



**Adventure
Canada**

Northwest Passage: Eastern Gateway has **two available sailings in 2028:**

[July 24–August 05, 2028](#)

[August 05–17, 2028](#)

SMALL-SHIP EXPEDITION CRUISE

Northwest Passage: Eastern Gateway

July 24–August 05, 2028

From **\$14,995** to **\$25,875** USD

Aboard the *Ocean Victory*

Starts: Toronto, ON, Canada

Ends: Ottawa, ON, Canada

Charter Flights:

Northbound Charter Flight: \$1,550 USD

Toronto, ON, Canada to Kangerlussuaq, Greenland.

Southbound Charter Flight: \$1,300 USD

Resolute, NU, Canada to Ottawa, ON, Canada.



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Expedition Summary

At the Eastern Gateway

High Arctic summer sets an immense world in motion. Daylight stretches far into the night, illuminating icebergs carried along the coast of Greenland and sea ice loosening within the channels of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago. Tundra plants flower, seabirds crowd coastal cliffs, and whales, walrus, seals, and polar bears follow the changing edge between ice and water. Across Baffin Bay, the season unfolds in movement, colour, sound, and extraordinary scale.

Within this expanse lies a deeply human world. The coasts of Greenland and Nunavut's Qikiqtani region form part of the wider Inuit homeland, connected across the water by shared cultural and linguistic roots. National boundaries and differing environments have also contributed to distinct lifeways, histories, and contemporary identities. Inuit guides and cultural educators bring these relationships into view, sharing perspectives formed through generations of travelling, harvesting, observing, and living within this dynamic environment.



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The richness of these waters has long drawn people from elsewhere. European whalers followed Greenland's coast, while expeditions crossed Baffin Bay seeking knowledge, commercial opportunity, and a navigable route west. Their journeys converged at Tallurutiup Imanga, the eastern gateway to the Northwest Passage. At Beechey Island, the first winter of Franklin's final expedition and the searches that followed remain written into the shoreline, while Inuit knowledge continues to deepen how this history is understood.

Tallurutiup Imanga lies at the ecological heart of the journey. Powerful currents and nutrient-rich waters sustain one of the Arctic's greatest concentrations of marine life, while its channels connect communities and remain important for travel and harvesting. Protected through Inuit leadership and stewardship, this immense marine region brings wildlife, culture, ice, and maritime history into close relationship.

The eastern gateway continues to draw travellers, researchers, artists, and naturalists seeking to understand a place that refuses to remain fixed. Exploration here begins with close attention to changing ice, wildlife, weather, and the knowledge of those who call this region home. Across the eastern gateway to the Northwest Passage, a northern world emerges whose relationships are deeper and more intricate than maps alone can convey.

Expedition Summary

Website & brochure copy · 80 words

At the Eastern Gateway

High Arctic summer sets an immense world in motion. Beneath daylight stretching far into the night, icebergs drift along Greenland's coast, sea ice loosens through the Canadian Arctic Archipelago, and wildlife follows the changing edge between ice and water. Journey across Baffin Bay between Greenland and Nunavut's Qikiqtani region, guided by Inuit perspectives. At Tallurutiup Imanga, the eastern gateway to the Northwest Passage, ecological abundance, Inuit stewardship, and the histories of whalers and explorers converge in a living Arctic seascape.



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Highlights

Experience High Arctic summer in motion

Travel during the height of the Arctic's brief summer, when daylight stretches far into the night and the landscape responds with remarkable energy. Sea ice loosens and shifts through the channels, tundra plants flower, and seabirds remain active around breeding cliffs. Whales, walrus, seals, and polar bears follow seasonal patterns through waters transformed by currents, ice, and light.

Travel through Inuit homelands alongside Inuit

Experience the profound privilege of travelling through Inuit homelands in Greenland and Nunavut. The journey unfolds through respectful exchange with Inuit cultural educators, artists, and knowledge holders who share perspectives shaped by kinship among people, water, ice, and *nuna* (the land).

