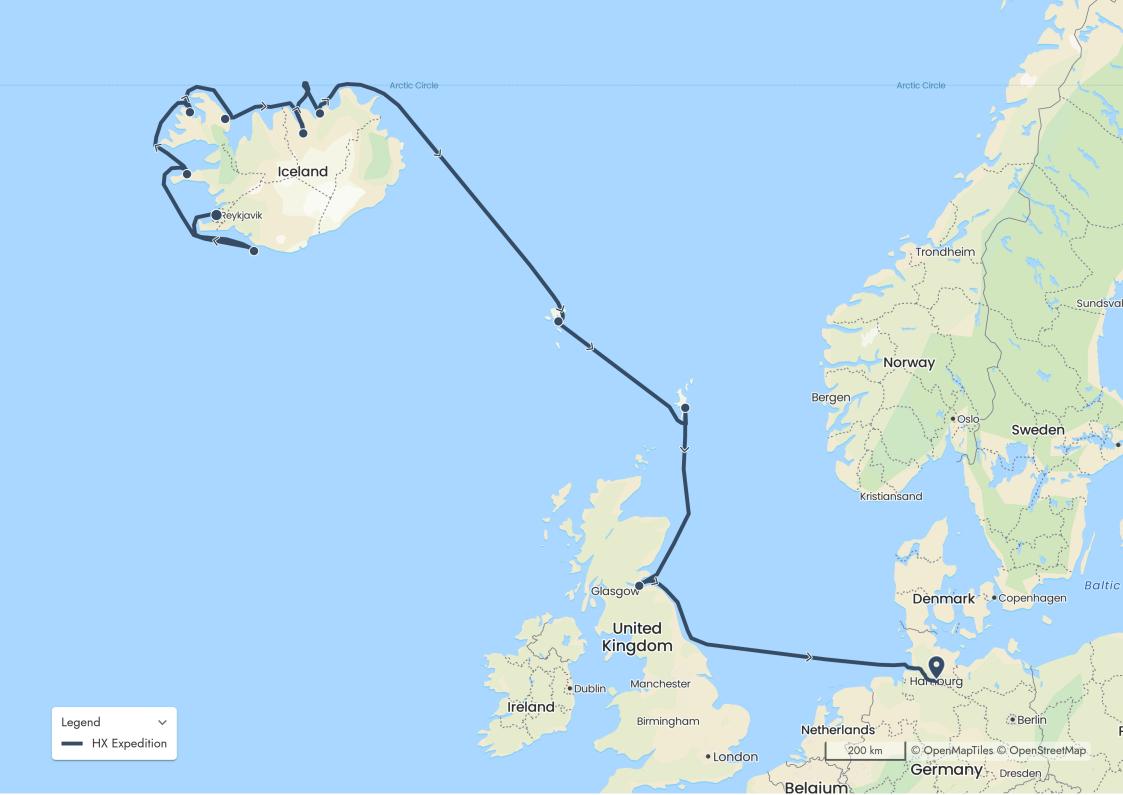
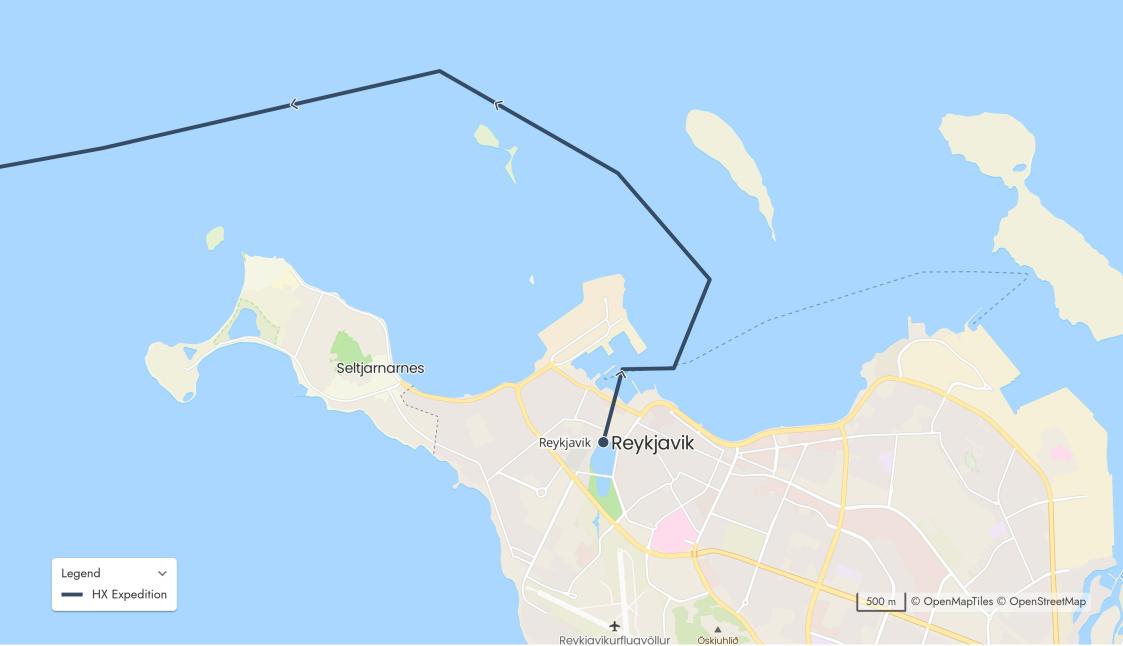


