

# Epic High Arctic: Baffin Island Explorer with Greenland

An exploration of historic Canadian and Greenlandic sites in the Arctic, combined with abundant wildlife and Inuit culture equals one amazing Arctic expedition. This in-depth adventure provides fantastic opportunities for seeing all of the Arctic's iconic creatures, including polar bears.

## EXPEDITION IN BRIEF:

- Arctic wildlife - polar bears, whales and walrus
- Traditional Inuit Communities
- Remote National Historic Sites of Canada
- Tundra hiking for all fitness levels
- Zodiac cruising
- Optional kayak adventure opportunities
- UNESCO World Heritage Site in Greenland

**Did You Know?** *Beechey Island, where three of Sir John Franklin's men died while wintering in 1845-46, actually isn't an island. It is connected to nearby Devon Island by a low isthmus, a narrow strip of land.*

# Adventure Options

Booking an Adventure Option on your *Sea Explorer* expedition is a great way to enhance your Polar experience. These options are all subject to availability and fill up quickly, so be sure to book yours early.

## KAYAKING

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Imagine gliding along the surface of a bay in the presence of icebergs and glaciers! Our kayaking adventures are the best way to feel at one with the sea. Taken in small groups of 10 people, multiple times per voyage, kayaking adventures are only done during calm weather conditions. We recommend you have some prior kayaking experience, including the capability to do a wet exit.

*More information about your Adventure Options, including physical requirements and cost of each option is available by contacting your Polar Travel Adviser.*

## INCLUDED OPTIONS

## HIKING

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Hiking is a great way to appreciate the immense windswept landscapes of the Arctic. The tundra comes alive during the brief Arctic summer, with bursts of color from shrubs and plants that eke out a living in this polar environment. You'll find each hike is different - exploring communities, shorelines or glaciated landscapes, often on the lookout for wildlife. Hiking participation is optional and your Expedition Team will advise you of what you can expect prior to each excursion.

# Itinerary

## DAY 1 Toronto, Canada

Your Arctic adventure begins a little further south, with an overnight stay in Toronto; one of the most multi-cultural cities in North America.

## DAY 2 Embarkation Day in Resolute

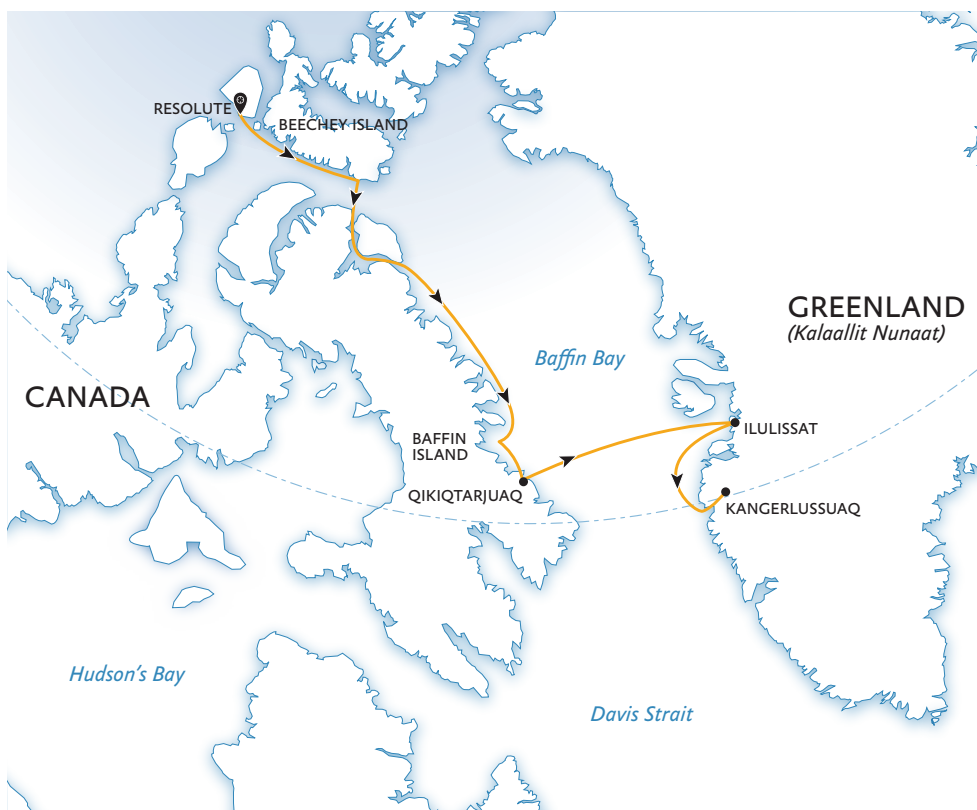
After a morning charter flight to Resolute, you'll have a chance to walk around this small arctic town before being transferred to the ship by Zodiac. Enjoy some time out on deck taking in your new surroundings before you set sail on your Arctic expedition.

