

SMALL-SHIP EXPEDITION CRUISE

East Greenland: Stories of Ice and Light

July 20–August 2, 2027

From **\$8,995** to **\$18,995** USD

Aboard the *Ocean Victory*

Starts: Reykjavík, Iceland

Ends: Toronto, ON, Canada

Charter Flights:

Southbound Charter Flight: \$1,650 USD

Nuuk, Greenland, Canada to Toronto, ON. Evening arrival.

Trip Summary

Sailing from Iceland's volcanic shores to Greenland's glacier-carved coastlines, this voyage takes you well north of the Arctic Circle through some of the most dramatic, yet untravelled landscapes on Earth. Over two weeks, travellers will experience the elemental beauty of the North—ice, light, ocean, and rock—in its most expressive forms.

Begin in Reykjavík, a city of geothermal warmth and creative spirit, before exploring Iceland's wild Westfjords. Crossing the Denmark Strait brings you to East Greenland, where the immense fjords of Kangertittivaq reveal the quiet grandeur of the Arctic. Here, days unfold slowly, filled with Zodiac excursions, guided hikes, and shared stories from Inuit cultural interpreters who connect past and present.

Visit the northern community of Ittoqqortoormiit, where daily life follows the rhythm of the seasons. Continue south through Ikerasassuaq, a mountain-lined passage where glaciers and ocean currents meet in a display of movement and light. Along Greenland's southern coast, discover the Norse ruins at Qaqortukulooq—among the best preserved in the Arctic—before arriving in Nuuk, Greenland's dynamic capital, where contemporary Inuit culture thrives.

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This journey invites both outward exploration and inward reflection. It is a voyage of contrasts and continuities—of ice and green, stillness and motion, human story and elemental force.



Itinerary

Day 1: Reykjavik, Iceland

Day 2: The Westfjords

Day 3: At Sea

Day 4–6: Kangertittivaq (Scoresby Sound), Greenland

Day 7: Ittoqqortoormit

Day 8–9: Eastern Greenland

Day 10: At Sea

Day 11: Ikerasassuaq (Prince Christian Sound)

Day 12: Uunartoq & Qaqortukuloq (Hvalsey)

Day 13: Sermersooq

Day 14: Nuuk, Greenland

Highlights

Reykjavík: gateway to the North

Iceland's capital is a city of warmth and imagination, where geothermal energy powers both daily life and creative spirit. Stroll along the harbour, explore cultural landmarks, and feel the blend of tradition and modern vision that defines this northern gateway.

The Westfjords: Iceland's quiet frontier

Sheer cliffs, green valleys, and the restless North Atlantic define Iceland's northwest corner. This is a landscape tuned to wind and tide, where each fjord holds a different tone of light and sea.

Kangertittivaq (Scoresby Sound): the great fjord system

At the slow heart of this journey lies **Kangertittivaq**, or **Scoresby Sound**—one of the world's largest fjord systems—revealing itself over days of unhurried exploration. By Zodiac and on foot, travellers move through a realm of deep waterways and shifting light. Glaciers calve into glassy water; mountains stand in still, commanding presence. In this meeting of scale and silence, the Arctic reveals its vastness and its quiet intimacy.

Ittoqqortoormiit: life by the ice

In this northern community, colour and creativity thrive against a backdrop of tundra and sea ice. Hunters, artists, and storytellers share traditions rooted in the rhythm of the seasons.

Ikerasassuaq: passage through peaks and ice

Witness this breathtaking channel framed by jagged, towering mountains and mirrored water, where ocean currents mix and surge beneath the changing moods of the northern seasons—a living reminder of the elemental forces that shape this coast and the humility they inspire. Stand on deck as fog drifts between the peaks, ice moves in restless tides, and glaciers glow in fractured light.

Qaqortukuloq: echoes of the Norse

Among the ruins of Qaqortukuloq (Hvalsey), the stones still hold the memory of early settlers who farmed these sheltered valleys. Moss creeps over ancient walls, and the silence of the fjord seems to carry the weight of centuries. Here, history is tangible—its presence felt in the wind and the shape of the land.

