

2025.06.15 - FRSPI2504

June 2025



Legend

HX Expedition

50 km

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Longyearbyen - Embarkation

Embarkation day in Longyearbyen begins as guests arrive and settle in, with opportunities to explore the town or visit local museums before boarding MS Fram. In the afternoon, guests collect their expedition jackets at the Science Center and boots in the Lecture Hall—both essential for upcoming shore landings. Everyone participates

in a mandatory safety drill in the Explorer Lounge to familiarize themselves with onboard procedures. Throughout the day, information about the cruise, daily program, and available services is accessible via the HX app and cabin TV.





Ny-Ålesund

Today in Ny-Ålesund, guests enjoyed a full day of onboard and shore activities. The schedule began with a mandatory AECO briefing followed by a wildlife watch, dependent on local wind and weather conditions. The morning continued with a kayak briefing and an introduction to the ship's science program. In the afternoon, guided

walks allowed guests to explore Ny-Ålesund in organised boat groups. The day concluded with a Captain's Welcome in the Explorer Lounge, providing a chance to meet the crew and expedition team. Weather was cool, with temperatures around 3°C and light winds shaping the day's events.



Hamburgbukta & Bjørnfjorden

We began our day with an early landing at Hamburgbukta, reaching the shore in small boat groups and taking in the distinctive Arctic landscape. As soon as we returned from the landing, excitement grew when we spotted a polar bear right at the place we had just visited. Later in the morning, we joined a lecture focused on Svalbard's

glaciers, where we deepened our understanding of glaciology in this remote region. The afternoon brought another engaging session on Svalbard's rich history. In the evening, we prepared for a zodiac cruise in Bjørnfjorden, exploring the dramatic coastline and observing wildlife.





