



# Ponant : 14D13N Expedition to the edge of the Ice Sheet

Price per person from MYR 51710



# **Tour Description**

Luxury cruise aboard to experience a truly exceptional sea voyage with a difference. Discover expeditions to the majestic landscapes of the Artic and the Antarctic. Great choice for couples, solo travelers and those who love small-ship cruising. Ponant Cruises offers exceptional bilingual service, world-class dining and elegantly-appointed accommodation and public areas in terms of the onboard experience. Choose a cruise on an Explorer Class vessel, you will benefit from several expedition-style features. Relaxing in the Blue Eye Lounge, an underwater multi-sensory environment that boasts comfortable seating and privileged views of life beneath the waves. Ponant's expedition ships also carry a fleet of Zodiacs deployed frequently throughout each itinerary for sightseeing excursions and trips ashore.

**Cancellation Policy** 

~ Postpone or cancel free of charge up to 10 days after the booking is confirmed

~ From 10 days after the booking is confirmed to 365 days prior to departure: EUR 150 plus RM100 refund admin fees per guest per cruise for the cruise service only

~ From 364 to 211 days prior to departure: 10% of total price

 $\sim$  From 210 – 91 days prior to departure: 25% of total price

~ Cancellation within 90 days prior to departure: 100% of total price

#### **Payment Terms**

~ Deposit payment of 25% must be received within 10 days after the booking is confirmed.

~ Balance payment must be made 90 days prior to departure

~ Booking made within 90 days prior to departure require full payment at the time of booking

**Tour Itinerary** 

# Day 1 :- REYKJAVÍK

Embarkation 12/8/2024 from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm Departure 13/8/2024 at 12:00 am

Iceland's capital stretches along the edge of a vast bay in the west of the country. **Perlan**, the "Pearl of Reykjavík", a museum located on 'Oskjuhlið hill, offers a panoramic view of the lush, green landscapes. A little further, one can easily spot the signpost showing the way to the evangelical **Hallgrímskirkja** church, and to the historical centre where one can stroll along the Skólavördustígur and the Laugavegur, two lively streets with charming small shops. For some relaxation just outside of the city, visitors have the opportunity to visit the Reykjanes peninsula and its famous thermal lagoons of the **Blue Lagoon**.

### Dinner

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### Dinner Breakfast Lunch

# Day 3 :- AT SEA

During your journey at sea, make the most of the many services and activities on board. Treat yourself to a moment of relaxation in the spa or stay in shape in the fitness centre. Depending on the season, let yourself be tempted by the swimming pool or a spot of sunbathing. This journey without a port of call will also be an opportunity to enjoy the conferences or shows proposed on board, depending on the activities offered, or to do some shopping in the boutique or to meet the PONANT photographers in their dedicated space. As for lovers of the open sea, they will be able to visit the ship's upper deck to admire the spectacle of the waves and perhaps be lucky enough to observe marine species. A truly enchanted interlude, combining comfort, rest and entertainment.

### Dinner Breakfast Lunch

# Day 4 :- TASIILAQ - SERMILIK FJORD

In **Tasiilaq**, on Ammassalik Island, follow in the wake of Captain **Jean-Baptiste Charcot**'s famous ship, the *Pourquoi Pas* ?, which set off with its crew in 1935 to discover this small island of primitive and wild beauty that remained unexplored until the end of the 19th century. Along with Ittoqqortoormiit, a village with 500 inhabitants located at the entrance of the **Scoresby Sound**, the village of **Tasiilaq** and its surroundings, 800 kilometres (500 miles) further north, are the only inhabited areas on the **east coast of Greenland**. The name of this island is a reference to the capelin, a small flamboyant silver-coloured fish whose presence in the thousands announces to inhabitants the return of spring. A surprising discovery in a spectacular setting. You will be captivated by the spectacular scenery of the **Sermilik Fjord**, the largest in the **south-east of Greenland**. To the north, above the glacial valleys, the **Schweitzerland Alps** and their peaks that rise to an altitude of more than 3,000 metres (10,000 feet) stretch out in the distance, while in the south, where it opens onto the Irminger Sea, heavy erosion has carved the landscape. Three main glaciers calve a multitude of dazzling **icebergs** that drift serenely along the indigo waters of this majestic fjord. It owes its name to the Inuit word *Sermilik*, which generally refers to a fjord into which a glacier flows. It was mapped in 1884 by the Danish explorer **Gustav Holm** and his crew, while they wintered in the **Ammassalik region**. Dinner **Breakfast Lunch** 

