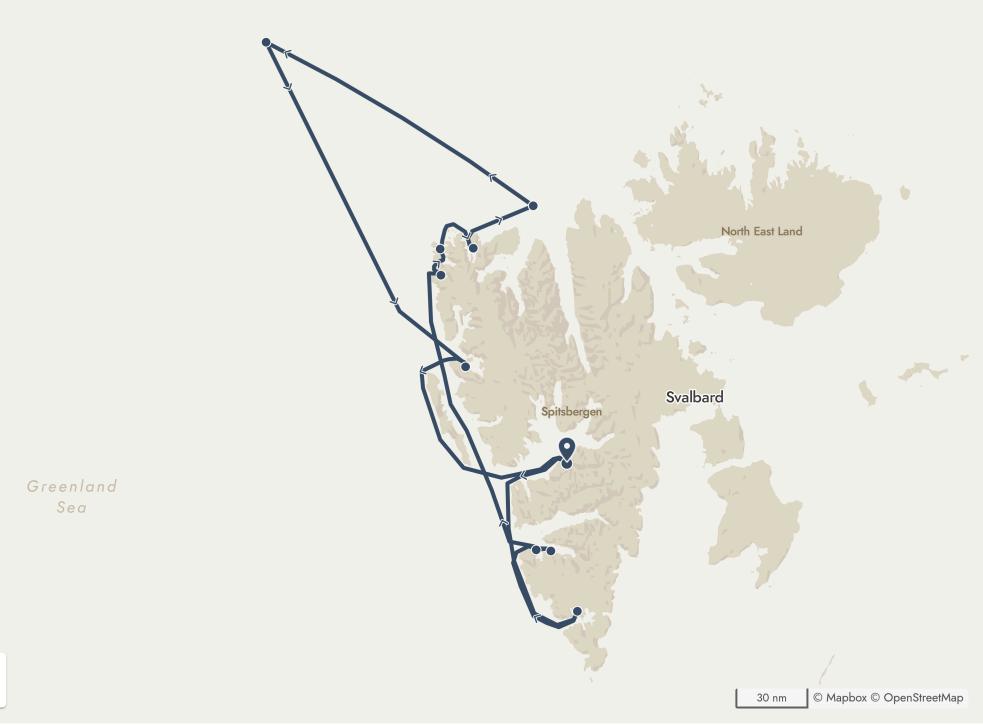


MS Fram

2025.06.08 - 2025.06.15



HX Expedition

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Legend

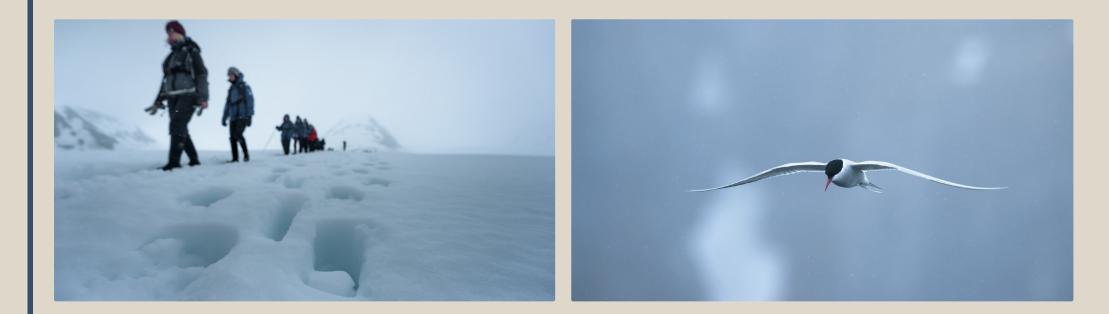
Longyearbyen - Embarkation

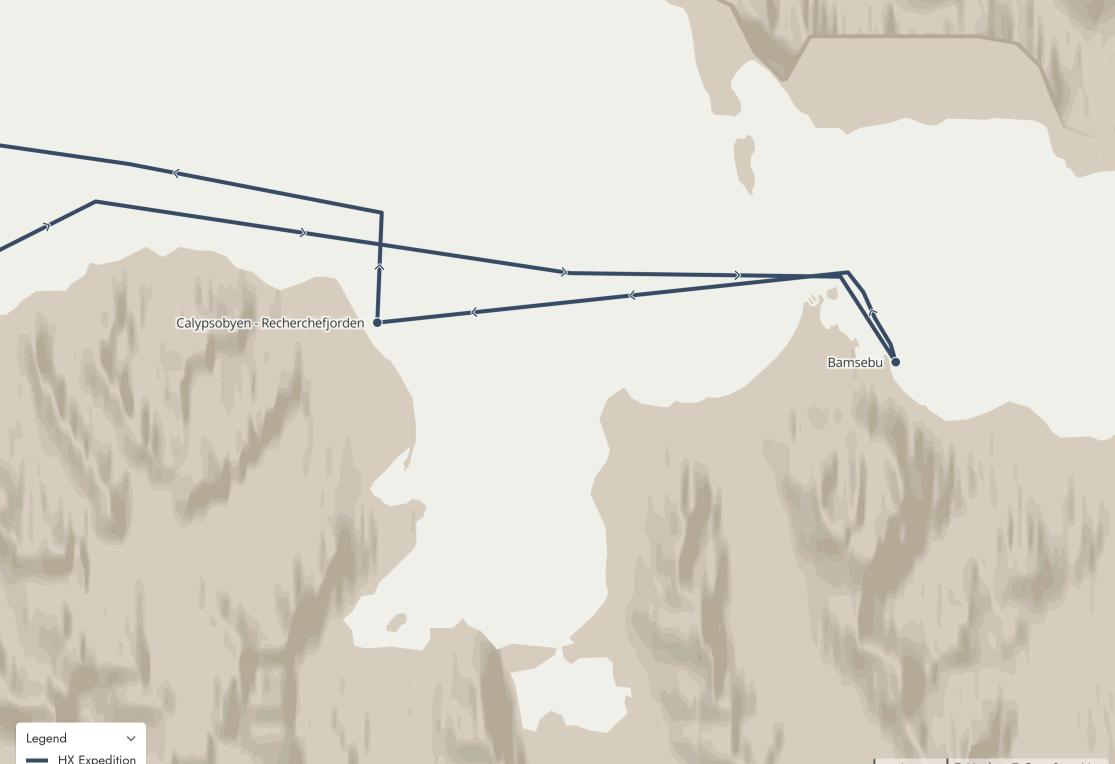
Embarkation day in Longyearbyen begins as guests arrive and settle in, taking time to explore the town's surroundings or visit local museums before boarding MS Fram. In the afternoon, guests collect their expedition jackets at the Science Center and boots in the Lecture Hall—both essential for upcoming shore landings. All guests participate in a mandatory safety drill in the Explorer Lounge, ensuring familiarity with onboard procedures. Throughout the day, information about the cruise, daily activities, and available services is accessible via the HX app and cabin TV.



Burgerbukta

As we approached Burgerbukta, today's program introduced guests to the Arctic environment and prepared them for upcoming landings. The morning began with a wildlife watch from the bow, followed by an overview of the ship's science program and guidance on contributing to citizen science projects such as eBird and NASA GLOBE Cloud Observer. Guests had the chance to meet with scientists in the Science Center and attended a mandatory kayak briefing. In the afternoon, favorable conditions allowed for a landing at Burgerbukta, where guests enjoyed stunning views of the glacier and surrounding fjord. The day also included a mandatory AECO polar bear safety briefing and concluded with an evening presentation outlining plans for tomorrow.