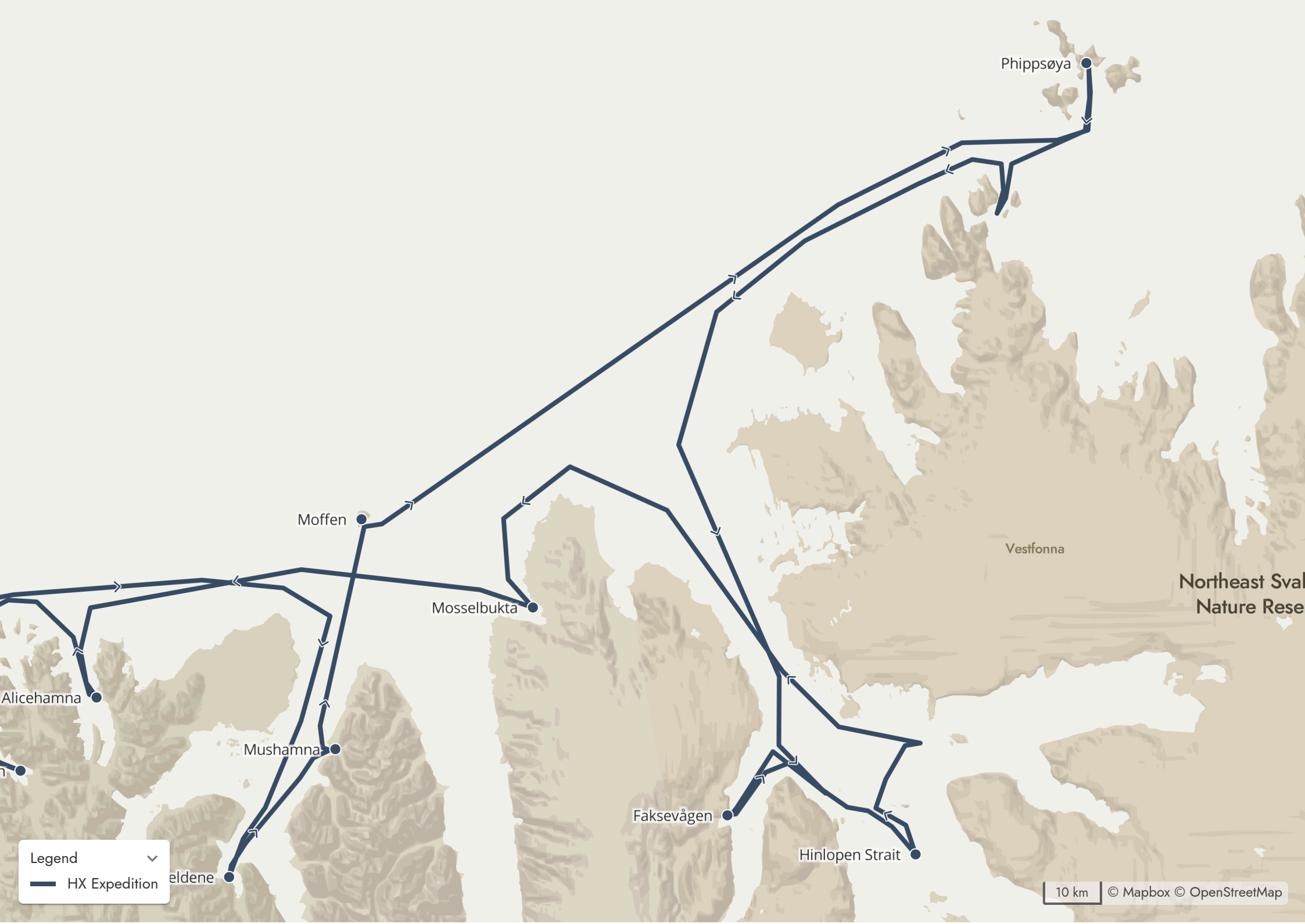
Jotunkjeldene & Mushamna

We began our day at Jotunkjeldene, exploring the geothermal springs at the base of Bockfjorden. The terraced carbonate formations, created by mineral-rich warm water, drew our attention as we walked along the moraine, observing unique mosses and algae. Later, we landed at Mushamna and visited the large hunter's cabin built from

driftwood in 1987. Its spacious, practical design stood out from the modest trappers' huts we'd seen before. The cabin's sturdy presence and history offered us a glimpse into the traditions of Svalbard's hunters and the challenges of life in this remote Arctic region.









Phippsøya

Our planned landing at Phippsøya was canceled due to fast ice blocking the way, so we set out on a Zodiac cruise instead. We navigated along the edge of the fast ice, taking in the striking views and the dramatic, somber landscape. The atmosphere felt both majestic and mysterious, with the ice creating a unique and ever-changing scene. In the afternoon, we joined a lecture about Arctic

seabirds, learning about their adaptations and behaviors in this challenging environment. Later, we attended a talk on Arctic sea ice, which deepened our understanding of its crucial role in the region's ecosystem. The day left us with vivid impressions of the Arctic's raw beauty and complexity.



Faksevågen

Today, we landed in Faksevågen, while most were exploring the area a few brave set out for a long hike but had to turn back halfway as the snow on the route became too deep to continue. Later, we attempted to navigate through the ice in Hinlopen Strait, yet the conditions did not allow us to make the crossing. Instead, we adapted and spent

time on a zodiac cruise among the pack ice, taking in the striking Arctic scenery and the ever-changing patterns of sea ice around us. The day reminded us of the unpredictability of the region and the value of flexibility during exploration.



