

Spitsbergen & Northeast Greenland Cruise

WITH
THE FRIENDS OF THE SCOTT POLAR RESEARCH INSTITUTE

SteppesTravel



Your experience

This Spitsbergen and Northeast Greenland expedition cruise has been put together in conjunction with The Friends of the Scott Polar Research Institute. There are very few polar voyages available which offer so much variety in terms of wildlife and landscapes, which is what makes this particular trip so compelling.

- Hosted by Julian and Evelyn Dowdeswell, and John Shears from SPRI
- Travel in the wake of British Arctic explorers, Poole, Clavering and Scoresby
- Take to the icy blue waters in zodiacs, exploring jagged coastlines and calm bays
- Voyage aboard the comfortable, 108 passenger expedition vessel, Ortelius

FROM £7,975* PER PERSON
27TH AUGUST – 9TH SEPTEMBER 2022

*BASED IN A TWIN PORTHOLE CABIN EXCLUDING INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS. OTHER CABIN OPTIONS AND SINGLE SUPPLEMENT AVAILABLE ON REQUEST.



Prices

CABIN TYPE	PRICE PP
Quad Share Cabin	£5,725
Twin Porthole Cabin	£7,975
Twin Window Cabin	£8,750
Twin Deluxe Cabin	£9,225
Superior Cabin	£10,295

INCLUDES

- Voyage aboard the Ortelius on a full board basis including snacks, coffee and tea
- Accompanied by Julian, Evelyn and John throughout
- All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac
- Program of lectures by noted naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff
- Transfers and baggage handling between the airport, hotels and ship
- Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme
- AECO fees and governmental taxes



Twin Porthole Cabin



Superior Cabin

Your itinerary

27TH AUGUST 2022

Embark Ortelius in Longyearbyen, Spitsbergen.

28TH AUGUST 2022

Sail towards Raudfjorden, on the north coast of Spitsbergen. The cliffs and shoreline of this fjord also support thriving seabird colonies, rich vegetation, and the possibility of polar bears.

29TH – 30TH AUGUST 2022

Set sail for Greenland. Keep watch for whales and migrating seabirds.



31ST AUGUST 2022

Arrive at Clavering Island in remote Northeast Greenland. Bones of muskoxen and Arctic hare suggest that the Inuit were hunting in this area. Nowadays we may encounter muskoxen in this region.

In the afternoon, land at Myggebugten.

From here, sail through Kaiser Franz Joseph Fjord, a magnificent fjord with towering mountains on both sides, its inner reaches choked with huge icebergs



Your itinerary

1ST SEPTEMBER 2022

Arrive at Teufelschloss (Devil's Castle), a mountain with layered geology.

2ND SEPTEMBER 2022

Enter Segelsällskapets Fjord, with the streaked slopes of the Berzelius Mountains bordering the north side.

3RD SEPTEMBER 2022

Explore Antartichavn, an extensive valley where groups of musk oxen are frequently spotted.



4TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Explore Scoresbysund, sailing along the glaciated Volquart Boons Kyst. Visit Danmark Island, find the remains of an Inuit settlement abandoned around 200 years ago.

5TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Zodiac cruise near Røde Island, one of the world's most cherished iceberg attractions: The austere blue-white of the icebergs sets sharp against the brooding red backdrop of the sediment slopes.



Your itinerary

6TH SEPTEMBER 2022

In the morning you encounter colossal icebergs, some over 100 meters high and more than a kilometres long.

Land near Sydkap, with fine views of Hall Bredning and a good shot of seeing Arctic hares.

7TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Make a tundra landing on Liverpool Land, in Hurry Inlet. The afternoon stop is Ittoqqortoormiit, the largest settlement in Scoresbysund at about five hundred inhabitants.



7TH SEPTEMBER 2022

In the afternoon you sail south, passing the picturesque landscapes of the Blosseville Coast.

8TH SEPTEMBER 2022

A sea day grants you the opportunity to spot whales and seabirds – and at night, the magical northern lights (Aurora Borealis).

9TH SEPTEMBER 2022

Disembark in Akureyri. From here, transfer by bus to Reykjavik



Ortelius

Originally built in Poland in 1989 as an ice-strengthened passenger vessel, the 298-foot-long Ortelius spent many years plying the frozen waters of the Arctic and Northern Pacific before being totally refurbished in 2005.

Sleeping a total of 108 passengers, the vessel provides comfortable (but not luxurious) cabins that range from quads to suites, each with a private bathroom. She carries a fleet of zodiacs for landings.



A polar bear is lying down on a snow-covered rocky island. The bear is white with a black nose and is looking towards the left. The background consists of dark, jagged rocks and snow. The text "Spitsbergen" is overlaid on the image in a large, white, serif font.

Spitsbergen

Lying about half way between Norway and the North Pole, Spitsbergen is the largest island in the Svalbard archipelago.

Spitsbergen is one of the best places in the Arctic to observe polar bears in their natural habitat. As well as a variety of other mammals such as the Arctic fox , Svalbard reindeer, walrus and prolific birdlife.



Greenland

Greenland is both the world's largest island and its least densely populated country. For much of the year, it is ice-locked and little visited. Thus, in spite of its name - it was named to try and entice settlers - it is not green, at least not for most of the year. However, as the pack ice breaks up, late summer offers a brief opportunity to access its dramatic mountain scenery, colourful communities and gigantic icebergs.



The Friends of The Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI)

Established in 1920 as part of the University of Cambridge, The Scott Polar Research Institute is a centre of excellence in the study of the Arctic and Antarctic. SPRI's mission is to enhance the understanding of the polar regions through scholarly research and publication, educating new generations of polar researchers, and projecting the history and environmental significance of the polar regions to the wider community for public benefit.

This Arctic cruise is in partnership with The Friends of The Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI) and will be accompanied by expert glaciologists, Julian and Evelyn Dowdeswell.



Julian Dowdeswell



Julian is a glaciologist, working on the form and flow of glaciers and ice caps and their response to climate change.

In a career of over 30 years, he has taught in the Universities of Aberystwyth, Bristol and Cambridge.

Since 2002, he has been Director of the Scott Polar Research Institute, including its Polar Museum.

Julian graduated from the University of Cambridge in 1980 and studied for a master's degree at the Institute of Arctic and Alpine Research in the University of Colorado and for a Ph.D. in the Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge.

Julian was awarded the Polar Medal by Her Majesty the Queen for 'outstanding contributions to glacier geophysics' and has also received the Founder's Gold Medal (2008) from the Royal Geographical Society.

Julian has also spoken recently on polar environmental change at the World Economic Forum in Davos and represented the UK at a White House meeting on the Arctic.



Evelyn Dowdeswell



Evelyn Dowdeswell is a glaciologist, working in the Bristol Glaciology Centre.

Her main research interests are the form and flow of glaciers and ice sheets using satellite remote sensing techniques and glacial geology and sedimentology.

She has carried out field work in Baffin Island, Spitsbergen and Antarctica.

She has also written a book on Captain Scott and the history of his exploration of Antarctica for young children.



John Shears



John is a polar geographer and environmental scientist, with over 25 years of experience of working in both Antarctica and the Arctic, first with the British Antarctic Survey and then with the Scott Polar Research Institute at the University of Cambridge.

John was also an environmental and operations adviser to the UK government in Antarctic Treaty discussions for more than 20 years, and was a UK Antarctic Treaty Inspector in 2005, 2012 and 2015.

In 2017, John started up his own company, Shears Polar Limited, to provide expert lecturing, expedition guiding, and consultancy services for projects in the polar regions.





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