# Day 5 :- SKJOLDUNGEN

Discover **Skjoldungen Island** on the south-east coast of Greenland. This uninhabited land boasts magnificent landscapes that are sure to dazzle you. The island is surrounded by a stunning **fjord**, a distinctive feature of which is its **double entrance**: it forms a bend before joining the sea on the other side. Mountains, glacial valleys, rocky outcrops, tundra and willow forests make up the beautiful scenery which you will be able to admire more closely when you land here. At this port of call, surrounded by wild and pristine nature, it is quite common to see **bearded seals**, **orcas**, but also birds such as the common redpoll, the northern wheatear, or the common raven.

### Dinner Breakfast Lunch

# Day 6 :- AAPPILATTOQ (AUGPILATOK)

**Aappilattoq (Augpilatok)**, is a small Inuit village of around one hundred inhabitants, whose name means "sea anemone" in Greenlandic. Located in a mountainous region inaccessible by road, its picturesque, colourful houses stretch out to the southern tip of Greenland, on the banks of the spectacular **Prince Christian Sound**. Some one hundred kilometres long, the sound connects the Labrador Sea to the Irminger Sea, meandering through stunning landscapes such as majestic glaciers, craggy peaks, and rocky cliffs with waterfalls fed by the ice sheet. This region was uninhabited in the 19th century. The village was created in the 1920s and the main activities revolve around hunting, fishing and livestock farming.

## Day 7 :- HVALSO - NARSAQ FJORD

Around you, a **grassy meadow** filled with flowers stretches out, dotted with imposing granite rocks. A few semi-wild sheep and horses greet you; they are the only inhabitants of this place surrounded by beautiful mountains. You are in **Hvalsø**, in the heart of the fertile lands in Greenland's south. During the 10th century, this site was colonised by the **Vikings**, who established a large community here. When your ship calls at these lands brimming with history, you will see the ruins of a church whose remains are still very well preserved. It was most likely built in the 14th century. It has lost its timber roof, but its four stone walls continue to stand proudly as a moving relic of a long-gone era.

From your ship, discover the town of **Narsaq**. You will be dazzled by the beauty of the surrounding **icebergs**? large masses of ice in different shapes and shifting colours. Dominated by **lush mountains**, this small town is typical of Greenland and is located in the heart of a wonderful natural landscape. The multicoloured house facades and the glaciers with their myriad shades of blue offer a magical setting, conducive to wonderment.

#### **Dinner Breakfast Lunch**

## Day 8 :- IVIGTUT

Located in the Arsuk Fjord, **lvigtut**, now called lvittuut, is a small town in southwestern Greenland known for being rich in cryolite, a very rare mineral used in the ceramics industry and to extract aluminium from bauxite. The open-pit mine was a once major economic resource for Greenland: a prosperous mining activity developed there in the 19th century until 1963 when the mine was closed. In the 32 km-long (22 miles) fjord that runs along the small town surrounded by tundra landscapes, you might be fortunate enough to see whales or rorquals swimming nonchalantly in the cold water.

#### Dinner Breakfast Lunch

## Day 9 :- NUUK

When Erik Le Rouge, the exiled Norse chief, landed on the coast of Nuuk, he found a fertile and welcoming land dotted with fjords. He settled there with a group of his former countrymen, and **the Norse** remained the principal inhabitants until, over a period of 500 years, their population declined and gave way to the Inuit. **Nuuk** is situated at the mouth of one of the largest networks of fjords in the world, where the waters never freeze. The town spreads gently out towards the **Davis Strait** and enjoys an historic center that is particularly rich in national heritage. The vivid reds, blues, greens and yellows of the houses are a lively contrast to the somber waters of Greenland and serve to lift the spirits of the locals during the Winter months.