As honoured guests, be welcomed into communities where laughter, drum dancing, and throat singing carry across the tundra. Learn words in local languages, sample country food, and walk the land alongside Inuit guides whose ancestral ties extend across generations. These encounters place Inuit voices, knowledge, and contemporary life at the centre of the journey.

Explore one of the Arctic's great marine ecosystems

Spend five days within Tallurutiup Imanga, the great marine passage between northern Baffin Island and Devon Island. Powerful currents and nutrient-rich waters sustain one of the Arctic's greatest concentrations of wildlife, including narwhal, beluga and bowhead whales, walrus, seals, polar bears, and immense seabird colonies. Shipboard exploration, Zodiac cruising, and walks ashore offer different perspectives on this protected marine region and the polar desert landscapes rising above it.

Enter an age of Arctic ambition

For more than a century, demand for whale oil and the promise of a Northwest Passage drew ships into these waters. Whalers pursued commercial fortunes, while naval expeditions, scientists, and mapmakers sought knowledge, imperial advantage, and an elusive route west. Explore the ambitions and legacy of an era that expanded geographical and scientific knowledge



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while intensifying commercial extraction, colonial expansion, and sustained southern presence across Inuit Nunangat and Greenland.

Ice takes centre stage

Experience the Arctic's defining element at every scale. Stand beside the UNESCO-listed Ilulissat Icefjord, where one of the world's most active glaciers sends immense icebergs towards Disko Bay. Sail among the great flotilla carried north along Greenland's coast, then enter High Arctic waters where drifting pack ice opens, closes, and rearranges the horizon. From towering blue faces to floes moving alongside the ship, this is a rare opportunity to travel within one of the planet's most dynamic environments of ice.

Highlights at a Glance

- Experience High Arctic summer in motion beneath long daylight as sea ice shifts, tundra flowers, seabirds gather, and wildlife follows seasonal routes through productive waters.
- Travel through Inuit homelands alongside Inuit, sharing community welcomes, country food, local languages, cultural traditions, and time on the land with Inuit guides and educators.
- Explore one of the Arctic's great marine ecosystems with five days in Tallurutiup Imanga, watching for abundant wildlife among protected waters and Devon Island's polar desert landscapes.
- Enter an age of Arctic ambition through the intertwined histories of whaling, science, empire, and the relentless European search for a Northwest Passage.
- See ice take centre stage at the Ilulissat Icefjord, among Greenland's great procession of icebergs, and within High Arctic waters animated by drifting pack ice.

Itinerary

July 24–August 05, 2028

Day 1: Kangerlussuaq, Greenland

Day 2: Sisimiut Coast

Day 3: Ilulissat



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Day 4: Western Greenland

Day 5: At Sea

Day 6–10: Tallurutiup Imanga (Lancaster Sound) and Devon Island, NU, Canada

Day 11: Ikpiarjuk (Arctic Bay)

Day 12: Beechey Island

Day 13: Qausuittuq (Resolute), NU, Canada

Itinerary

July 24–August 05, 2028

Day 1: Kangerlussuaq, Greenland

Cross the Arctic Circle to the Sea

Kangerlussuaq lies within a broad glacial valley between the Greenland Ice Sheet and the sea. Its dry climate and unusually stable weather led to the establishment of an American air base here during the Second World War and continue to make it one of Greenland's most important aviation gateways. The surrounding region has a much longer history as a place of Inuit travel and hunting.

After arriving by charter flight from Toronto, board the expedition vessel and begin the long passage through Kangerlussuaq Fjord. Mountains, glacial valleys, and pale meltwater mark the transition from Greenland's interior to its western coast. Crossing the Arctic Circle, the route opens towards the long light and expansive waters of High Arctic summer.

Day 2: Sisimiut Coast

A Landscape Travelled for Millennia

Greenland's Sisimiut coast unfolds as a complex meeting of islands, mountains, sheltered waterways, and deep fjords. At the height of summer, white cottongrass, dwarf birch, willow, and



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Arctic wildflowers spread across the tundra beneath dark rock. Seabirds are active along the coast, while whales may be encountered in the waters offshore.