Nuuk: the living North

In Greenland's capital, the story continues in new forms. Art, language, and daily life speak to a culture that is both rooted and evolving. Museums, murals, and conversation reveal a city alive with creativity—a meeting point of tradition, modern expression, and the enduring pull of the Arctic landscape.

Highlights at a Glance

- The Westfjords' cliffs and coastlines, shaped by sea and silence
- Zodiac exploration among the vast fjords of Kangertittivaq
- Community visit in Ittoqqortoormiit
- The soaring peaks, shifting light, and surging currents of Ikerasassuaq
- The Norse ruins at Qaqortukuloq, where stone and story endure in Greenland's southern fjords
- The vibrant modern culture of Nuuk, alive with art, language, and contemporary Inuit expression

Itinerary

Day 1: Reykjavík, Iceland

Begin the Adventure

Reykjavík rises from steam and sea—colourful homes scattered across lava fields, the air hints of salt and the scent of sulfur. Beneath the streets, geothermal warmth hums quietly, as if the earth itself were breathing. It's a city of storytellers, where old sagas live comfortably beside cafés, music, and modern art.

Before departure, take time to wander the harbourfront or step into the National Culture House, where the Poetic Edda and Norse sagas rest in their original manuscripts. As evening settles, lights shimmer across Faxaflói Bay. The ship turns north, first toward the Westfjords, then onward to Greenland—vast, glacial, and alive with promise.

Day 2: The Westfjords

Explore Coastal Wilderness

In Iceland's far northwest, mountains drop straight into the sea. The air has the organic scent of seaweed; the wind breathes through the grass. Puffins and guillemots wheel over basalt cliffs, their cries carried on the breeze.

Travel along this rugged coast by Zodiac and on foot, pausing where tide pools reflect the sky. The Westfjords invite a slower rhythm—time to stand still, to listen, to let the landscape speak for itself. As the ship sails away, the cliffs fade into mist, and the open sea beckons.

Day 3: At Sea

Crossing the Denmark Strait

A day for inner and outer horizons—a time of learning as much about the mind as the sea's edge. The Atlantic deepens to cobalt; fulmars follow the ship's wake. Conversation, presentations, and hands-on workshops fill the lounge, or perhaps you would prefer a quiet corner on deck to watch the changing sea. Ahead lies Greenland—its first icebergs already visible on the edge of vision.

Days 4–6: Kangertittivaq (Scoresby Sound), Greenland

World's Largest Fjord System

Kangertittivaq—Scoresby Sound—is a labyrinth of fjords, islands, and ice reaching deep into East Greenland. Mountains rise sharply from still water; glaciers move with patient force. The light shifts constantly—from silver to blue, from glow to shadow.

Days spent exploring by Zodiac and on foot draw you deep into this seldom-visited landscape. Each landing offers a new glimpse of Arctic life: saxifrage bright against stone, the possibility of muskox grazing on slopes, the clean silence between echoes of calving ice.

Along the shore, traces of ancient Inuit camps show how long this landscape has been lived in and understood. Inuit cultural interpreters, who travel with us, share stories of ice, animal, and season, connecting past to present in ways no map can capture.

Evenings bring calm and reflection. Icebergs drift past like sculpted memory; the midnight sun hovers low, painting the water in impossible blues and golds. Ahead lies Ittoqqortoormiit, a far-northern community where the stories of land and sea meet and evolve.

Day 7: Ittoqqortoormiit

Community by the Ice

At the mouth of Kangertittivaq lies Ittoqqortoormiit, one of the world's northernmost communities, where brightly painted homes stand against sea, ice, and tundra. Life follows the rhythm of the seasons—hunting, fishing, and gathering—each activity shaped by deep knowledge of place and weather.

The local economy flows with these patterns: seal, narwhal, and muskox hunting; fishing for Arctic char; and the making of art and crafts in narwhal tusk, soapstone, and sealskin. Some residents work in guiding, education, or public service, while expedition visits and small-scale tourism add new layers of exchange. Yet the heart of life here remains close to the land and sea, bound to the movement of ice and the return of light.

