

# North Spitsbergen, Polar Bear Special

*The best opportunity to spot the King of the Arctic*



Title: North Spitsbergen, Polar Bear Special

Dates: 15 Jun - 22 Jun, 2018

Tripcode: PLA06-18

Duration: 7 nights

Ship: [m/v Plancius](#)

Embarkation: Longyearbyen

Disembarkation: Longyearbyen

Language: English speaking voyage

Summary: [Download cruise info in PDF](#)

More about: [Arctic cruises](#)  
[Svalbard cruises](#)

---

## ITINERARY

---

*PLEASE NOTE: All itineraries are for guidance only. Programs may vary depending on ice, weather, and wildlife conditions. The on-board expedition leader determines the final itinerary. Average cruising speed for m/v Plancius is 10,5 knots.*

## **Day 1: Largest Town on the Largest Island**

You touch down in Longyearbyen, the administrative center of Spitsbergen, the largest island of the Svalbard archipelago. Enjoy strolling around this former mining town, whose parish church and Svalbard Museum make for fascinating attractions. Though the countryside appears stark, more than a hundred species of plant have been recorded in it. In the early evening the ship sails out of Isfjorden, where you might spot the first minke whale of your voyage.

## **Day 2: Route to Raudfjorden**

Sailing to Raudfjorden, on the north coast of West Spitsbergen, you take in an expansive fjord spilling with glaciers – and maybe even visited by ringed and bearded seals. The cliffs and shoreline of this fjord also support thriving seabird colonies, rich vegetation, and the possibility of polar bears.

## **Day 3: The Massive Monaco Glacier**

Depending on the weather, you could sail into Liefdefjorden and cruise within sight of the 5-kilometer-long (3.1 miles) face of the precipitous Monaco Glacier. The waters in front of this glacier are a favorite feeding spot for thousands of kittiwakes, and the base of the ice is a popular polar bear hunting ground. If ice conditions prevent sailing here early in the season, an alternate route along the west coast of Spitsbergen can be implemented.

## **Day 4: Hinlopen Highlights**

### **Included in this voyage**

*Voyage aboard the indicated vessel as indicated in the itinerary*

*All meals throughout the voyage aboard the ship including snacks, coffee and tea.*

*All shore excursions and activities throughout the voyage by Zodiac.*

*Program of lectures by noted naturalists and leadership by experienced expedition staff.*

*Free use of rubber boots and snowshoes.*

*Transfers and baggage handling between the airport, hotels and ship only for those passengers on the group flights to and from Longyearbyen.*

*All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the programme.*

*AECO fees and governmental taxes.*

*Comprehensive pre-departure material.*

### **Excluded from this voyage**

*Any airfare, whether on scheduled or charter flights*

*Pre- and post- land arrangements.*

*Passport and visa expenses.*

*Government arrival and departure taxes.*

*Meals ashore.*

*Baggage, cancellation and personal insurance (which is mandatory).*

Today you sail into Hinlopen Strait, home to bearded and ringed seals as well as polar bears. At the entrance there is even the possibility to spot blue whales. After cruising among the ice floes of Lomfjordshalvøya in the Zodiacs, you then view the bird cliffs of Alkefjellet with their thousands of Brünnich's guillemots. On the east side of Hinlopen Strait, you may attempt a landing on Nordaustlandet. Here reindeer, pink-footed geese, and walrus are likely sights. As with Liefdefjorden, you can take an alternate west Spitsbergen route if ice prevents entry into Hinlopen.

### **Day 5: Stop at the Seven Islands**

The northernmost point of your voyage may be north of Nordaustlandet, in the Seven Islands. Here you reach 80° north, just 540 miles from the geographic North Pole. Polar bears inhabit this region, so the ship may park for several hours among the pack ice before wheeling around west again.

### **Day 6: Sailing the Shelf**

While retracing your route west, keep watch for polar bears and elusive Greenland (bowhead) whales. About 40 nautical miles west of Spitsbergen, you sail the edge of the continental shelf. Here fin whales forage during the summer in the upwelling zones – this is where cold, nutrient-rich water wells up from below the sea's surface – that run along the Spitsbergen banks. At the mouth of Kongsfjorden, you have a good chance of sighting minke whales.

### **Day 7: Reindeer, Foxes, and Seabirds**

Walrus sometimes haul out in Forlandsundet, your next stop. Alternatively, you might sail into St. Johns Fjord or south to the mouth of Isfjorden, landing at

*Excess baggage charges and all items of a personal nature such as laundry, bar, beverage charges and telecommunication charges.*

*The customary gratuity at the end of the voyages for stewards and other service personnel aboard (guidelines will be provided).*

Alkhornet. Seabirds nest on these cliffs, Arctic foxes search below for fallen eggs and chicks, and reindeer graze the sparse vegetation. You arrive in Longyearbyen later that night.

### **Day 8: Journey's End in Longyearbyen**

Every adventure, no matter how grand, must eventually come to an end. You disembark in Longyearbyen for your flight home, but with memories that will accompany you wherever your next adventure lies.

---

## **M/V PLANCIUS**

---

The ice-strengthened vessel Plancius is an ideal vessel for polar expedition cruises in the Arctic and Antarctic. [Full ship info >>](#)

## ACTIVITIES YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN

### Snowshoeing

FREE



**Take a casual stroll along the Polar shores, or challenge yourself with a more advanced trek.**

We offer a variety of snow-shoeing treks to suit your experience and your desired level of activity. No snow-shoeing experience? No problem! We'll get you suited up and get you marching across the pristine snows of the Arctic or Antarctic landscapes in no time at all.

## CABINS & PRICES

### Quadruple Porthole



1 porthole  
2 upper & lower berths  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone and Internet connection  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space

This cabin is suitable for families traveling with children, or passengers who do not require a twin or more luxurious cabin



#### Sharing berth

Share your cabin with others for the best price

€3150



#### Complete cabin

Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

€12600

### Triple Porthole



1 porthole  
1 upper berth & 2 lower berths  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone and Internet connection  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space

This cabin is suitable for families traveling with children, or passengers who do not require a twin or more luxurious cabin



#### Sharing berth

Share your cabin with others for the best price

€3900



#### Complete cabin

Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

€11700

## Twin Porthole



- 1 porthole
- 2 lower berths
- Private shower & toilet
- Desk & chair
- Flatscreen TV
- Telephone and Internet connection
- Hair dryer
- Ample storage space



### Sharing berth

Share your cabin with others for the best price

€4400



### Single cabin

Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate).

€7480



### Complete cabin

Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

€8800

## Twin Window



- 1 window
- 2 lower berths
- Private shower & toilet
- Desk & chair
- Flatscreen TV
- Telephone and Internet connection
- Hair dryer
- Ample storage space



### Sharing berth

Share your cabin with others for the best price

€4800



### Single cabin

Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate).

€8160



### Complete cabin

Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

€9600

## Twin Deluxe



2 windows  
2 lower berths  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone and Internet connection  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space  
These cabins are corner cabins and are slightly more spacious than the normal twin porthole/window cabins



### Sharing berth

Share your cabin with others for the best price

€5100



### Single cabin

Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate).

€8670



### Complete cabin

Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

€10200

## Superior



2 windows  
1 double bed  
1 sofa bed  
Private shower & toilet  
Desk & chair  
Flatscreen TV  
Telephone and Internet connection  
Refrigerator  
Coffee & tea maker  
Hair dryer  
Ample storage space



### Single cabin

Price for the complete cabin occupied by 1 person (1.7x the shared rate).

€9775



### Complete cabin

Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

€11500