Human history here reaches back more than 4,500 years. Archaeological traces left by successive cultures, including Saqqaq, Dorset, and Thule peoples, speak to generations of movement and adaptation along this coast. Zodiac cruises, hikes, and time ashore offer different ways to encounter a landscape where the sea has long connected hunting grounds, settlements, and travel routes.

Day 3: Ilulissat

Where Icebergs Are Born

Ilulissat means “icebergs,” a fitting name for a city beside one of the world’s great moving ice systems. At the head of the UNESCO-listed Ilulissat Icefjord, Sermeq Kujalleq ranks among the fastest and most active glaciers on Earth. Its immense icebergs travel slowly through the fjord before entering Disko Bay, continually transforming the seascape.

The icefjord has shaped human life here for more than four thousand years. That relationship continues in contemporary Ilulissat, a lively Greenlandic city where fishing boats crowd the harbour and the streets bustle with residents and travellers. Restaurants showcase Greenlandic ingredients, while cafés, shops, and the striking Ilulissat Icefjord Centre reflect the city’s growing cultural and creative energy.

Here, deep human history, contemporary city life, and constant environmental change come together at the edge of the ice.

Day 4: Western Greenland

Among Islands and Moving Ice

Northwest Greenland is a far-reaching world of islands, narrow channels, sheltered bays, and deep fjords enclosed by steep mountains. Glaciers descend from the ice sheet, while summer loosens sea ice and opens passages along the coast. The West Greenland Current carries immense icebergs northward, many beginning their journeys in Disko Bay before joining bergs released by glaciers farther north. Together, they form a moving flotilla of towers, arches, and fractured blue faces. During the nineteenth century, European whaling ships pressed through



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these ice-laden waters and across Melville Bay towards bowhead grounds in northern Baffin Bay and Tallurutiup Imanga.

Small communities occupy rocky islands and natural harbours throughout this intricate seascape. Fishing and hunting remain central to life, while boats connect settlements separated by water and rugged terrain. Explore by ship, Zodiac, and on foot, following shorelines busy with breeding seabirds and walking across tundra brightened by white cottongrass and summer wildflowers. Long hours of daylight illuminate the coast, where every channel offers a different arrangement of rock, water, and drifting ice.

Day 5: At Sea

Across the Great Northern Bay

Baffin Bay extends between Greenland and the Canadian Arctic, carrying currents, wildlife, sea ice, and immense drifting icebergs between its coasts. Icebergs moving north along Greenland may turn west through these waters before joining the southbound current along Baffin Island. Whales, seals, northern fulmars, kittiwakes, murre, and dovekies also travel and feed across this vast marine ecosystem.

A day aboard offers time to experience the scale of the crossing from the decks and observation spaces. Presentations, workshops, and conversations with Inuit cultural educators, naturalists, historians, and other expedition team members explore the wildlife, geography, cultures, and exploration history connecting both sides of the bay. Ahead lie Tallurutiup Imanga and the eastern gateway to the Northwest Passage.

Day 6–10: Tallurutiup Imanga (Lancaster Sound) and Devon Island, NU, Canada

Where the Passage Opens

Between northern Baffin Island and Devon Island, Tallurutiup Imanga opens westward from Baffin Bay into the waterways of the Northwest Passage. Known on many maps as Lancaster Sound, it is the great eastern gateway through which wildlife, people, ice, and ships have moved for generations. Its name means the waters surrounding *Tallurut*, the Inuktitut name for Devon Island, whose markings are said to resemble the lines of traditional chin tattoos.



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Powerful tides and currents mix nutrients through these waters, sustaining one of the Arctic's greatest concentrations of marine life. Narwhal, beluga, and bowhead whales, walrus, seals, and polar bears move through the region, while immense colonies of seabirds gather along its cliffs and islands. In High Arctic summer, long daylight offers time to watch for wildlife from ship, Zodiac, and shore as sea ice continues to shift through the channels.

