fascinating glimpse into [Greenland's](#) history—and future.

Enjoy the bustle of activity at the art galleries, cafés, and restaurants that possess a strong Scandinavian influence in their design, architecture, and flavours.

Look a little closer and you will see modern Inuit artworks and historic buildings from the whaling era dotting the streets, too.

Be sure to visit the [excellent museum](#), offering a deep dive into the fascinating history and culture of Greenland.

## **Appreciate Inuit life and culture in three Arctic regions**

Visit three distinct regions of the Arctic to appreciate the diversity and interconnectedness of Inuit life.

In Nunavut, admire how the art reveals the unique creative spirit of Inuit culture.

In [Nunavik](#), listen to the languages of Inuktitut, French, and English that can be heard among the hamlets of Ungava Bay.

And in Greenland, discover how self-governance and modern development are shaping the future while keeping cultural traditions, language, and values at the heart of daily life.

## **Learn from local experts**

Travel in the company of local knowledge-keepers and recognized experts to truly appreciate the depth of what the Arctic offers.

From geology to botany, archaeology to art, and climate change to language and heritage, you'll [learn as you go](#), deepening your understanding day by day—and having fun in the process!

## **HIGHLIGHTS**

Experience the extraordinary privilege of journeying through Inuit Nunangat—the ice, water, and lands of Inuit.

See and learn about the Qilakitsoq mummies at the Greenland National Museum in Nuuk

Seek polar bears, marine mammals, and seabirds in the rich waters of Hudson Strait

Visit Kinngait—the Inuit art capital of the world—and learn about Inuit art and culture from artists and experts

Discover Akpatok Island, a designated important bird area, which serves as a vital breeding ground for a significant portion of the global North Atlantic thick-billed murre population

Zodiac along the face of a Greenlandic glacier

Bask in the glowing Arctic light with 18-20 hours of daylight—a photographer's dream

Marvel at the tundra in summer bloom

## Itinerary

**Day 1:** Kangerlussuaq, Greenland

## **Cross the Arctic Circle**

Begin your journey by sailing out of Kangerlussuaq Fjord (Søndre Strømfjord), a 190-kilometre-long fjord surrounded by mountains and glaciers.

Cross the Arctic Circle on your way and spend time on deck watching for aurora borealis. Kangerlussuaq, the settlement at the head of the fjord, is a former US Air Force base. After your charter flight from Toronto, ON, you'll transfer to the ship by Zodiac.

**Day 2:** Kangerlussuatsiaq Fjord (Evighedsfjorden)

## **Take a Zodiac Cruise at the Foot of a Glacier**

Kangerlussuatsiaq means "the rather big fjord" in Greenlandic, while the Danish name Evighedsfjorden translates to "the fjord of eternity," underscoring its vastness and seemingly never-ending nature.

See why Kangerlussuatsiaq Fjord lives up to its name and marvel at this complex coastal waterway that includes calving glaciers, sheer bird cliffs, and streams cascading against a towering mountain backdrop.

Explore this sublime glacial landscape by ship and by Zodiac.

The waters here are relatively warm, due to the West Greenland Current and the subarctic location.

**Day 3:** Nuuk

## **Visit Museums, Shops, and Cafés**

Enjoy the chance to explore Nuuk, the capital of Greenland and the world's northernmost capital! Nuuk, meaning, "the headland," sits at the mouth of a gigantic fjord system.

Established as the first Greenlandic town in 1728, Nuuk remains the bustling centre of the country today. While here, we may catch sight of humpback whales in the fjord, reindeer roaming the land, and birds soaring overhead. The town itself is home to the University of Greenland, a cathedral dating back to 1849, and Greenland's National Museum.

We'll enjoy a guided orientation of this bustling metropolis and the opportunity to visit the National Museum where the world-famous Qilakitsoq mummies rest. You'll also have time to explore the city at your own leisure.

**Day 4:** At Sea — Davis Strait

## **Learn From Inuit in Their Homeland**

Deepen your understanding of the environment, cultures, and history of the region as we sail across the Davis Strait towards Canada. Get the privileged opportunity to engage with and learn from Inuit in their homeland.