Bamsebu & Recherchefjorden

Today's program included landings at Bamsebu and Recherchefjorden, each rich in history and natural beauty. In the morning, guests explored Bamsebu's tundra, observing remnants of beluga whale hunting such as bone piles, and discovering cultural artifacts like old boats and cabins scattered across the landscape. Despite challenging swell conditions, the afternoon landing at Recherchefjorden allowed for further exploration of an area famed for its whaling heritage, mineral prospecting, and distinctive geology. Onboard, guests enjoyed a photography lecture and an Arctic storytelling session before gathering for an evening presentation detailing the next day's plans.



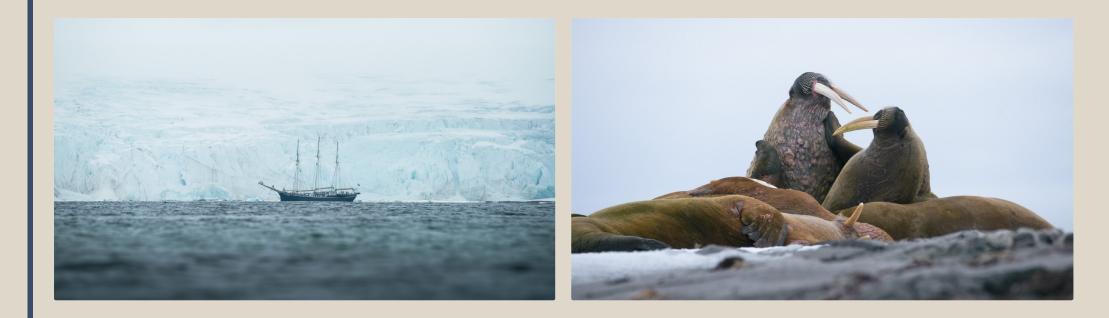
Calypsobyen - Recherchefjorden, Norway - Jun 10, 2025



Gravnesodden

Calm conditions welcomed us as we approached Gravnesodden, where the first polar bear of the voyage appeared about 700 meters from the ship, drawing many guests to the outer decks for a rare sighting. The landing at Gravnesodden began after a brief delay, giving time to appreciate the tundra landscape, coastal features, and traces of cultural heritage. Morning activities included kayak sessions for Group A and, weather permitting, the exhilarating Polar Plunge. In the afternoon, Smeerenburg offered a chance to explore the historic whaling station ruins and observe a group of walruses resting on the beach. Onboard, a science boat session and a short talk on Svalbard's birdlife provided deeper insight, followed by an evening briefing outlining plans for the next day.





