

MS Fridtjof Nansen

2025.05.04 - 2025.05.10



Iceland

Reykjavik

Steinkjer

Trondheim

Norway

Bergen

Oslo

Gothenburg

Aalborg

Denmark

Hamburg

Hanover

Berlin

North Sea

Aberdeen

SCOTLAND

Edinburgh

United Kingdom

NORTHERN IRELAND

Ireland

WALES

ENGLAND

Cardiff

London

Netherlands

200 km

Dusseldorf

Germany

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Legend

— HX Expedition

Hamburg - Embarkation Day!

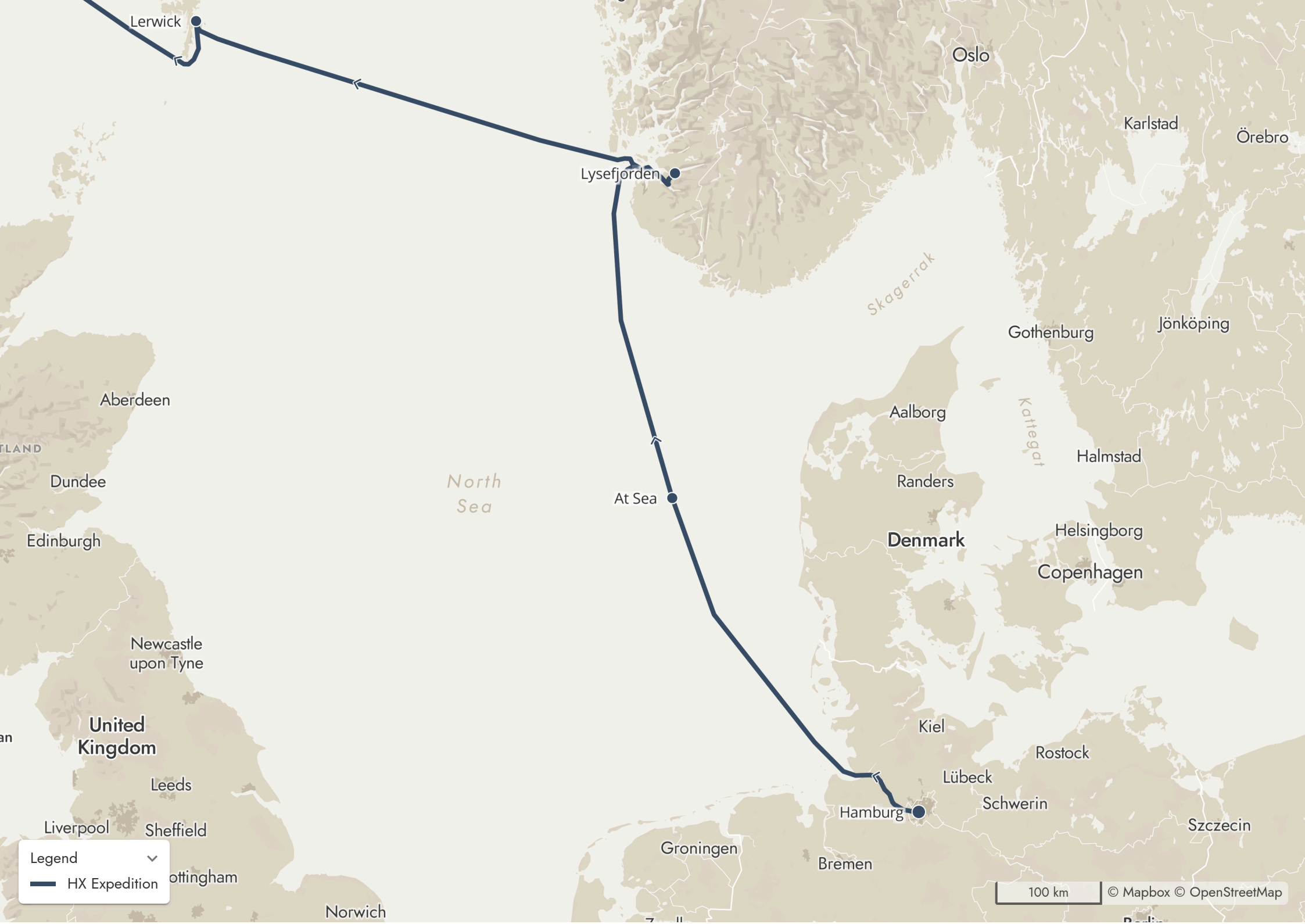
Our adventure to Iceland begins here, in the beautiful and historic port city of Hamburg. As guests arrived and settled in, there was a buzz of excitement throughout the ship. Many spent the afternoon exploring the state-of-the-art Science Centre, where they were introduced to the unique learning opportunities available during the voyage. Others took time to familiarise themselves with the ship, meet the expedition team, and get a glimpse of what lies ahead on this incredible journey.