### Dinner Breakfast Lunch

## Day 10 :- SISIMIUT

During your cruise, we invite you to discover **Sisimiut**, founded in 1756 and the second largest town in Greenland. This small town is typical of Greenland, boasting bewitching panoramas: here and there, **colourful stilt houses** dot the **undulating landscape**, and the small fishing port stands as the gateway to an icy realm. As for the town centre, it is home to a number of historic buildings, a small church and a museum which retraces the history of the Inuit people, as well as many craft shops. When your ship drops anchor here, you will set out to meet the locals in a typically arctic atmosphere.

#### Dinner Breakfast Lunch

## Day 11 :- PAUL-ÉMILE VICTOR BASE CAMP, EQI GLACIER

"The most beautiful place in the Arctic" is how Paul-Émile Victor described Greenland, a land of great icebergs and of towering ice formations calved by the giant glaciers of the polar ice cap. **The Eqi Glacier** is one of the region's most impressive sights. Here, the silence is broken only by the roaring and cracking of the ice. It is impossible to know if one is shivering from cold or from the sheer thrill of being here... Imagine the vast outline of a glacier, its **translucent crystals** glowing with an ice-blue fire in the sunlight. Paul-Émile **Victor's shelter** cannot be overlooked; it was from here that the French Polar Expeditions' anthropological and geographic explorations set off in the 1950s.

#### **Dinner Breakfast Lunch**

## Day 12 :- DISKO BAY

To the east of Baffin Bay, discover **Disko Bay**, scattered with countless icebergs produced by the Ilulissat Icefjord, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. From your ship, admire the majestic ballet of these ice giants as they slowly drift across the dark waters. This site is a natural marvel of Greenland, and is also renowned as an observation point for the region's many humpback whales. The encounters with wild fauna and stunning landscapes in the heart of this spectacular and fragile nature will be pure moments of wonder for you.

Dinner Breakfast Lunch

# Day 13 :- ITILLEQ

Itilleq is a tiny island lying within the **Arctic Circle**, 45 km south of Sisimiut. Home to barely 100 people, they mainly earn a living from fishing and hunting in their **typical Greenlandic village**, whose bright colours evoke those of their traditional clothing. During your visit, you will maybe have the pleasure of playing a game of football with them, enjoying a "kaffemik" (a coffee break) or a moment of contemplation when the gentle light of the **midnight sun** dapples the horizon.

### Dinner Breakfast Lunch

## Day 14 :- KANGERLUSSUAQ

Arrival 25/8/2024 at night Disembarkation 25/8/2024 at 7:00 am

From 1941 to 1992, the town of **Kangerlussuaq** in Greenland was home to an American military base. Nowadays, thanks to its international airport, it has become a transit point for travellers seeking adventure in the Far North. Located to the north of the Arctic Circle, this town is the starting point of magnificent discoveries surrounded by **unspoiled nature**. Indeed, just a few dozen kilometres from there it is possible to get close to the Greenland ice sheet, the largest **body of ice in the Northern Hemisphere**. From Kangerlussuaq, admire also the superb landscapes of tundra in autumnal colours, where Arctic hares, musk oxen, Arctic foxes, reindeer, falcons and eagles live.

Dinner Breakfast Lunch

# **Tour Prices**

Tour price (Price shown subject to exchange rate fluctuation)	Superior Stateroom (pperson)	Deluxe stateroom (pperson)	Child ( 2-11 years)	Deluxe Suite (pperson)
08 Aug - 25 Aug 2024		SOLD OUT	RM 63,927	SOLD OUT

# What's included

Destination Departure Location <u>ARCTIC</u>, <u>Greenland</u>, <u>Iceland</u> Revkiavík

**Return Location** 

Price includes

- Flight Kangerlussuaq/Paris selected by PONANT in economy class
- Transfer as mentioned in the programme
- English-speaking assistance
- 13 nights shipboard on Ponant Cruise
- 24 hour room service (special selection)
- Free unlimited WIFI onboard
- Evening entertainment and events
- Butler service (special selection deck) Butler service (special selection deck)

Price does not include

- International air ticket
- Airport transfer
- Gratuities

Kangerlussuaq