Alicehamna & Moffen

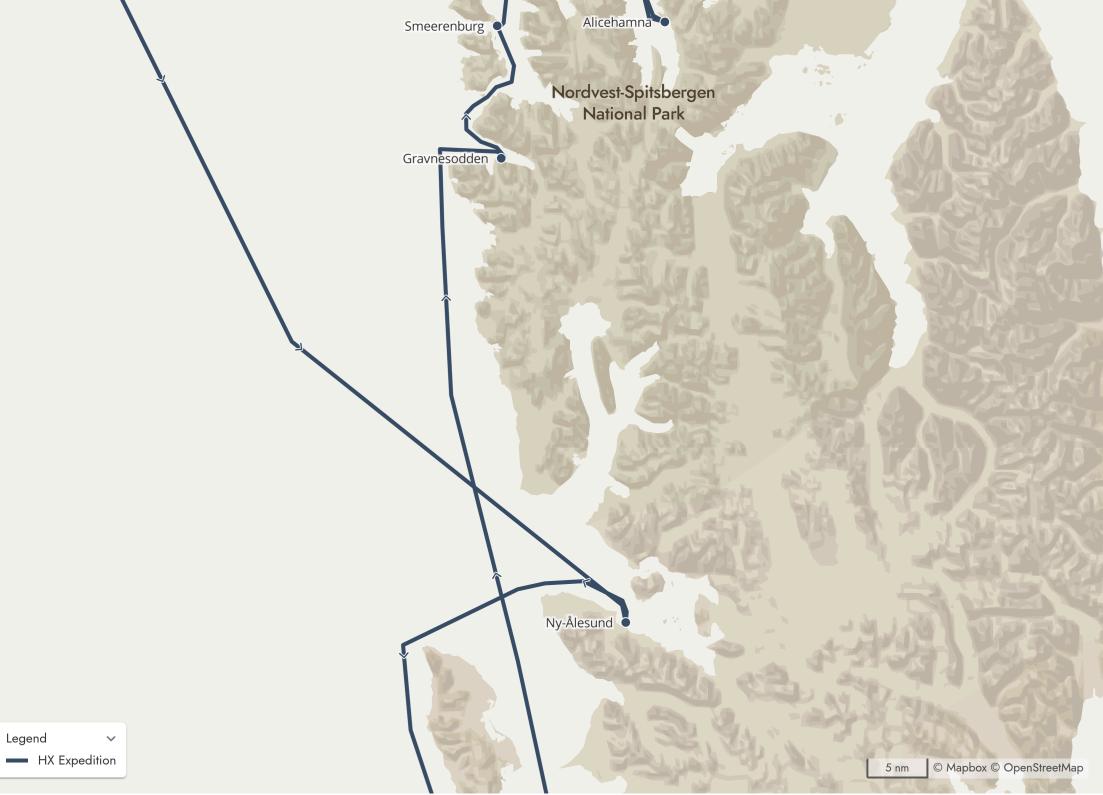
We started the day in Alicehamna under clear skies and mild temperatures, creating ideal conditions for our morning landing. Ashore, we took time to explore the landscape and observe the remnants of the area's cultural heritage. Some guests embarked on a kayak adventure, paddling across the fjord toward a stunning glacier. In the afternoon, we cruised around Moffen, keeping watch from the outside decks for the large gathering of walruses and other wildlife on the flat island. Meanwhile, others participated in onboard activities, including a lecture on polar bears and a session focused on sea ice. The day concluded with a science presentation, storytelling, and a briefing on the plans for the following day.



Sea Ice Exploration Day

We began the day searching for sea ice, experiencing a slight delay as the ice edge was farther north than anticipated. While on deck, we spotted a Sperm Whale, adding excitement to the morning's wildlife watch and eBird citizen science project. Once we reached the ice, we prepared for zodiac cruising. Beneath clear skies and calm winds, we navigated among the floes, admiring the intricate patterns and vibrant colours of the sea ice. Some guests attended a minerals session and a knot-tying workshop in the Science Centre. The day concluded with informative lectures and a briefing on the plans for tomorrow.





Ny-Ålesund

We arrived in Ny-Ålesund under mild weather, making our morning activities especially comfortable. After breakfast, guests joined guided walks through the settlement, learning about its history as a coal mining town and its evolution into an international research hub. Some participated in a birdwatching walk with the resident ornithologist, while others explored the museum or visited the local shop. Back onboard, we sailed deeper into Kongsfjorden, taking in stunning views of the Kongsbreen and Kronebreen glaciers, framed by the majestic Three Kings Mountains. Later, we attended the disembarkation talk and had the opportunity to visit the art corner. The day concluded with the captain's farewell, a charity auction, and a slideshow celebrating our voyage.





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Longyearbyen - Disembarkation

In the quiet light of the polar day, our time together in Longyearbyen draws to a close. Early morning disembarkation marks the end of a journey defined by exploration, learning, and shared experiences in the Arctic's unique environment. As we step ashore, we carry with us memories of diverse landscapes, remarkable wildlife encounters, and the bonds formed with fellow travellers and crew. Though our voyage ends here, the spirit of curiosity and respect for the Arctic's fragile beauty endures. Wishing everyone safe onward travels, with the hope that the insights and moments from this expedition continue to resonate long after Svalbard.



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