

Girls On Tour: High Arctic Explorer and Norway

Encompassing the Arctic; Iceland, Greenland, Svalbard and Norway



Saturday 10 August 2019
DEPART FOR REYKJAVIK,
ICELAND 2 nights

Sun 11 Aug - REYKJAVIK
Arrive Reykjavik and transfer to hotel. Balance of day free. (D)

Mon 12 Aug - SOUTH EAST COAST
Our first day of touring includes Reykjanesviti Lighthouse, Gunnhver hot springs, Brimketill hot spring and The Blue Lagoon. Highlights include learning the legend of the Gunnhver Hot Springs, visiting Iceland's oldest Lighthouse, seeing the geological gems; Brimketill, Kleifarvatn & Krýsvuik hot springs and bathing in the Blue Lagoon. (B,D)

Tue 13 Aug - SOUTH EAST COAST
Today we tour 'The Golden Circle' including Pingvellir National Park, Geysir hot spring valley, Gullfoss waterfall and we learn about the Icelandic horses and what makes them unique. (B,D)

Wed 14 Aug - SOUTH EAST COAST
Majestic waterfalls and black sand beaches await us today as we visit the Seljalandsfoss and Skógafoss waterfalls and Reynisfjara. The historic Fjaðrárgljúfur Canyon is a true highlight today. (B,D)

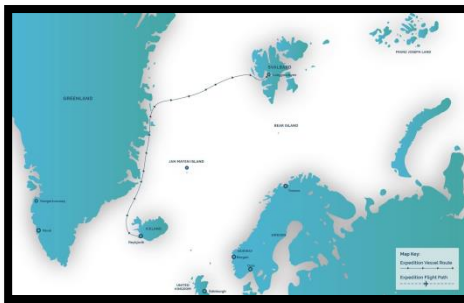
Thu 15 Aug - VATNAJÖKULL & SKAFTAFELL NATIONAL PARK
Amphibian boat tour on Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon – Diamond beach – Fjallsárlón glacier lagoon – Skaftafell

national park (great variety of hiking paths). (B,D)

Fri 16 Aug - REYKJAVIK
Visit of LAVA Centre exhibition – Hveragerði hot spring valley – Reykjavík city tour – returning to Hotel in Reykjavík. (B)

Sat 17 Aug - EMBARK POLAR PIONEER - 14 DAYS
Free time in the morning to continue exploring Reykjavik and shopping for last minute gifts. Transfer from Reykjavík city centre to Reykjavík cruise ship port to embark on Polar Pioneer. (B,D)

Sun 18 Aug - DENMARK STRAIT
We sail across Denmark Strait, reflecting on our rich experiences and enjoying the antics of northern fulmars, black-backed gulls, dolphins, orcas and other whales. (B,L,D)



Mon 19 Aug - GREENLAND COAST
Sail along the Blosssevill Coast, search for musk ox and narwhals and marvel at the mountain scenery that dominates the skyline. If weather permits, we head for Rømer Fjord, a deep waterway with stunning mountain views. (B,L,D)

Tue 20 - Thu 22 Aug - SCORESBY SUND
In Scoresby Sound, the world's biggest fjord system, massive glaciers calve explosively, creating giant icebergs. Near Rode Island, our Zodiacs weave through a maze of grounded icebergs, some more than 30 metres high, sculpted with deep green tunnels and aquamarine lakes. Enjoy a warm Ittoqqortoormiit welcome



from Inuit who are happy to share their culture. Our kayakers find ideal paddling conditions, winding their way through interconnected waterways, watching for polar bears and narwhals. (B,L,D)

Fri 23 - Sun 25 Aug - EXPLORING GREENLAND
An ice cap covers 81% of Greenland and pack ice, even in summer, may fill northern bays. Ashore, cosy trappers' huts beckon from across the tundra, where musk ox, Arctic hare and eider ducks roam in Kejser Franz Josef Fjord. Lively cascades at Kap Humboldt provide a microclimate for spectacular hanging gardens. Kong Oskar Fjord offers spectacular glacier-carved mountains. (B,L,D)