## DAY 3 Beechey Island and Radstock Bay

At Beechey Island you'll visit a small grave site with markers for men who died during Sir John Franklin's expedition in 1845-46. Roald Amundsen also stopped here in 1903, on his successful voyage through the Northwest Passage. For a more ancient perspective, you'll visit some very well-preserved subterranean homes in Radstock Bay, built by the Thule culture.

## DAY 4 Croker Bay and Dundas Harbour

At Croker Bay, there is a possibility you will see the glacier actively calving icebergs into the bay. Just east of here is Dundas Harbour, the now-abandoned settlement where the Royal Canadian Mounted Police manned an outpost from 1924 until 1951. They continue to maintain one of Canada's most northerly graveyards out of respect to those who lost their lives during this time.



*Actual itinerary may vary based on conditions and voyage length.*

## DAY 5 Pond Inlet and Eclipse Sound

Today the community at Pond Inlet (or Mittimatalik, as it has been called by the Inuit for thousands of years) will welcome you to the Artist's Co-operative. In addition to the internationally renowned art produced here, the people earn their living fishing for Arctic char. Take time to explore the hamlet and hike the nearby tundra.

## DAY 6 Sam Ford Fjord

The majestic, impossibly high cliffs of Sam Ford Fjord greet you as you sail past this impassive coast. See "Stump Spire," first ascended by Conrad Anker

and named in honor of a fallen mountaineering friend. Some intrepid folks have been known to trek here from nearby Clyde River and base jump from these rock walls into the frigid waters below! (Not available as an adventure option as of yet.)

## DAY 7 Isabella Bay

The Igaliqtuuq National Wildlife Area in Isabella Bay was created to protect the bowhead or Greenland right whales that summer there. Orca or killer whales have been sighted in the vicinity hunting the bowheads, some of which have scars from previous encounters with orcas. A whale watch will be



### WANT TO STAY LONGER OR ARRIVE EARLIER?

Contact our Polar Travel Advisers via email, live chat or phone (1.888.892.0073) for seamless worry-free booking of all trip extensions.

# Itinerary

conducted while we are exploring the entrance to the Bay.

## DAY 8 Qikiqtarjuak (Broughton Island)

Your last stop in Canada, Qikiqtarjuak is known as the iceberg capital of the world, naturally trapping many icebergs as they travel down the Davis Strait. An abundance of marine wildlife can be seen here as beluga and right whales, narwhals and ring and harp seals pass by. Trek up the many walking trails to join the inukshuk and share its view overlooking the island and the community.

## DAYS 9 At Sea

Traverse Baffin Bay as you leave behind Canadian shores in pursuit of Greenland.

## DAY 10 Ilulissat

Meaning “iceberg” in Greenlandic, Ilulissat is home to the fastest-moving glacier outside of Antarctica, Sermeq Kujalleq. This UNESCO World Heritage site is located north of the Arctic Circle, and moves at an average of 19 meters per day. Cruise at a safe distance by zodiac, and if you’re lucky, witness the spectacle of calving ice.