In the early evening, with the last light of day casting a golden glow over the harbour, we gathered all guests for a mandatory safety

briefing to ensure a smooth and secure start to our voyage. Once everyone was onboard and ready, the moment we had all been waiting for arrived. The ship's horn echoed across the docks, an iconic sound that marked our official departure.

With that, MS Fridtjof Nansen gracefully pulled away from the pier and began her voyage down the majestic Elbe River. As the skyline of Hamburg slowly faded into the distance, a sense of anticipation filled the air. Our expedition to Iceland is now underway, and we look forward to sharing unforgettable experiences with you in the days ahead.





Lerwick

Oslo

Karlstad

Örebro

Lysefjorden

Skagerrak

Gothenburg

Jönköping

Aberdeen

ATLAND

Dundee

Edinburgh

North Sea

At Sea

Aalborg

Randers

Denmark

Kattegat

Halmstad

Helsingborg

Copenhagen

Newcastle upon Tyne

United Kingdom

Leeds

Liverpool

Sheffield

Nottingham

Norwich

Kiel

Rostock

Lübeck

Schwerin

Hamburg

Szczecin

Groningen

Bremen

Legend

— HX Expedition

100 km © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

At Sea - Towards Norway

Our first full day aboard MS Fridtjof Nansen was spent at sea, allowing everyone the chance to settle in, relax, and truly immerse themselves in the unique rhythm of expedition travel. As we sailed steadily northwards, the vast expanse of the open ocean surrounded us, offering a peaceful and inspiring backdrop for the day's activities.

Guests began the morning with a delicious breakfast and joined optional briefings and presentations led by our expert expedition team. Topics ranged from marine ecosystems and birdlife to the fascinating geology of the North Atlantic, setting the stage for the discoveries that await us in the days ahead.

Throughout the day, many took the opportunity to visit the Science

Centre once again, engage in conversations with our onboard scientists, or simply enjoy the stunning views from the observation decks. The ship's cosy lounges provided the perfect space for reading, socialising, or simply watching the sea roll by.

As evening approached, we gathered for our daily recap and briefing, where the expedition team shared insights, answered questions, and previewed what's to come.

The atmosphere was warm and filled with curiosity, as guests began to connect not just with the voyage, but with one another. It was a day of learning, reflection and anticipation - an ideal start to what promises to be a memorable journey towards Iceland.