Enjoy workshops and presentations, watch a documentary, and get out on deck! Try your hand at athletic feats during an interactive cultural performance of Inuit games.

Through shared experiences and interactions, develop a deep appreciation for the culture and gain a connection to the stunning landscapes we traverse.

Keep your binoculars ready to spot whales and seabirds who follow in our wake.

**Day 5-6:** Ungava Bay

## **Enjoy Fantastic Birdwatching**

Pay a visit to uninhabited Akpatok Island, the biggest island in Ungava Bay at over nine hundred square kilometres.

It's named for the akpait (thick-billed murre) that nest on ledges of the lofty cliffs and is home to Canada's largest colony of breeding pairs.

Take a Zodiac cruise to scout the shorelines and any outlying ice, keeping your eyes peeled for polar bears, walrus, and other marine life.

Large and shallow, Ungava Bay is a rich ecosystem and home to a variety of wildlife, including an endangered beluga population.

Day 7: Ungava Peninsula, QC

## **Hike the Tundra**

Explore an area of treeless tundra along the Ungava Peninsula of Nunavik. Delve into its geological wonders, immerse yourself in its rich flora and fauna, and connect with Inuit cultural educators who will guide you through their homeland, leaving a lasting impression.

Enjoy great hiking and a Zodiac cruise with our expedition team, who will provide insightful interpretation every step of the way. As you explore this magnificent landscape, keep an eye out for

wildlife and listen to Inuit stories that will deepen your connection to the land, leaving you with a lasting sense of fulfillment and renewed appreciation for nature's wonders.

**Day 8:** Salluit

## **Receive a Warm Welcome in an Inuit Community**

Journey to Salluit, the second northernmost community in Nunavik. With a population of approximately 1,500, this vibrant community offers a unique chance to connect with Inuit culture in the heart of the Canadian Arctic.

Explore local craftsmanship with the opportunity to purchase community-made products such as carvings, jewelry, mittens, and more.

Experience the warm hospitality of the locals as we gather in the community hall, where you'll learn traditions and contemporary ways of life. Take in the stunning surroundings with a scenic hike, exploring the rugged terrain and gaining a deeper understanding of the land and its people.

**Day 9:** Kinngait (Cape Dorset)

## **Visit World-Famous Art Studios**

Meet the artists and visit the studios that make Kinngait proud—plus, have the opportunity to purchase one-of-a-kind pieces of art!

Have a chance to talk with the old and new generations of outstanding artists, carvers, and printmakers who continue to make Kinngait a proud centre for fine art.

Kinngait was ground zero for the Inuit art market when, in 1959, the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative was established—the oldest professional Inuit printmaking studio in Canada.

**Day 10-11:** Hudson Strait

## **Seek Whales, Seabirds, and Polar Bears**

Join the expedition team out on deck while navigating the icy, fast-moving waters of the Hudson Strait.



Search for breathtaking Arctic wildlife—polar bears, walruses, whales, seals, and seabirds—to capture the perfect photograph. Enjoy hearing from Inuit about the region's wildlife and stunning landscapes as we seek the creatures that inhabit this area.

We'll make the most of every opportunity to explore, whether on foot or by embarking on a Zodiac cruise, amidst breathtaking backdrops.

**Day 12-13:** Frobisher Bay

### **Witness Wildlife, Geology, and Ice**

Sail through this beautiful bay named for bygone explorer Martin Frobisher and stay on the lookout for wildlife.

Our geologists will have you raving about rocks! Expect compelling scenery and soak up the Arctic splendour.

**Day 14:** Iqaluit, NU, Canada

### **Wave a Fond Farewell**

Transfer by Zodiac through Iqaluit harbour for your charter flight back home. Iqaluit, at the head of Frobisher Bay, is Nunavut's capital. A population of nearly 8,000 calls the city home. Local attractions include the territorial Legislature, igloo-inspired St. Jude's Cathedral, art shops, and more.

As your journey comes to a close, carry with you the lasting impression of the Arctic's beauty and the richness of its cultures, forever etched in your memories.