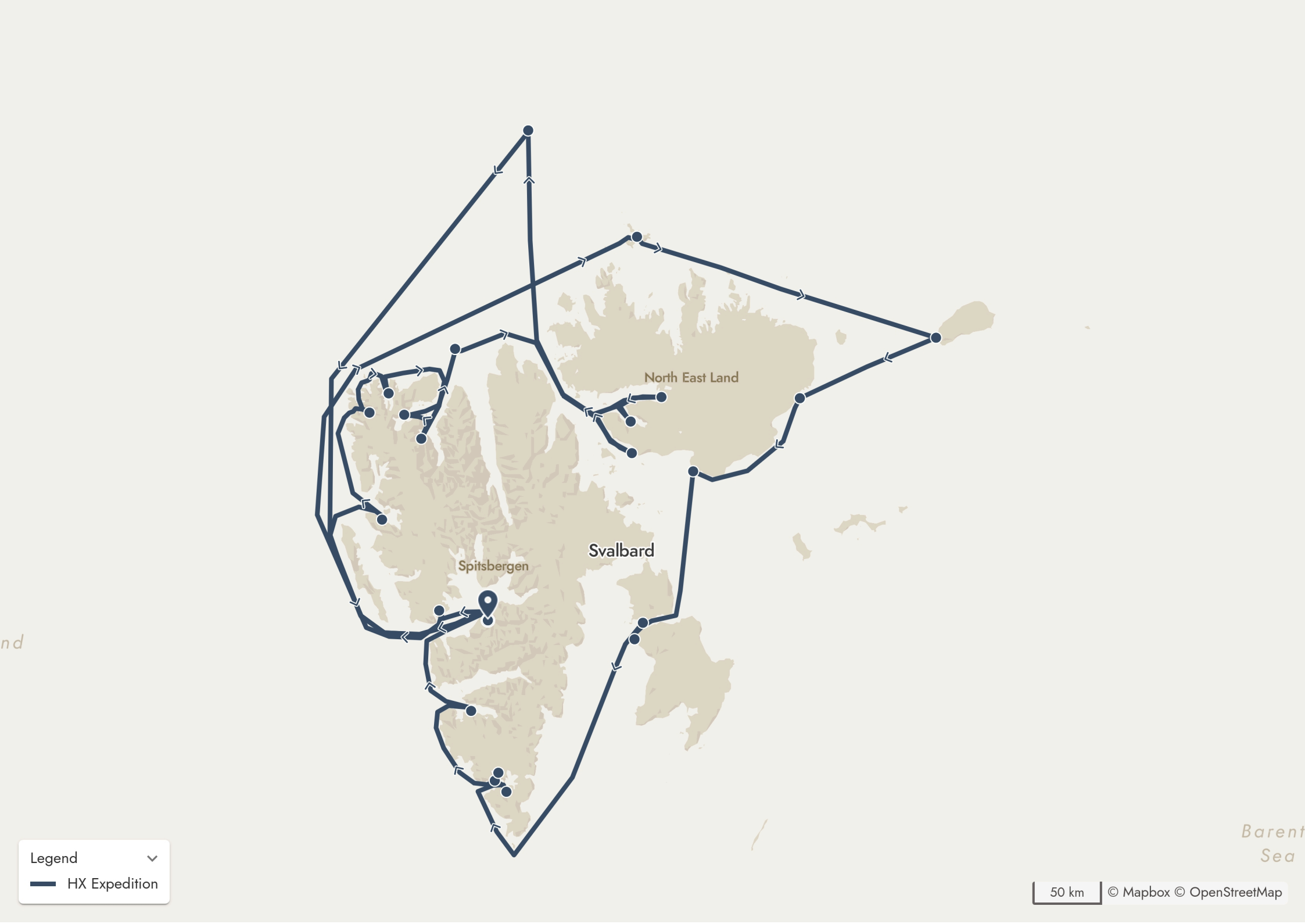


MS FRAM

2025.07.15 - 2025.07.27



Longyearbyen

Embarkation day in Longyearbyen begins with guests arriving and settling in, taking the opportunity 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 the upcoming shore landings. All guests

participate in a mandatory safety drill held in the Explorer Lounge to familiarize themselves with onboard procedures. Throughout the day, details about the cruise, daily activities, and available services are accessible via the HX app and cabin TV.



Ny-Ålesund

Our day began with important briefings on AECO guidelines and polar bear safety, essential for our upcoming landings in Svalbard. Guests could choose to join a wildlife watch or delve into the ship's fascinating science program. In the afternoon, we arrived in Ny-Ålesund, where guided walks offered insights into this unique

research town's history and environment. The day continued with scenic sailing through Kongsfjorden, capped off by an enlightening lecture on the "Frozen World of Svalbard." We wrapped up the evening with the Captain's welcome, meeting the officers and crew who would guide us on this incredible journey.



Bjørnfjorden & Alicehamna

What a way to start the day - a resting polar bear spotted in full view right from the vessel! Our first zodiac cruise of the voyage offered breathtaking glacier and wraparound mountain views in Bjørnfjorden. For keen photographers, a Wildlife Photography Workshop provided tips and inspiration. Meanwhile, solo travellers gathered for the Travel

Inspiration series, this time exploring the wonders of Iceland. Later, at Alicehamna in Raudfjord, we made our first landing, with opportunities to stroll to the serene lake, visit Sven's historic 1927 overwintering cabin, and explore nearby gravesites steeped in history.





