

The background of the slide features a deep blue underwater scene with two whales. A large, semi-transparent watermark consisting of the Roman numerals 'IX' is positioned on the left side of the image. The text 'Science & Education Report' is centered horizontally across the middle of the image.

# Science & Education Report

# MS Spitsbergen

29.06. – 08.07.2025

Circumnavigating Spitsbergen  
In the Realm of the Polar Bear







# Science & Education Program

Our Science and Education Team accompanied you during your expedition to the remote nature of the Svalbard archipelago.

We had the opportunity to explore our destination's natural beauty, exceptional wildlife, and rich history. We organized lectures and interactive activities onboard and explored our destinations during landings, nature walks, and from the water.



# History & Culture

We explored the historic remnants of Svalbard's early human presence, visiting sites once used by trappers and whalers. The simple cabins gave us a glimpse into the challenging conditions faced by those who lived and overwintered in this remote Arctic landscape. These encounters deepened our appreciation for the resilience and ingenuity required to survive in such an unforgiving environment.





# History & Culture

In Ny-Ålesund, we witnessed the evolution of Svalbard from a hub of resource exploitation to a center for international scientific research and environmental cooperation. Once a coal mining settlement, this northernmost community is now home to researchers from around the world, collaborating on vital studies in climate science and Arctic ecology.







# NASA Globe Cloud Observer

Together with our Environmental Scientist Jean you observed the clouds and submitted your observations to NASA GLOBE Observer on 2 occasions.

We will receive soon the e-mails comparing our data with the ones from the satellite. These cloud observations can help NASA improve our understanding of Earth's atmosphere and climate by providing valuable data for scientific research and climate modelling.

[View our data](#) on the global map

# iNaturalist

Throughout our expedition, we documented the flora and fauna of Svalbard and uploaded all our findings to the iNaturalist platform.

During our voyage, we submitted 194 observations of 64 different species. This effort contributes to the creation of a comprehensive understanding of the current distribution of species in the archipelago and can aid researchers in their ongoing studies and conservation efforts to protect these species.

View our data submitted on our [iNaturalist project](#)







# Science Boat

28 eager participants joined our 4 Science Boats in Torellneset, Gnålodden, Burgerbukta and Bamsebu to study plankton and the hydrography of our destination.

They helped monitor ocean clarity through participation in the Secchi Disk citizen science study, contributing to important research on the distribution of phytoplankton blooms.

[View our data](#) submitted to the Secchi Disk Project





# Plankton Samples

We explored the microscopic world of plankton, the tiny organisms that drift in our ocean.

In our samples we observed a variety of different zooplankton, from crustacean larvae, bristle worms to microscopic jellyfish. During our discovery session, we had the chance to observe many types of zooplankton, such as this colorful copepod captured in the picture, under the microscope.