## DAY 11 Sisimiut and Itilleq

Explore the 18th-century colonial buildings still standing in Sisimiut. Watch a traditional kayaking demonstration in this northernmost year-round ice-free port in western Greenland. Continuing southward, the ship will reach the

village of Itilleq, a typical Greenlandic community. It is delightfully situated in a hollow (which is the meaning of “Itilleq” in Greenlandic) on an island without any fresh water. The village has approximately 130 inhabitants.

## DAY 12 Disembark in Kangerlussuaq

Your final Zodiac ride will take you from the ship to shore. Your time here will be brief, as your flight to Montreal awaits, signalling an end to your time in the Arctic. Upon arrival in Montreal, we will transfer you to your included hotel.

## DAY 13 Departure

Today you can make your way home at your leisure or spend some more time in Montreal.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER** *Embracing the unexpected is part of the legacy - and excitement - of expedition travel. When travelling in extremely remote regions, your expedition staff must allow the sea, the ice and the weather to guide route and itinerary details. The above is a tentative outline of what you'll experience on this voyage; please be aware that no specific itinerary can be guaranteed.*



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# Inclusions

## THIS EXPEDITION INCLUDES

- Shipboard accommodation with daily housekeeping
- All breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and snacks on board throughout your voyage
- All shore landings per the daily program
- Leadership throughout the voyage by our experienced Expedition Leader
- A daily program of lectures by noted naturalists
- All Zodiac transfers and cruising per the daily program
- Formal and informal presentations by our Expedition Team and Special Guests as scheduled
- Downloadable photographic journal documenting the expedition
- A pair of waterproof expedition boots on loan for shore landings
- An official Quark Expeditions parka to keep
- Coffee, tea and cocoa available around the clock
- Hair dryer and bathrobe in every cabin
- Comprehensive pre-departure materials, including a map and an informative Arctic Reader
- All miscellaneous service taxes and port charges throughout the program
- All luggage handling aboard the ship
- Emergency Evacuation Insurance for all passengers to a maximum benefit of US\$100,000 per person

## THIS EXPEDITION EXCLUDES

- *International airfare*
- *Passport and any applicable visa expenses*
- *Government arrival and departure taxes*
- *Any meals ashore unless otherwise specified*
- *Baggage, cancellation, interruption, and medical travel insurance*
- *Excess baggage charges*
- *Laundry, bar, beverage and other personal charges unless specified*
- *Telecommunications charges*
- *The voluntary gratuity at the end of the voyage for shipboard staff and crew*
- *Any extra overnight accommodation required due to flight connections*
- *Optional kayaking activities*

## MANDATORY TRANSFER PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- One night pre-expedition hotel accommodation at Toronto airport with breakfast
- Flight from Toronto to Resolute
- Transfer to and from ship
- Flight from Kangerlussuaq to Montreal
- Transfer from airport to post expedition hotel
- One night post-expedition hotel accommodation in Montreal with breakfast



*Package cost: \$1,825*

*Note: Baggage allowance on charter flight is 20 kilos checked and 5 kilos carry on*

# Dates & Rates

## EPIC HIGH ARCTIC: *Baffin Island Explorer with Greenland*

*Expedition Aboard the Adventure Ship* **SEA EXPLORER**

Dates	Days	Emb/Disemb	Triple	Porthole Suite	Window Suite	Superior Suite	Deluxe Suite	Veranda Suite	Penthouse Suite	
Aug 26 - Sep 07, 15	13	Toronto/ Montreal	\$7,995	\$8,995	\$10,495	\$10,995	\$11,495	\$13,995	\$15,495	

***Mandatory Transfer package \$1,825***

*Please note that these prices are guaranteed against fuel price increases. No fuel surcharge will be applied.*



**HOW TO BOOK YOUR EXPEDITION & ADVENTURE OPTIONS**

*To book your cabin or inquire about the availability of adventure options, contact a Polar Travel Adviser **1.888.892.0073 (+1.203.803.2666)**.*

1-888-892-0073

# Canada

## POSSIBLE LANDINGS AND WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

### RESOLUTE

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One of Canada's most northern settlements, Resolute has everything from a grocery store and cable TV to an RCMP station and handful of hotels. It also has an airport, which is your arrival gateway.