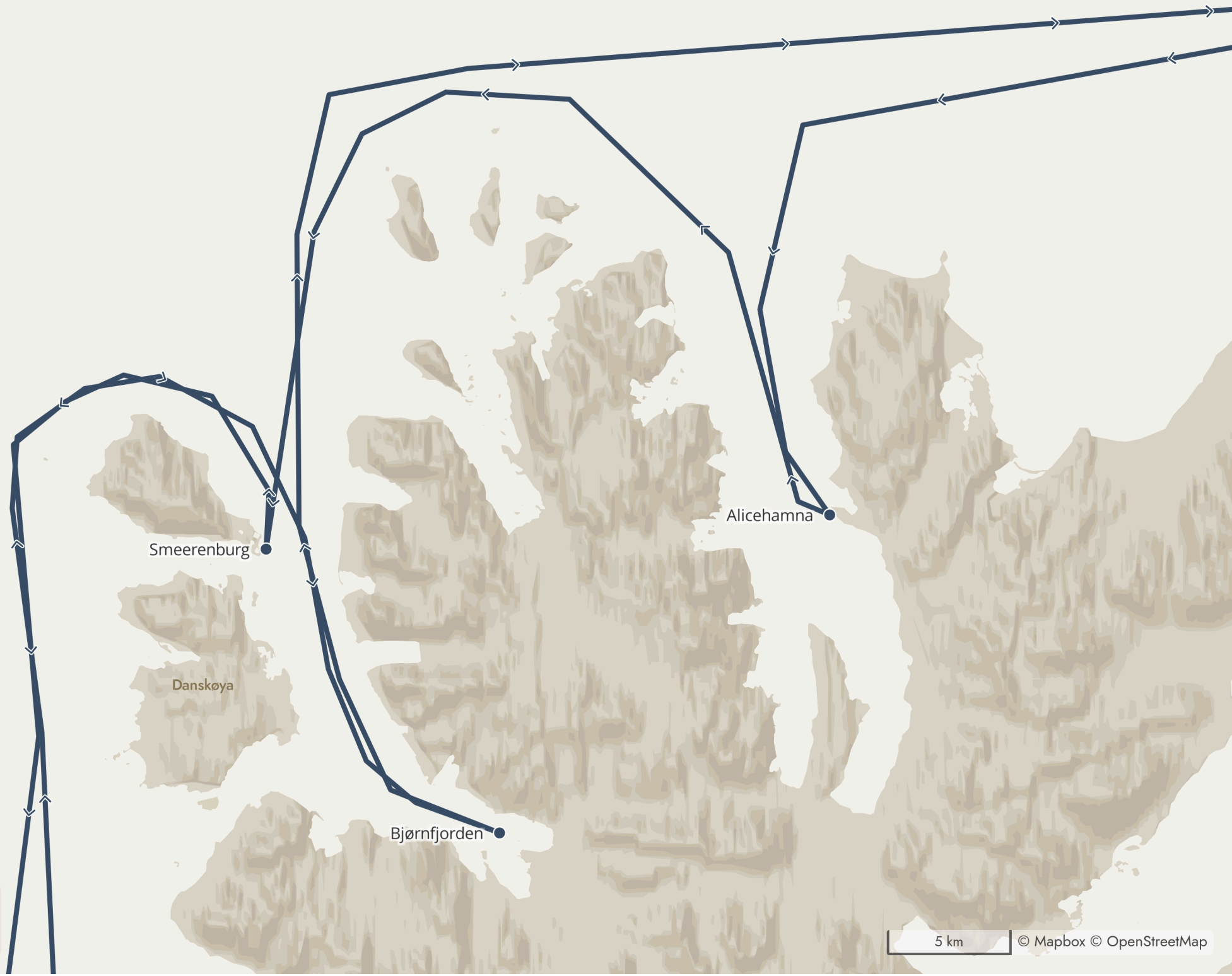


Mosselbukta

We started the morning with a wildlife watch on deck, followed by a Science Centre session to review our voyage sightings. Some joined the Art Corner, while others attended a lecture on plastics in the environment. In the afternoon, we landed at Mosselbukta, known as the wintering site for Nordenskiöld's Swedish polar expedition of

1872–1873, with ruins of the station still visible. We had the chance to visit the cabin Polheim, which stands as one of the northernmost government-owned cabins in the Svalbard Archipelago, offering a glimpse into the region's historical significance and remote Arctic heritage.