MS Spitsbergen

2025.09.22 - 2025.10.06





Day 1 - Embarkation in Reykjavík

Starting your expedition cruise in Reykjavík is a great way to begin your journey in Iceland. This small, friendly city is full of colourful houses, cosy cafés, and views of the surrounding mountains and sea. You could feel the excitement build for the adventure ahead as everyone boarded MS Spitsbergen. Departing from Reykjavík, the

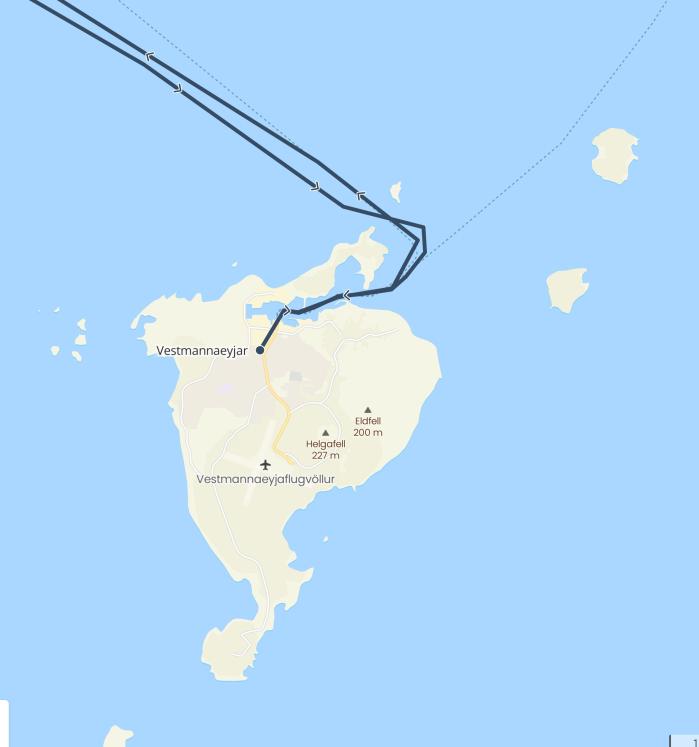
ship sailed past small islands and dramatic coastlines, and into rough seas – giving everyone a first taste of Iceland's wild beauty. On our small ship, the atmosphere is relaxed and welcoming, and everyone savoured the views from the observation decks as we left the city behind and made our way toward remote Heimaey.











Day 2 - Haimaey

Visiting Heimaey on a small ship like MS Spitsbergen was a rather exciting experience! It was a relief to arrive here after a bumpy ride out of Reykjavík. As the ship sailed into the narrow harbour, we saw steep cliffs, volcanic rocks, and maybe even a couple of the last remaining puffins flying overhead. On land, some walked through the