Tallurutiup Imanga is also an artery connecting Inuit communities and an important place for travel, harvesting, and cultural practice. Its protection as one of Canada's largest National Marine Conservation Areas recognizes both its extraordinary ecological value and generations of Inuit knowledge and stewardship. Inuit expedition team members and naturalists interpret how currents, ice, wildlife, and human life interact across this complex marine environment.

Tallurut rises from these waters in broad plateaus, glacial valleys, gravel plains, and polar desert. Known in English as Devon Island, it is the world's largest island without a permanent population, although archaeological sites attest to a long history of Paleo-Inuit and Inuit presence. Walks and Zodiac explorations bring its immense geological scale and delicate summer tundra into closer view. Across water and land, Tallurutiup Imanga gathers the defining elements of the eastern gateway into one remarkable High Arctic region.

Day 11: Ikpiarjuk (Arctic Bay)

A Warm Welcome in the High Arctic

Ikpiarjuk sits within a natural amphitheatre of tall hills at the head of Adams Sound, where cliffs and sculpted rock formations rise above a sheltered harbour. Its Inuktitut name means "the pocket," a fitting description for a community held between mountains and sea on the northern coast of Baffin Island.

The surrounding waters and lands have drawn people here for generations. Fishing and the harvesting of seal, narwhal, and other wildlife remain important to food, travel, and community life. Inuktitut is widely spoken, carrying knowledge particular to this coast, while carving, sewing, education, local businesses, and other forms of contemporary work reflect a community continually defining its own future.

Ikpiarjuk is one of the communities most closely connected with Tallurutiup Imanga. Its waters provide travel routes and harvesting areas while linking the community with the wider Qikiqtani region. Time shared with residents offers an experience of Tallurutiup Imanga from the shore, expressed through language, creativity, daily life, and the welcome of those who know these waters as home.



Day 12: Beechey Island

In the Wake of Franklin

Beechey Island holds one of the most tangible chapters in the history of Northwest Passage exploration. Franklin's expedition spent the winter of 1845–46 here before sailing onward and disappearing. Three graves, remains of the camp, and stone structures left by later search expeditions still mark its stark shoreline.

Beechey became a gathering point for those who came north in search of Franklin, leaving supplies, messages, and traces of their own journeys. A fourth grave belongs to Thomas Morgan of HMS *Investigator*, who died during one of these searches. In the decades following Franklin's disappearance, dozens of expeditions entered the Arctic, charting extensive areas and extending European scientific and imperial attention across Inuit Nunangat.

Inuit testimony proved essential to tracing the expedition's final movements and, generations later, locating its lost ships. Beechey Island connects Franklin's failed voyage with its wider legacy, including expanded geographical knowledge, growing colonial ambitions, and an increasingly sustained southern presence in Inuit homelands.

Day 13: Qausuittuq (Resolute), NU, Canada

At a Crossroads of the High Arctic

Set among the gravel plains and raised beaches of Cornwallis Island, Qausuittuq occupies a strategic place within the waterways of the Canadian High Arctic. Its Inuktitut name means "place with no dawn," a reference to the long polar night, while the summer season brings light that lingers around the clock.

The modern community began with the Canadian government's High Arctic Relocation of 1953. The Qausuitturmiut who call it home have built a distinct community that now serves as an important centre for northern research, transportation, and expedition travel.

Disembark in Qausuittuq and transfer to the airport for the charter flight to Ottawa. Here, at a historic crossroads of Inuit travel, Arctic exploration, and contemporary northern life, the sea journey ends and the route turns south.



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Day 9: At Sea

Day 10: Western Greenland

Day 11: Ilulissat

Day 12: Sisimiut Coast

Day 13: Kangerlussuaq, Greenland



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Itinerary

August 05–17, 2028

Day 1: Qausuittuq (Resolute), NU, Canada

The North Beckons

Qausuittuq stands on the southern coast of Cornwallis Island, surrounded by gravel plains, raised beaches, and the broad waterways of the Canadian High Arctic. Its Inuktitut name means “place with no dawn,” a reference to the long polar night, although summer brings light that lingers around the clock.

