

North Spitsbergen, Hike & Sail, Arctic Spring



Title:	North Spitsbergen, Hike & Sail, Arctic Spring
Dates:	25 May - 1 Jun, 2018
Tripcode:	RVR18-18
Duration:	7 nights
Ship:	s/v Rembrandt van Rijn
Embarkation:	Longyearbyen
Disembarkation:	Longyearbyen
Language:	English speaking voyage
Important:	Hiking expedition voyage with focus on walks onshore. N.B.: deviating itinerary as mentioned in day by day.
More about:	Arctic cruises Svalbard cruises

ITINERARY

PLEASE NOTE: Hiking expedition voyage with focus on walks onshore. N.B.: deviating itinerary as mentioned in day by day. At the end of a long Arctic winter, spring is starting to awaken. The climate, however, still clings to the cold: snow-covered mountains, snow-swept shores, temperatures around -4°C (25°F). It's a good time to experience the last of winter scenery, and with a little luck, also see some polar bears, walrus, and seals. Bird Note: It is still somewhat quiet on the cliffs, as this time of year the cliff-nesting birds are only just picking out their places for breeding, which happens later in June. All itineraries are for guidance only. Programs may vary depending on local ice, weather, and wildlife conditions. Flexibility is paramount for expedition cruises. Willingness to compromise on comfort is a basic requirement on board a historic sailing vessel. Important information about the sailing program: The boat is equipped with sails to be used in good conditions (based on open sea, water depth, wind, and time). This is not guaranteed. The captain decides whether to use the sails or the engine. There is no claim to one or the other propulsion method. If sails are used, the crew operates them. Guests follow the safety instructions of the team. Average cruising speed for s/v Rembrandt van Rijn is 6.5 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 evening you sail for Trygghamna, where you see the remains of a 17th century English whaling station and 18th century Pomor hunting station, both of which you can visit the next morning.

Day 2: Foxes, Seabirds, and Reindeer

From Trygghamna you walk to Alkhornet, a large seabird cliff where the birds are scouting out breeding spots. Below the cliffs is a common place to catch a glimpse

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 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.

of Arctic foxes, and you may also see reindeer grazing on the lush vegetation if there's not too much snow.

Day 3 - 4: Earth's Northernmost Community

You head north for Kongsfjorden and Krossfjorden. The landscape is likely to show signs of winter, the crags and slopes still blanketed with snow. Here there are rich opportunities for snowshoeing – we provide the snowshoes – and visiting places of historic interest: Ny London, where you can see the remains of early 20th century marble mining, and Ny Ålesund, the northernmost community in the world. There are also research stations and the famous anchor mast of the dirigible Norge, which took the first flight across the North Pole to Nome, Alaska in 1926. Krossfjorden offers views of colossal glaciers and lofty mountain peaks, but ultimately the extent of fjord ice dictates the itinerary here.

Day 5: Walrus (and Seal) Watching

Cutting south between the main island of west Spitsbergen and Prins Karls Forland, you may encounter walrus at Poolepynten, a common haul-out site. You also have views of St. Johns fjorden, near Gaffelbreen. The winter ice may not have loosened its grip on the water here, and seals (ringed and bearded) could be numerous in the area.

Day 6 - 7: Wide Tundra, Tall Mountains

You re-enter Isfjorden and venture into Ymerbukta, possibly embarking on a walk in this mountainous area. Here you find an expansive tundra with its own avifauna (depending on when spring arrives) as well as spectacular geological formations along the coast. Further northeast, near Ekmanfjorden, you have the chance for

Meals ashore.

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

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).

another hike. Common to this area are myriad glaciers that terminate near or in the sea. In Gipsvika you can go on shore near the cliff of Templet, a mountainous location of eroded sedimentary rock from the Upper Carboniferous period – around 290 million years ago.

Day 8: There and Back Again

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.

S/V REMBRANDT VAN RIJN

Our 3 mast-schooner 'Rembrandt van Rijn' is well suited for expedition cruising among the fjords of Greenland and Spitsbergen. [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.

Hiking

FREE



Adventure inland at your own pace

It's said that there's really no better way to get to know a new place than to explore it on foot. That's why we offer a variety of hikes of various difficulties allowing you to choose anything between a hard day's hike and an easy stroll that lets you take in the sights.

CABINS & PRICES

Triple Private Porthole



1 porthole
1 upper/lower berth + 1 lower berth
Private shower and toilet
Ample storage space



Sharing berth
Share your cabin with others for the best price

2990 USD



Complete cabin
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

8970 USD

Twin Private Inside



1 upper / lower berth
Private shower and toilet
Ample storage space



Sharing berth
Share your cabin with others for the best price

3210 USD



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

5457 USD



Complete cabin
Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

6420 USD

Twin Private Porthole



1 porthole
1 upper / lower berth
Private shower and toilet
Ample storage space



Sharing berth

Share your cabin with others for the best price

3680 USD



Single cabin

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

6256 USD



Complete cabin

Price for the complete cabin, fully occupied.

7360 USD