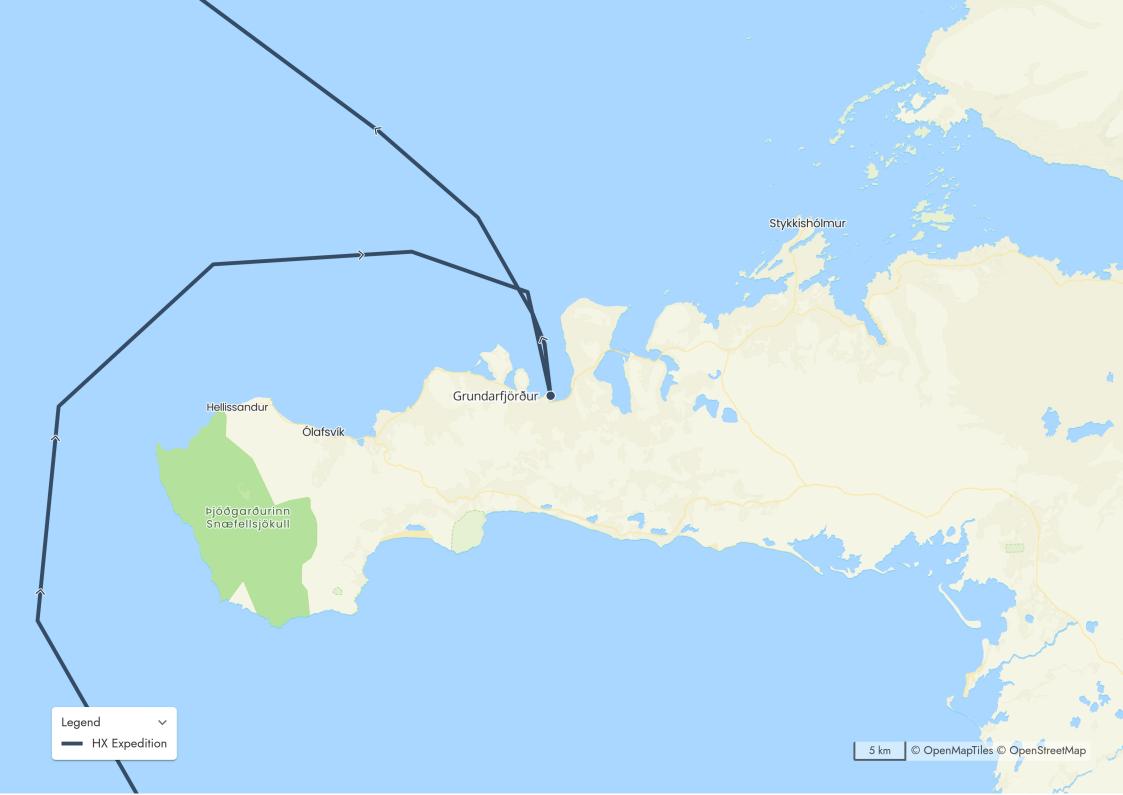
town of Vestmannaeyjar, while others hiked up the Eldfell volcano or visited the Eldheimar museum to learn about the 1973 eruption that changed the island. Heimaey is full of history, wildlife, and dramatic landscapes — perfect for an unforgettable stop on our Iceland expedition.











Day 3 - Grundarfjörður

Visiting Grundarfjörður was a peaceful and memorable stop on our Icelandic journey. Nestled beneath the striking Kirkjufell mountain, this small town offered stunning views of fjords, waterfalls, and dramatic coastal scenery. Our small ship allowed us to get close to shore and enjoy a quiet, uncrowded landing. First, we enjoyed a local performance on board. Ashore, guests could explore the town, walk

along the harbour, or take an excursion to nearby natural sights like the Kirkjufellsfoss waterfall or the Snæfellsnes peninsula.

Grundarfjörður's serene beauty and warm, welcoming atmosphere made it an excellent stop to soak in Iceland's captivating charm and rugged landscapes.











Day 4 - Ísafjörður

Our ship docked close to town, making it easy to go ashore and explore. Some ambled through the charming streets lined with old timber houses and cozy cafés. Others joined an excursion to the stunning Dynjandi waterfall, about an hour's drive away through the dramatic Westfjords landscape. The journey itself was part of the experience, with winding roads and fjord views. At Dynjandi, we