MON 26 - Tue 27 Aug - GREENLAND SEA
Crossing the Greenland Sea, our expert naturalists and guest lecturers entertain us with fascinating talks on plants, animals and early explorers like Nansen, Andrée and Scoresby. We keep an eye out for fin whales, encroaching sea ice and seabirds. Relax and prepare for a landing, if conditions permit on Greenland's northeast coast, home to polar bear, Arctic hare and musk oxen. (B,L,D)



Departing Saturday 10 August, 2019 - 30 days



Wed 28 - Thu 29 Aug - SPITSBERGEN, SVALBARD

Spitsbergen's northwest coast features calving icebergs, historic whaling stations and trappers' camps. Brunnich's guillemots, little auks and kittiwakes nest in their thousands. Reindeer roam tundra dotted with wildflowers like saxifrage, moss campion and bell-heather. Zodiac to gain fantastic views of ice cliffs, including Monacobreen, one of Spitsbergen's largest glaciers. In the north, we look

INCLUSIONS

- Return international Economy flights
- All transfers at destination and internal flights as shown
- All transport in air-conditioned coaches.
- 3-4 star hotel accommodation
- Breakfast each day. Other meals as shown. All meals on ship.
- Comfort package at Blue Lagoon
- All entries and touring as shown on itinerary.
- Full time Australian escort .
- Polar jacket yours to keep, shoes provided for use on ship.
- Information Kit and pre-departure information and advice
- Polar Pioneer Photobook of your cruise

EXCLUSIONS

- Tips and gratuities
- Airline taxes subject to change
- Personal items, travel insurance
- Anything not specified above

Contact Judy on 0409 057 417 or info@girlsontour.com.au for bookings or more details.

Website: www.girlsontour.com.au
Cost pp - Twin Share \$24,868 AUD (land and sea)

Single supp (Land only) \$2,073 AUD
Single not available at sea

**based on minimum group of 12 and subject to currency fluctuations.*

for walrus and possibly polar bears. (B,L,D)

Fri 30 Aug – SPITSBERGEN TO OSLO, NORWAY 2 nights

Our voyage comes to an end today and we say our goodbyes to new friends, the expedition team and cruise. We disembark the Polar Pioneer shortly after breakfast and transfer to Longyearbyen airport for our journey to Oslo, Norway and new adventures. (B)

Sat 31 Aug– OSLO, NORWAY

Today is a free day to relax and explore at your own leisure in this beautiful Scandinavian city. (B)

Sun 1 Sep – OSLO TO FLÅM

Today we board the train bound for Myrdal, a spectacular train journey that offers a panoramic view of some of the most magnificent landscapes of Norway. Upon arrival at the mountain station of Myrdal you change trains and travel by the Flåm Railway, one of the steepest train lines in the world. Our big luggage will be transferred to Bergen and we will take only an overnight bag for 3 nights. On our arrival in Flåm we will enjoy a bus tour to Stegastein viewpoint where you'll experience a fantastic fjord view and a closeness with nature. (B,D)

Mon 2 Sep - FLÅM TO LOFTHUS

This morning we board a vessel to travel through the Nærøyfjord landscapes to Gudvangen. On arrival in Gudvangen will drive to the very top of the Nærøydalen Canyon and then on to the historical town of Voss and then Lofthus, beautifully situated by the stunning Hardangerfjord where we will spend



the night. (B,D)

Tue 3 Sep - LOFTHUS TO BERGEN 3 nights

We continue on today to Bergen, crossing the Hardanger Bridge, one of the longest suspension bridges in the world, the longest in Norway and passing by Nordheimsund, including a short stop at the Steindalsfossen waterfall, where guests can walk behind the waterfall and enjoy some fantastic views. Arrive in Bergen, the beautiful Hanseatic town on the west coast of Norway. (B)

Wed 4 Sep - BERGEN

Today a walking tour of Bergen including the fish market, the old Hanseatic warehouses, the cathedral and many charming wooden houses. Enjoy a ride by the funicular to Mount Fløyen for your last panoramic view of Norway. The rest of the day is yours to explore this quaint, beautiful city. (B)

Thu 5 Sep – BERGEN

Today is yours to relax or explore this interesting and colourful city further. (B)

Fri 6 Sep – DEPART FOR HOME

At appropriate time transfer to airport for homeward flights. (B)

Sat 7 Sep - IN TRANSIT

Sun 8 Sep - ARRIVE HOME