Visitors are welcomed ashore by local hosts who share stories of their community and connection to the environment. Children's laughter mingles with the sound of sled dogs and the creak of sea ice. This is a place of continuity, not distance—where knowledge, tradition, and creativity sustain daily life. From here, the ship follows the coast south along Greenland's eastern edge, where glimpses of the island's vast ice sheet appear now and then along the mountainous fringe.

Days 8–9: Eastern Greenland

Fjords of Ice and Stone

Farther south along Greenland's east coast, the scenery grows wilder and more intricate. Mountains lean over the sea, glaciers split and tumble, and icebergs turn slowly in calm fjords the colour of steel and turquoise.

Zodiac cruises and landings bring travellers close to the cliffs, where ice and stone meet in sculpted silence. When conditions allow, hikes ashore offer a chance to feel the land underfoot and take in its stillness. In calm weather, reflections blur sea and sky until the world feels weightless. The ship then turns again toward open water—the route bending south into another shade of blue.

Day 10: At Sea

Open Water and Reflection

As we travel south along Greenland's east coast, the rhythm of the sea sets the tone for the day—calm, steady, and full of quiet wonder. The fjords give way to open water, and the coastline drifts by in shades of ice and rock, glacier and mist. Out on deck, guests linger to trace the slow movement of bergs, watch seabirds trace the wind, and feel the pulse of the North in every rolling swell.

Inside, the atmosphere is easy and engaging. An expedition team member might share stories of Greenland's geology, wildlife, or Inuit heritage, while others enjoy reading, journaling, or conversation over coffee. There's laughter on deck, the creak of the ship in gentle swells, and time to simply watch the world unfold. As the light shifts across the water, the day becomes both restful and rich—a pause between destinations that deepens connection to this vast and beautiful coast.

Day 11: Ikerasassuaq (Prince Christian Sound)

Where Seas and Mountains Meet

Sailing through Ikerasassuaq, one of the world's most dramatic waterways, jagged peaks of gneiss and granite rise in wild, serrated lines, streaked with waterfalls and glaciers. This is the moment to be on deck—watching light and ice shift with every turn—as the Irminger and Labrador Seas meet through Uummannarsuaq, the islands of the Cape Farewell Archipelago at Greenland's southern tip.

Calving ice cracks through the air; fog curls between cliffs; sunlight slides down the mountainsides. It's a passage that humbles and renews. South Greenland now opens ahead, lush with life.

Day 12: Uunartoq & Qaqortukuloq (Hvalsey)

Traces of the Norse

At Uunartoq, hot springs steam beside a cold bay—a meeting of extremes that feels almost ceremonial. Nearby stand the ruins of Qaqortukuloq (Hvalsey), once a Norse farmstead. Its stone church still holds its shape after six hundred years. The last written record from the colony describes a wedding here in 1408.

Today, only wind and birds move through the valley. Moss softens the stones; history feels close enough to touch. As the ship sails westward, the landscape grows greener, warmed by the North Atlantic Current that softens the climate along these southern coasts. It was in this area that Erik the Red established his settlements and, some say, named the island "Greenland"—perhaps to attract settlers, or perhaps inspired by this genuinely fertile and temperate shore.

Day 13: Sermersooq

Coastal Cruising and Wildlife

Sermersooq—the "place of many glaciers"—unfolds into deep valleys, bright tundra, and fjords lined with wildflowers in summer. This is a coastline alive with movement and sound: the sharp call of white-tailed eagles overhead, the sweep of glaucous gulls and kittiwakes along the cliffs, and now and then the soft exhale of a minke or humpback whale just beyond the bow. Beyond these fjords, the journey's final harbour awaits.

Day 14: Nuuk, Greenland

Cultural Heart of the North

The voyage ends in Nuuk, Greenland's capital—a city alive with art, language, and everyday life. On the waterfront, fishing boats, families, and sea ice share the same horizon.

Nuuk feels both timeless and forward-looking—a community rooted in tradition and alive with new ideas. As departure approaches, the northern light lingers, carrying the sense that the story continues—and that, in some quiet way, you are now part of it.