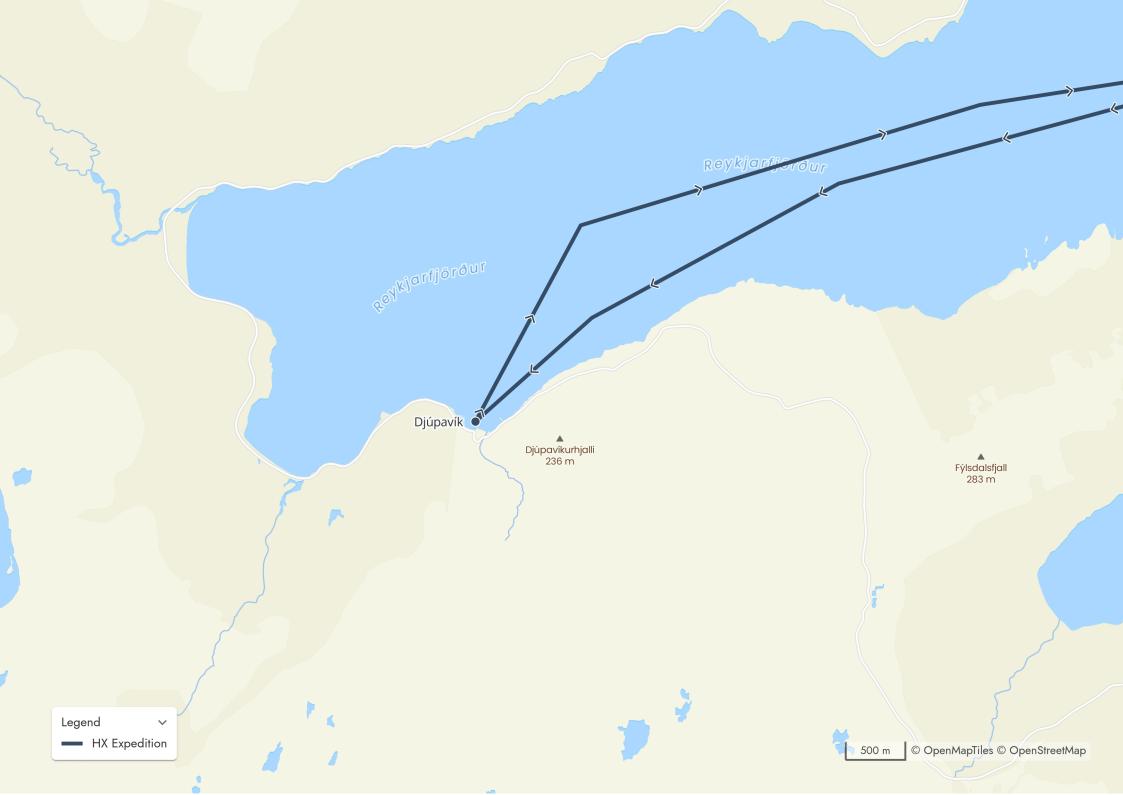
hiked alongside the cascading tiers of the waterfall, feeling the spray and marvelling at its sheer scale. Later that afternoon, as we set off, we came across a large group of humpback whales and the ship slowed down to watch them for a while.











Day 5 - Djúpavík

Our visit to Djúpavík offered the first nature landing of this voyage. We launched our small expedition boats go ashore, landing near the old herring factory that once gave life to this now-quiet village. The atmosphere here is surreal: you're surrounded by towering mountains, towering waterfalls, and abandoned buildings. You can't help but feel a sense of deep isolation. Some took a guided walk through the hauntingly beautiful ruins of the factory, now partly used

for art installations and local exhibits, offering a glimpse into the area's past. Other activities here included a kayaking trip, a nature walk, a science boat ride, and a hike up onto the plateau with sweeping views of the fjord. This is a place few get to see, and visiting by small ship allowed for an intimate, slow-paced experience that was both eerie and breathtaking.











Akureyri, Iceland - Sep 27, 2025 205.1 km

Day 6 – Akureyri

Akureyri is a charming and bustling northern town with access to some of Iceland's most stunning natural sights. The ship docked right in the heart of town, making it easy to step ashore and explore the colourful streets, visit the iconic church on the hill, or enjoy a local café along the waterfront. From here, many joined an excursion to nearby highlights like Goðafoss — the Waterfall of the Gods — and Lake Mývatn, known for its volcanic landscapes, steaming fumaroles,

and unique birdlife. The drive out of town wound through dramatic scenery, with knowledgeable local guides sharing insights into the geology and culture of the region. Whether exploring lava fields, soaking in natural hot springs, or simply enjoying the relaxed vibe of Akureyri, the small-ship experience offered a thoughtfully structured day tailored to individual preferences.