### BEECHEY ISLAND

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Named after Frederick William Beechey, an explorer of the Royal Navy, this is one of Canada's most important Arctic sites and has been deemed a Canadian National Historic Site. During the Franklin Expedition of 1845-46, two of Franklin's ships, the *HMS Erebus* and *HMS Terror* anchored here with perilous results. Three of his crew died here and are buried at a marked grave site.

### RADSTOCK BAY

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The bay has been a popular research location for observing polar bears. Denning mothers favor this area and polar bears are frequently seen during summer months. A Thule site here provides insight into how the pre-Inuit people survived and lived in the Arctic.

### CROKER BAY

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A nearby glacier actively calves off chunks of ice, creating a birthing place for icebergs at Croker Bay. The bay was a popular stop during the 1800's when a path to the Pacific (the Northwest Passage) was at the forefront of Arctic exploration.

### DUNDAS HARBOUR

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Located on Devon Island, there are remains of a Royal Canadian Mounted Police post here, dating back to 1924. Historically this area has been settled for more than 3,000 years by Inuit and pre-Inuit cultures. Its original name in Inuktitut is Talluruti: "a woman's chin with tattoos on it."

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### POND INLET

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Pond Inlet is located on the north-eastern shore of Baffin Island, across from Bylot Island with a population of approximately 1,310 people. It is known to the Inuit as Mittimatalik, "the place where Mittima is buried." Although the name remains, the identity of Mittima is a mystery to the present day people of Pond Inlet. The community is one of Nunavut's treasure troves.

### SAM FORD FJORD

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This fjord is a rock-climber's dream. Tempting some of the most famous mountaineers and adventurers, its sheer rock faces form a severe barrier against the sea. The formations and contrasts make for stunning photographs.

### QIKIQTARJUAQ

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Known until 1998 as Broughton Island, this island boasts the highest mountains in North America east of the Rocky Mountain range. From the cape, multitudes of icebergs can be seen coming down the Davis Strait, while whales, seals and narwhals cavort off its shores.

# Greenland

## POSSIBLE LANDINGS AND WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

### KANGERLUSSUAQ

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Kangerlussuaq and the Kangerlussuaq Fjord in Western Greenland present colorful buildings and potential for glimpses of Arctic wildlife such as musk oxen and caribou. Lush mountainous landscapes provide a great backdrop at this port of disembarkation, while whales may be spotted at sea.

### ILULISSAT

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North of the Arctic Circle, this ice fjord is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Recognized as one of the fastest moving glaciers in the world, the Sermeq Kujalleq glacier located here moves at 19m per day. More glacial ice is calved into the ocean here than anywhere else, except for Antarctica.

### SISIMIUT

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A village town, the second largest in Greenland, Sisimiut is a place to stretch the legs. Inhabited for more than 4,000 years, the history here is a mix of Saqqaq, Dorset and Thule cultures. The colorful wooden houses here are typical of Greenlandic communities today. Nasaasaaq, an impressive mountain, provides a scenic backdrop to this settlement, and the nearby Amerloq Fjord is another worthwhile landing site.

### ITILLEQ

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Itilleq is a settlement in the Qeqqata municipality in central-western Greenland. It was originally founded in 1847 on another island, but was later moved 1 kilometer east to its present location. Its main trade is fishing and hunting, and a facility is required to de-salinate seawater, as the island has no freshwater source.

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*Last updated November 5, 2014*