Sandve

Skudeneshavn

Boknafjorden

Ydstebøhamn

Askje

Randaberg

Stavanger

Jørpeland

Lysefjorden

Jærstrendene
fuglefredningsområde

Kolnes

SVG

Sandnes

Legend

— HX Expedition

5 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Lysefjorden - Norway

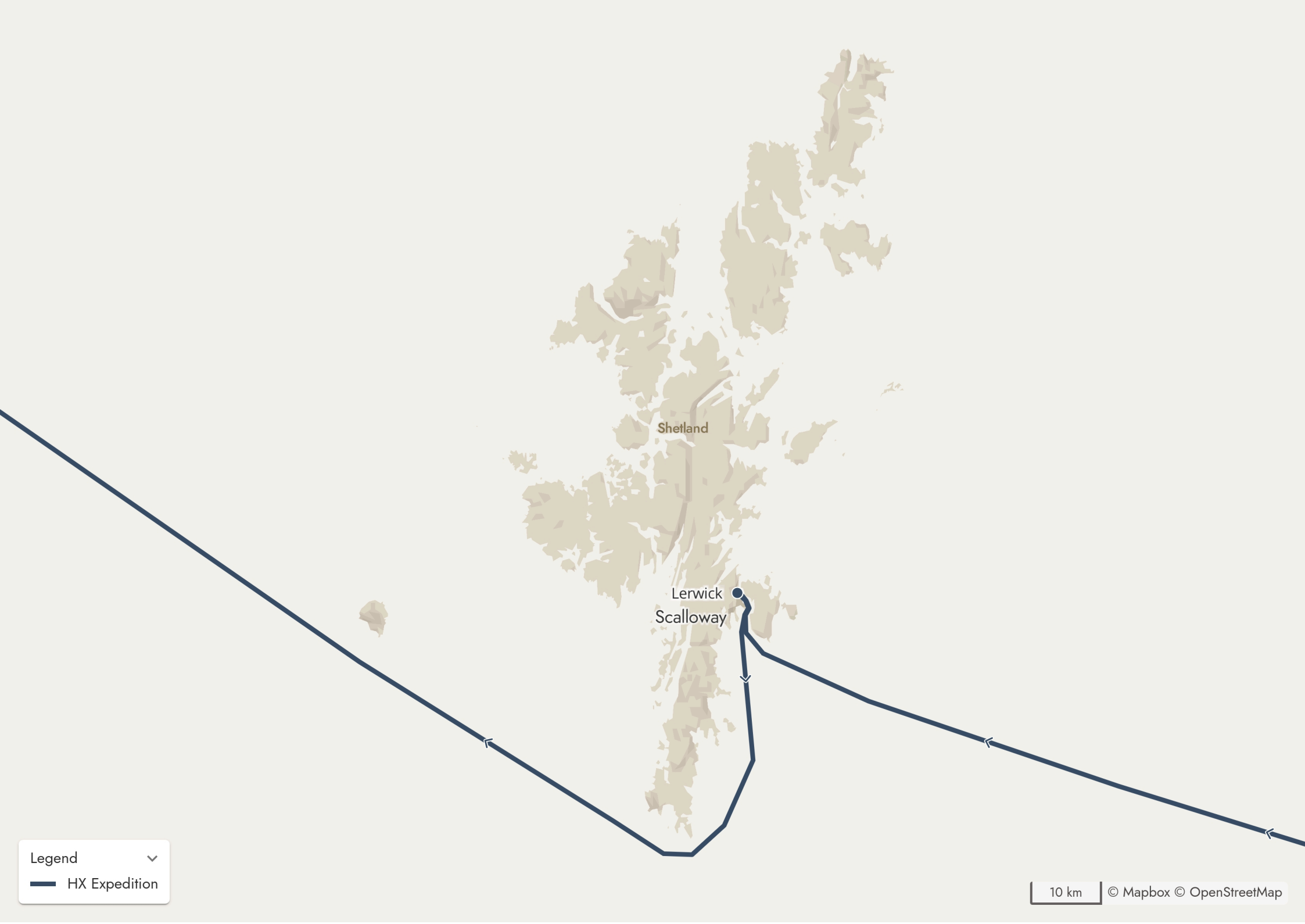
Today brought our first expedition day and a true taste of Norway's raw natural beauty as MS Fridtjof Nansen entered the dramatic Lysefjorden. Surrounded by towering granite cliffs and cascading waterfalls, the fjord welcomed us with calm waters and breathtaking scenery - a perfect setting for exploration.

In the morning, guests geared up for an exhilarating zodiac cruise along the fjord. Gliding across the glassy surface, we were treated to close-up views of sheer rock faces, hidden coves, and wildlife including seabirds and the occasional curious seal. Our guides shared insights into the region's geology and history, enriching the experience as we floated beneath the shadow of ancient cliffs shaped by glacial forces.

For a group of adventurous guests, the day included a guided hike to Preikestolen, or "Pulpit Rock," one of Norway's most iconic viewpoints. The challenging ascent was rewarded with panoramic views high above the fjord - an unforgettable moment that truly captured the spirit of expedition travel. Standing on the edge of the plateau, with Lysefjorden stretching out far below, was both humbling and exhilarating.

Back on board, guests exchanged stories and photos over dinner, many still buzzing from the day's experiences. As the ship gently made her way back out of the fjord, the evening light cast a golden hue over the cliffs - a fitting end to an extraordinary day of adventure.






Shetland

Lerwick
Scalloway

Legend

 HX Expedition

Lerwick - Shetland Islands

This morning, MS Fridtjof Nansen docked in Lerwick, the charming capital of the Shetland Islands. As we approached the harbour, guests were greeted by a quaint townscape of stone buildings, colourful fishing boats, and the green hills beyond - a peaceful yet lively gateway to Scotland's northernmost isles.