# Wildlife List - Birds



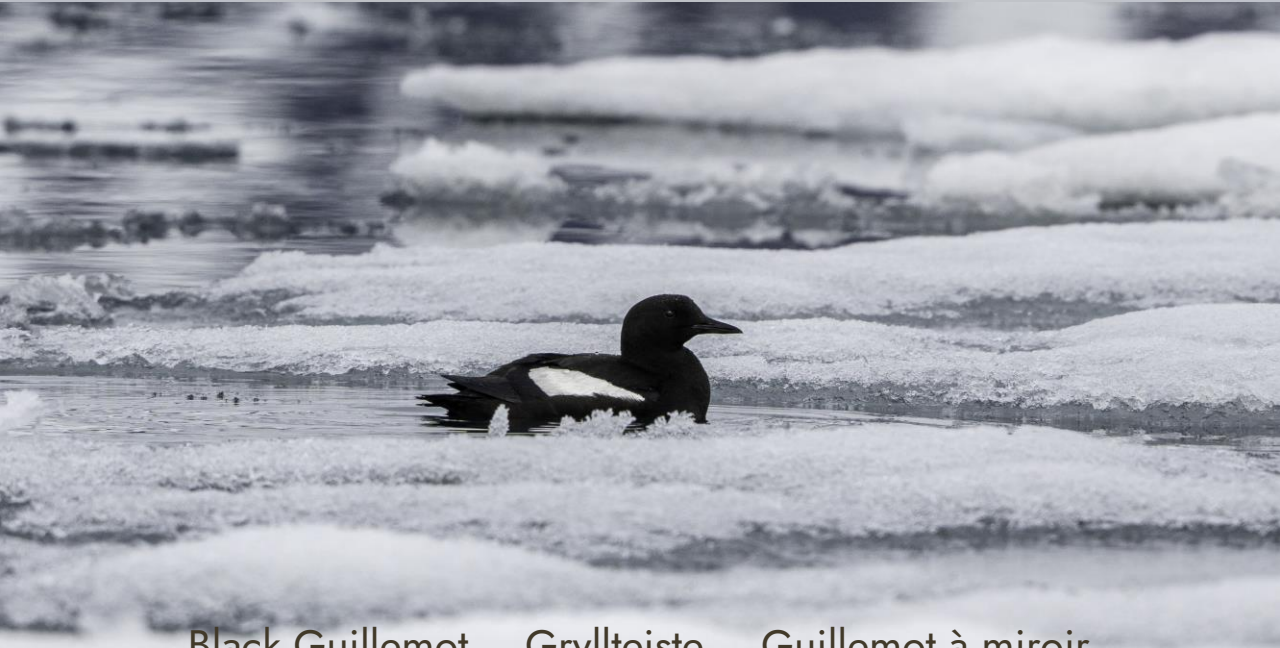




Arctic Tern — Küstenseeschwalbe — Sterne Arctique



Northern Fulmar — Eissturmvogel — Fulmar boréal



Black Guillemot — Gryllteiste — Guillemot à miroir



Common Eider — Eiderente — Eider à duvet



# Wildlife List – Seabirds

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	FRANÇAIS
<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	<b>Northern Fulmar</b>	Eissturmvogel	Fulmar boréal
<i>Stercorarius skua</i>	<b>Great Skua</b>	Große Raubmöwe	Grand Labbe
<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>	<b>Pomarine Skua (Pomarine Jaeger)</b>	Spatelraubmöwe	Labbe pomarin
<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	<b>Arctic Skua (Parasitic Jaeger)</b>	Schmarotzerraubmöwe	Labbe parasite
<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	<b>Long-tailed Skua (Long-tailed Jaeger)</b>	Falkenraubmöwe	Labbe à longue queue
<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	<b>Black-legged Kittiwake</b>	Dreizehenmöwe	Mouette tridactyle
<i>Xema sabini</i>	<b>Sabine's Gull</b>	Schwalbenmöwe	Mouette de Sabine
<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	<b>Glaucous Gull</b>	Eismöwe	Goéland Bourgmestre
<i>Larus marinus</i>	<b>Great Black-backed Gull</b>	Mantelmöwe	Goéland marin
<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	<b>Arctic Tern</b>	Küstenseeschwalbe	Sterne Arctique
<i>Alle alle</i>	<b>Little Auk</b>	Krabbentaucher	Mergule nain
<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	<b>Atlantic Puffin</b>	Papageitaucher	Macareux moine
<i>Cephus grylle</i>	<b>Black Guillemot</b>	Gryllteiste	Guillemot à miroir
<i>Uria lomvia</i>	<b>Brünnich's Guillemot (Thick-billed Murre)</b>	Dickschnabellumme	Guillemot de Brünnich
<i>Alca torda</i>	<b>Razorbill</b>	Tordalk	Petit Pingouin



# Wildlife List — Water birds

SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	FRANÇAIS
<i>Anser brachyrhynchus</i>	<b>Pink-footed Goose</b>	Kurzschnabelgans	Oie à bec court
<i>Branta leucopsis</i>	<b>Barnacle Goose</b>	Weißwangengans	Bernache nonnette
<i>Branta bernicla</i>	<b>Brent Goose</b>	Ringelgans	Bernache cravant
<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	<b>Common Eider</b>	Eiderente	Eider à duvet
<i>Somateria spectabilis</i>	<b>King Eider</b>	Prachteiderente	Eider à tête grise
<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	<b>Long-tailed Duck</b>	Eisente	Harelde kakawi
<i>Gavia stellata</i>	<b>Red-throated Diver (Red-throated Loon)</b>	Sternschnäucher	Plongeon catmarin
<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	<b>Common Ringed Plover</b>	Sandregenpfeifer	Pluvier grand-gravelot
<i>Calidris maritima</i>	<b>Purple Sandpiper</b>	Meerstrandläufer	Bécasseau violet
<i>Phalaropus fulicarius</i>	<b>Red Phalarope (Grey Phalarope)</b>	Thorshühnchen	Phalarope à bec large
<i>Polysticta stelleri</i>	<b>Steller's Eider</b>	Scheckente	Eider de Steller



# Wildlife List — Land birds



SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	FRANÇAIS
<i>Lagopus muta</i>	Rock Ptarmigan	Alpenschneehuhn	Lagopède alpin
<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>	Snow Bunting	Schneeammer	Bruant des neiges



# eBird

During our Wildlife Watches and landings, our ornithologist Julia conducted detailed bird surveys, recording observations for the citizen science platform eBird. We recorded 20 different species of birds in 10 checklists.

This initiative helps contribute valuable data to global bird conservation efforts, enhancing our understanding of seabird populations and their habitats.

View our data on our [e-Bird trip report](#)



# Wildlife List - Marine Mammals

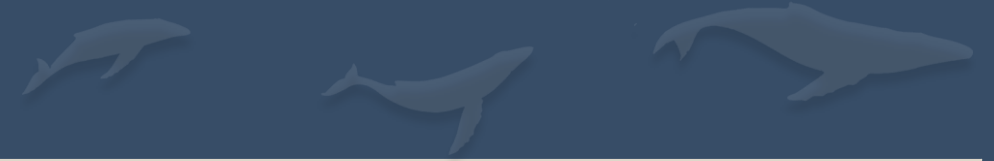








# Wildlife List – Marine Mammals



SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	FRANÇAIS
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Common Minke Whale	Zwergwal	Rorqual à Museau Pointu
<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>	Beluga, White Whale	Beluga, Weißwal	Bélouga
<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	Harbour Seal, Common Seal	Seehund	Phoque Commun
<i>Pusa hispida</i>	Ringed Seal	Ringelrobbe	Phoque Annelé
<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>	Harp Seal	Sattelrobbe	Phoque du Groenland
<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>	Walrus	Walross	Morse
<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	Polar Bear	Eisbär	Ours Blanc

# Wildlife List - Land Mammals





# Wildlife List – Land mammals



SCIENTIFIC NAME	ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	FRANÇAIS
<i>Rangifer tarandus ssp. platyrhynchus</i>	Svalbard Reindeer	Spitzbergen-Ren	Renne de Svalbard
<i>Vulpes lagopus</i>	Arctic Fox	Polarfuchs	Renard Arctique

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inner scientist**

**IX**