The modern community began in 1953, when the Canadian government relocated Inuit families from Inukjuak and Mittimatalik to the High Arctic. Their descendants, known as Qausuitturmiut, have built a community with its own strong identity. Its strategic location has also made Qausuittuq an important centre for northern research, transportation, and expedition travel.

Arrive by charter flight from Ottawa and transfer by Zodiac to the expedition vessel. From this historic crossroads, the waterways of Tallurutiup Imanga and the eastern gateway to the Northwest Passage open ahead.

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Where the Passage Opens

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Day 9: At Sea

Across the Great Northern Bay

Baffin Bay extends between the Canadian Arctic and Greenland, carrying currents, wildlife, sea ice, and immense drifting icebergs between its coasts. Whales and seals move through this vast marine ecosystem, while northern fulmars, kittiwakes, murres, and dovekeys range far from land beneath the long summer light.

A day aboard offers time to experience the scale of the crossing from the decks and observation spaces. Presentations, workshops, and conversations with Inuit cultural educators, naturalists, historians, and other expedition team members explore the wildlife, geography, cultures, and maritime history connecting both sides of the bay.

Beyond the eastern horizon lies northwest Greenland, where mountains, glaciers, islands, and narrow channels rise from waters travelled for generations by Kalaallit and later by whalers and Arctic expeditions.



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Day 10: Western Greenland

Among Islands and Moving Ice

Northwest Greenland is a far-reaching world of islands, narrow channels, sheltered bays, and deep fjords enclosed by steep mountains. Glaciers descend from the ice sheet, while summer loosens sea ice and opens passages along the coast. The West Greenland Current carries immense icebergs northward, many beginning their journeys in Disko Bay before joining bergs released by glaciers farther north. Together, they form a moving flotilla of towers, arches, and fractured blue faces. During the nineteenth century, European whaling ships pressed through these ice-laden waters and across Melville Bay towards bowhead grounds in northern Baffin Bay and Tallurutiup Imanga.

Small communities occupy rocky islands and natural harbours throughout this intricate seascape. Fishing and hunting remain central to life, while boats connect settlements separated by water and rugged terrain. Explore by ship, Zodiac, and on foot, following shorelines busy with breeding seabirds and walking across tundra brightened by white cottongrass and summer wildflowers. Long hours of daylight illuminate the coast, where every channel offers a different arrangement of rock, water, and drifting ice.

Day 11: Ilulissat

Where Icebergs Are Born

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Day 12: Sisimiut Coast

A Landscape Travelled for Millennia

Greenland's Sisimiut coast unfolds as a complex meeting of islands, mountains, sheltered waterways, and deep fjords. Late summer brings colour to the tundra, with Arctic cotton, crowberry, dwarf birch, and willow spreading across slopes beneath dark rock. Seabirds are active along the coast, while whales may be encountered in the waters offshore.

Human history here reaches back more than 4,500 years. Archaeological traces left by successive cultures, including Saqqaq, Dorset, and Thule peoples, speak to generations of movement and adaptation along this coast. Zodiac cruises, hikes, and time ashore offer different ways to encounter a landscape where the sea has long connected hunting grounds, settlements, and travel routes.

Day 13: Kangerlussuaq, Greenland

At the Head of the Great Fjord

Kangerlussuaq lies within a broad glacial valley between the Greenland Ice Sheet and the sea. Its name means "big fjord," reflecting the immense waterway that reaches nearly two hundred kilometres inland. The surrounding region holds a much longer history of Inuit travel and hunting across a landscape connecting the coast with the ice sheet.

The journey enters Kangerlussuaq Fjord during the long light of mid-August. Mountains and broad glacial valleys rise above pale water coloured by suspended sediment, while the lower evening sun brings depth to the rock and tundra. As the route follows the fjord inland and crosses the Arctic Circle, the maritime world of Baffin Bay gradually gives way to Greenland's continental interior.

Kangerlussuaq's dry climate and comparatively stable weather led to the establishment of an American airbase here during the Second World War and continue to make it an important aviation gateway. After disembarkation, transfer to the airport for the charter flight south.