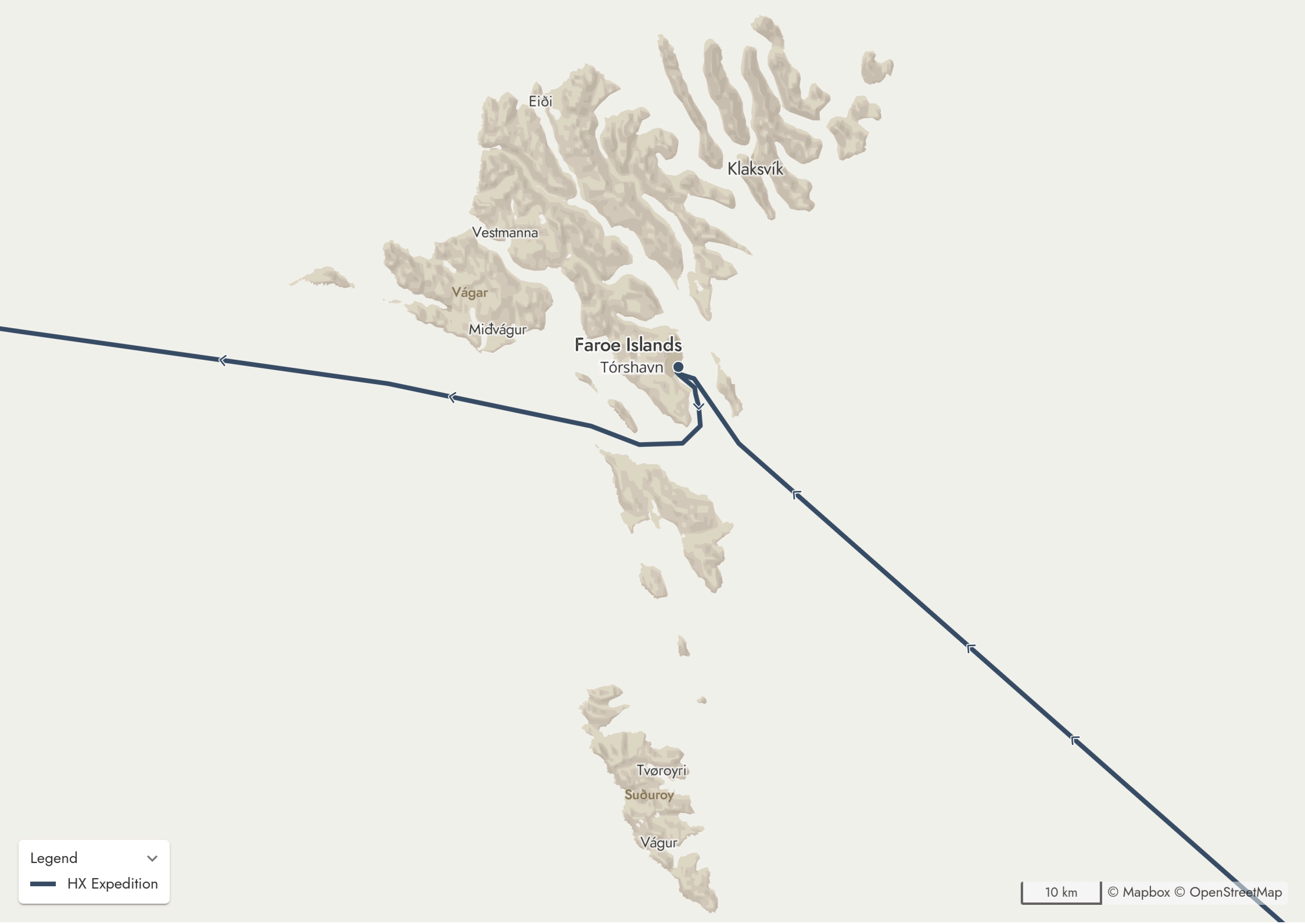
After breakfast, guests joined a guided walk through Lerwick, led by local experts eager to share the island's rich heritage. The walk took us along the historic waterfront, past the 18th-century lodberries—buildings once used by merchants to unload cargo directly from the sea. We wandered through narrow, winding lanes, learning about Lerwick's Norse roots, its strategic importance during wartime, and

the enduring traditions of island life.