Smeerenburg

Danskøya

Bjørnfjorden

Alicehamna

Legend



— HX Expedition

5 km

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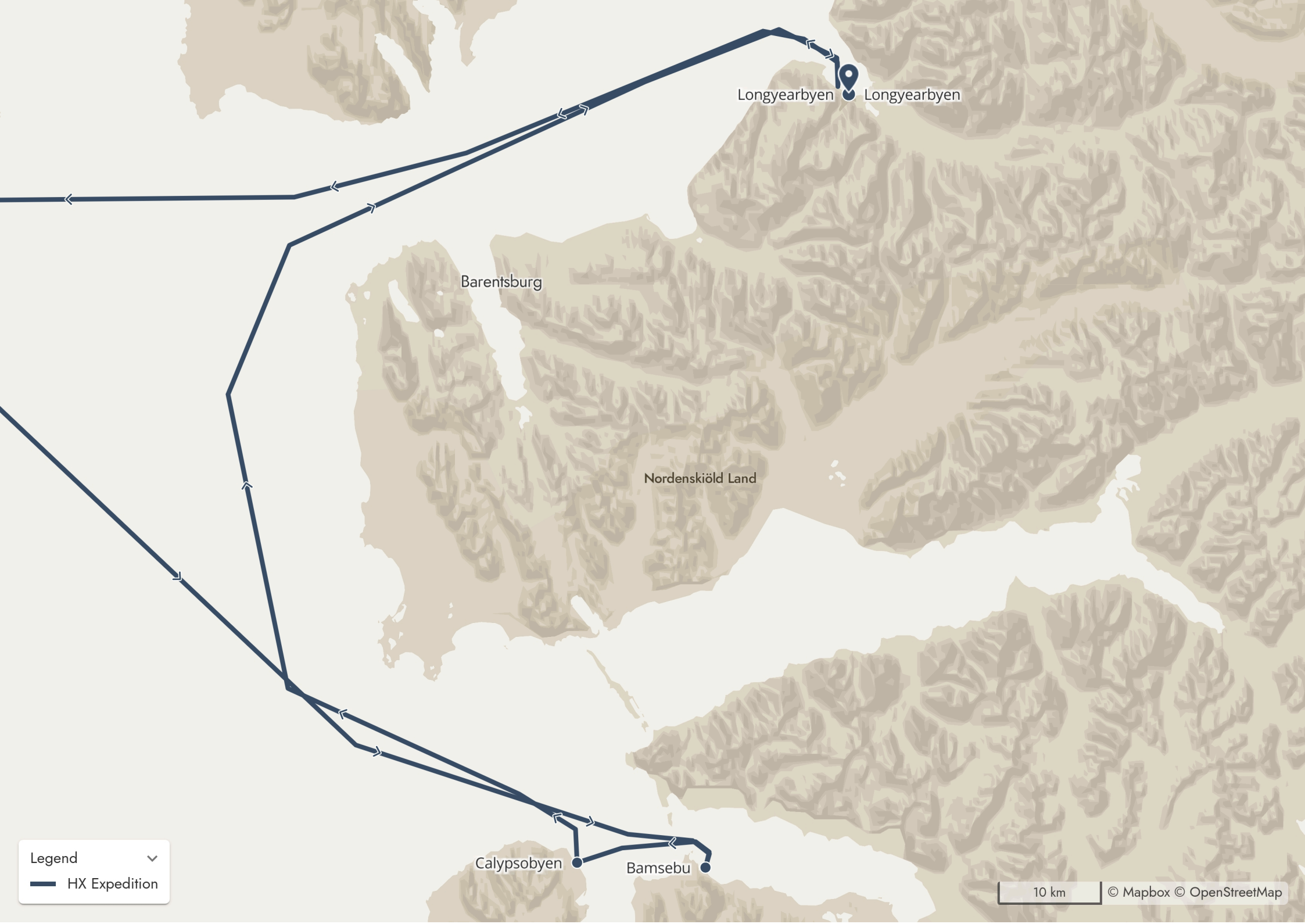
Alicehamna & Smeerenburg

We explored Alicehamna in the morning, landing in small groups and taking in the striking scenery. Some of us joined the kayak adventure, gliding quietly along the shoreline, while others braved the Polar Plunge, a memorable dip in Arctic waters. In the afternoon, we visited Smeerenburg, where we walked among the remnants of the historic

whaling station and had the chance to see walrus resting nearby. The evening ended with a charity auction and lively music from the Seasick Band, bringing everyone together to celebrate another rewarding day in the Arctic.







Legend



— HX Expedition

Longyearbyen

Longyearbyen

Barentsburg

Nordenskiöld Land

Calypsobyen

Bamsebu

10 km

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Bamsebu & Calypsobyen

We landed at Bamsebu in the morning, exploring the historic trapping station and its surroundings in small groups. The quiet landscape revealed traces of past human activity alongside the skeletons of hundreds of belugas hunted by whalers. After a midday break, we continued to Calypsobyen, walking among the remnants of

mining operations and reflecting on the area's history. Back onboard, we attended the disembarkation talk before gathering in the lounge for the Captain's Farewell. The day concluded with a voyage slideshow, allowing us to revisit shared moments and celebrate our expedition together.







Longyearbyen - Disembarkation

In the quiet light of polar day, our time together in Svalbard draws to a close. Early morning disembarkation marks the end of a journey shaped by exploration, learning, and shared experiences in the Arctic's unique environment. As we step ashore, we take with us memories of diverse landscapes, notable wildlife encounters, and the

connections formed with fellow travellers and crew. Though our voyage ends, the sense of curiosity and respect for the Arctic's delicate beauty endures. Wishing everyone safe onward travels, with the hope that the insights and moments from this expedition continue to resonate beyond Svalbard.



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