Jotunkjeldene & Texas Bar

Continuing our journey to the Bockfjorden branch of Woodfjorden, our first activity of the day was a landing and guided walk at Jotunkjeldene. Back on board, we attended a fascinating lecture on polar bears before entering Leifdefjorden for our second landing at Texas Bar, where hot chocolate was served in the cosy Trappers Hut. Stunning wildflowers flourished along the trails, whether guests chose

a leisurely stroll to the viewpoints or embarked on the more challenging Extensive Hike. Many brave souls took a refreshing Polar Plunge from the beach before returning to the ship. By late evening, we arrived at the island of Moffen, pausing to admire walrus hauled out on the sandy shore.





Moffen, Norway - Jul 18, 2025

64.4 km

Torellneset - Jul 19, 2025

163.3 km

Torellneset, Eton Glacier & Palanderbukta

A sleeping polar bear stirred and slowly rose before approaching the group of walrus hauled out along the shore at Torellneset. Some of the walrus slipped quietly into the water, while others remained resting on the beach. We spent time observing this incredible scene until, with the hoped-for landing canceled, we shifted to scenic

cruising, venturing as far as the impressive 8-kilometer-wide Etonbreen glacier. Later, we returned along Wahlenbergfjorden to land at Palanderbukta on Nordaustlandet, where we explored the stark and striking polar desert landscape.



Eton Glacier - Jul 19, 2025

88.7 km

Palanderbukta - Jul 19, 2025

44.1 km



The Ice Edge

Overnight fog lifted as we approached the vast Arctic sea ice stretching as far as the eye could see. We spent time immersed in this spectacular frozen landscape before the Captain announced a necessary return to Longyearbyen due to a medical situation onboard.

Assuring us that the circumnavigation would resume once care was provided, the Expedition Team added extra activities to the program. Meanwhile, we enjoyed stunning views of sunlit mountains stretching late into the evening.



Longyearbyen & Ymerbukta

From Longyearbyen, we set course across Isfjorden to our landing at Ymerbukta. There, we walked along the rocky terrain to the towering Esmarkbreen glacier that dominates the bay—some even ventured onto the ice itself. Careful footing on the rocky ground soon

rewarded us with abundant fossil discoveries. Our onward sail was soon interrupted by a thrilling sighting of sperm whales, and later in the evening, a stunning double rainbow to port had everyone on deck once again, marveling at the beauty of the Arctic.



Phippsøya

Our early birds started the day with a refreshing yoga session, setting a calm tone for the adventures ahead. In the Science Centre, guests delved into the fascinating world of rocks, uncovering the geological story of Svalbard. Wildlife Watch kept everyone engaged, scanning the horizon for Arctic inhabitants, while the day's lecture explored the

incredible journeys of Svalbard's migratory birds. Though the winds were strong, clear skies welcomed us at Phippsøya, our northernmost landing of the voyage, where the sweeping sandy beach stretched out invitingly.









Kapp Lee

Our early arrival at Kapp Lee came with clear skies. We landed in small groups, giving us the chance to quietly observe a large haul-out of male walruses on the beach. They paid little attention to us as we watched them snooze, roll, and scratch, while others swam just offshore. After a morning lecture on Arctic climate change, we were set for another landing after lunch. At Sundneset, yet another polar bear appeared - this time close enough for all to see, but too close to

safely land. The decision was made to move on and reach our next destination half a day early, creating new opportunities for tomorrow. In the meantime, the Expedition Team put on additional activities. After dinner, the auction to raise funds for the HX Foundation was well supported. Later, the crew band - brilliantly named Sea Sick, had us dancing or at least tapping our feet to the music.



Sundneset - Jul 24, 2025

Kvitøya, Austfonna, Bråsvellbreen

Waking to the sound of waves for the first time since boarding, our early start was rewarded with sightings of three polar bears and walrus in the water. Sailing southwest toward views of Isisøyane, we enjoyed more lectures, workshops, Tiny Talks, and citizen science

activities. Later, we paused to watch and listen to a waterfall plunging into the sea from the top of the surging glacier Bråsvellsbreen—a truly special and spectacular sight.

Samarinbreen - Jul 25, 2025

Samarinbreen & Burgerbukta

Passing the sharp peaks of Hornsund in the early hours, we reached Samarinvågen to find stunning reflections of the glacier and mountains mirrored in the glassy water—truly an amazing sight. As we cruised in the RIB boats and kayaked, the bar boat arrived to serve hot chocolate, adding a warm treat to the experience.

Across the sound, we arrived at Gnålodden, where we spent time

observing a polar bear stretched out like a log—not far from our intended landing site. Our plans shifted again as we moved to Burgerbukta. Half of our group was out kayaking or walking when the ninth bear of our voyage appeared. Calmly and safely, everyone returned on board, and we watched the bear as it moved around for quite some time.



Gnålodden - Jul 25, 2025

Burgerbukta, Norway - Jul 25, 2025



Bamsebu

Today we woke up to our final day of expedition in Svalbard. We went ashore at Bamsebu, an old whaling station filled with the skulls of Beluga whales - a stark reminder of the area's history. Some of us stayed near the landing site and walked the perimeter, where we also saw the bones of a deceased polar bear. Others went on an extended

hike from Bamsebu all the way to Lyshamna, taking in the rugged Arctic landscape one last time. In the afternoon, we reluctantly parted ways with our trusty Muck boots and gathered in the Explorer Lounge for the Captain's Farewell - one final "skål" to toast an unforgettable journey.





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 shaped 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 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 far beyond Svalbard.



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