In the afternoon, some guests ventured farther afield on optional excursions, such as a visit to the Jarlshof archaeological site, where layers of history dating back over 4,000 years are preserved in the coastal landscape. Others chose to enjoy the local cafés and shops, or simply soak in the sea views from the harbour.

Back on board, we shared our impressions during the evening recap, reflecting on a day that combined gentle adventure with meaningful cultural discovery. The Shetlands have a quiet magic - and today, they made us feel both welcome and wonderfully far from the ordinary.





Legend

— HX Expedition

Tórshavn - Faroe Islands

Today we made landfall in Tórshavn, the charming capital of the Faroe Islands, nestled between misty hills and a rugged coastline. Though our stay was shortened due to an approaching storm system, we made the most of the morning hours in this unique and remote corner of the North Atlantic.

After an early breakfast, guests disembarked to explore the town and its surroundings. Some joined guided walks through the historic old quarter of Tinganes, where colourful turf-roofed houses and narrow stone lanes reflect centuries of Faroese tradition. Others enjoyed the peaceful atmosphere along the waterfront or visited local shops and cafés for a taste of daily life in this windswept island community.

Even with limited time ashore, the Faroes left a lasting impression. The dramatic landscape, with its steep cliffs and rolling green hills, seemed all the more mysterious beneath low-hanging clouds—a powerful reminder of nature's presence in this remote archipelago.

Back on board by late morning, the Captain and expedition team briefed us on the changing weather conditions. With a storm front advancing, we set sail earlier than planned to ensure a safe and comfortable journey onward. As MS Fridtjof Nansen pulled away from Tórshavn's harbour, guests gathered in the lounges to watch the rugged Faroese coast disappear into the mist, grateful for even a brief glimpse of this remarkable place.





Legend

— HX Expedition

At Sea - Towards Iceland

Today was a true reminder that we are travelling through the wild North Atlantic. As MS Fridtjof Nansen pressed onward towards Reykjavík, we encountered strong winds and heavy seas brought on by the weather front that had prompted our early departure from the Faroe Islands.

Throughout the day, the ship moved steadily through rolling swells, with waves crashing against the bow and spray flying over the observation decks. While the conditions were challenging, our experienced crew navigated confidently, and the ship's stabilisers worked hard to keep the motion as comfortable as possible.

With the storm continuing around us, the day remained one of quiet

resilience and reflection. The observation lounge offered panoramic views of the heaving ocean - a dramatic and humbling sight. Many guests chose to rest in their cabins or gather in small groups in the lounges, sharing stories, sipping tea, and occasionally glancing out at the grey horizon.

The expedition team kept spirits high with informal chats and pop-up presentations throughout the day, adapting the schedule to suit the conditions. In the evening, guests gathered in the Explorer Lounge for the Captain's Farewell ceremony - a warm and festive moment of reflection, gratitude, and camaraderie as we looked back on our shared journey across the North Atlantic.





Kollafjörðu

Akurey

Seltjarnarnes

Reykjavik

Reykjavik

University of Iceland

MIDBORG

HLÍDARENDI

RKV - Reykjavik

LAUGARDAL

Legend



 HX Expedition

500 m

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap



Reykjavík - Iceland

This morning, MS Fridtjof Nansen arrived in Reykjavík, Iceland's vibrant and artistic capital, marking the end of our unforgettable expedition across the North Atlantic. As the ship sailed into port, the early morning light revealed a city nestled between mountains and sea, its colourful rooftops and volcanic landscape offering a dramatic final impression.

Disembarkation began after breakfast, and though goodbyes are never easy, there was a shared sense of accomplishment and wonder among guests and crew alike. From the calm beauty of Lysefjorden and the historic streets of Lerwick to the wild seas and ever-changing skies, this journey has been filled with discovery, connection, and the thrill of true expedition travel.

In the Explorer Lounge and on deck, final farewells were exchanged, contact details shared, and cameras filled with memories of incredible places and moments. The expedition team and crew lined up to wish guests safe travels, many with hopes of meeting again on another adventure, somewhere else in the world.

As we stepped ashore for the last time, Reykjavík welcomed us with its distinctive charm - a gateway to further exploration for those staying on in Iceland, and a fitting endpoint for those heading home. With hearts full and minds inspired, we say goodbye to MS Fridtjof Nansen, grateful for the experience, the people, and the sea that brought us all together.





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