Day 7 - Húsavík

The day began early, with a scenic circumnavigation of Grímsey island, located just off the Arctic Circle. From the ship, guests took in dramatic sea cliffs, the lighthouse on the south coast, and the infamous nine-ton concrete ball that denotes the current position of the Arctic Circle. After returning from Grímsey, the ship sailed into the calm harbour of Húsavík, where we went ashore to explore the

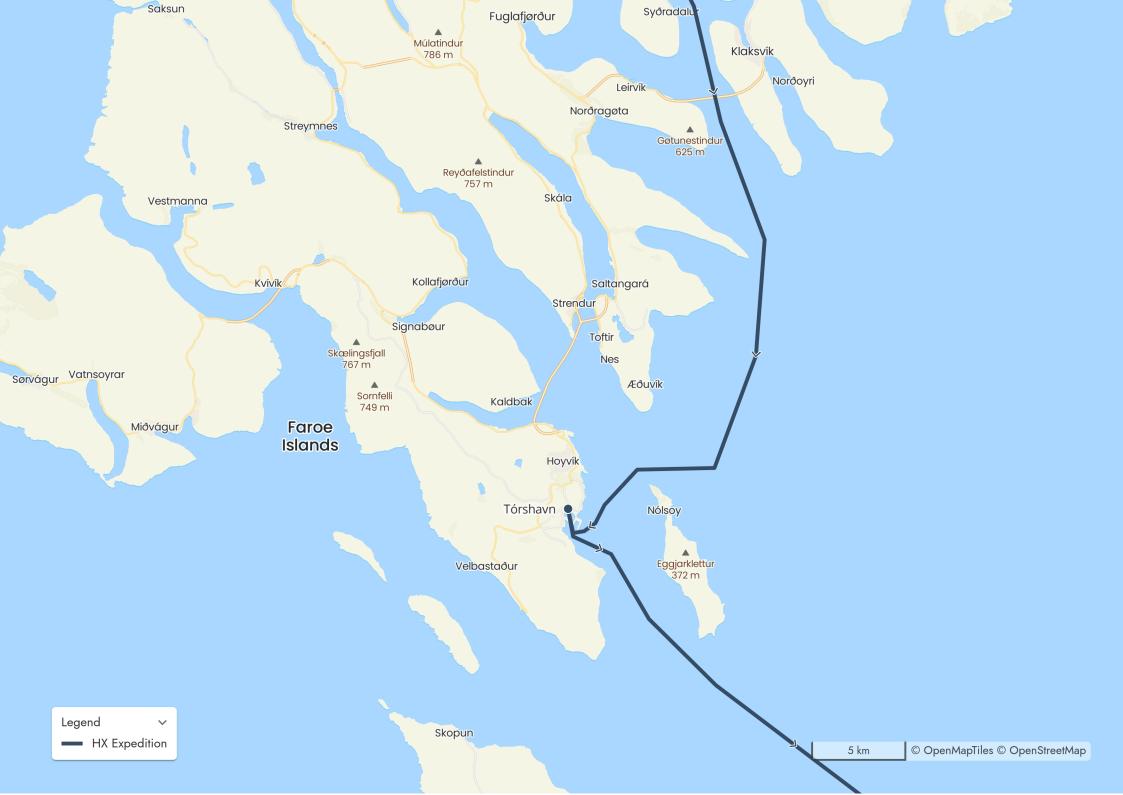
town's wooden houses and visit the excellent whale museum, or join a land-based whale-watching tour to observe humpbacks and other marine life. With its mix of wildlife, Arctic scenery, and authentic local culture, Húsavík is always a highlight, even more so with the fantastic weather we experienced on this day. As we departed Iceland for the last time, we had a BBQ out on deck.











Day 9 - Tórshavn

After a bumpy North Atlantic crossing from Iceland, arriving in Tórshavn — the tiny, colourful capital of the Faroe Islands — felt like a welcome return to solid ground and quiet charm. Nestled between rugged hills and a protected harbour, the town greeted us with its

distinctive turf-roofed houses and winding lanes. Some explored the historic Tinganes district, where parliament has met for centuries, while others wandered the local shops, cafés, and the excellent National Museum.











Day 10 - Lerwick

The sea crossing from Tórshavn to Lerwick in early autumn brought with it the full mood of the North Atlantic – brooding skies, shifting seas, and a growing chill in the air.

By morning, the rugged coastline of Lerwick emerged through the mist. Sadly, due to the conditions, we had to cancel our planned stop at Fair Isle. The harbour at Lerwick, protected and still, felt like a gentle exhale after a night of motion. Ashore, with few tourists in

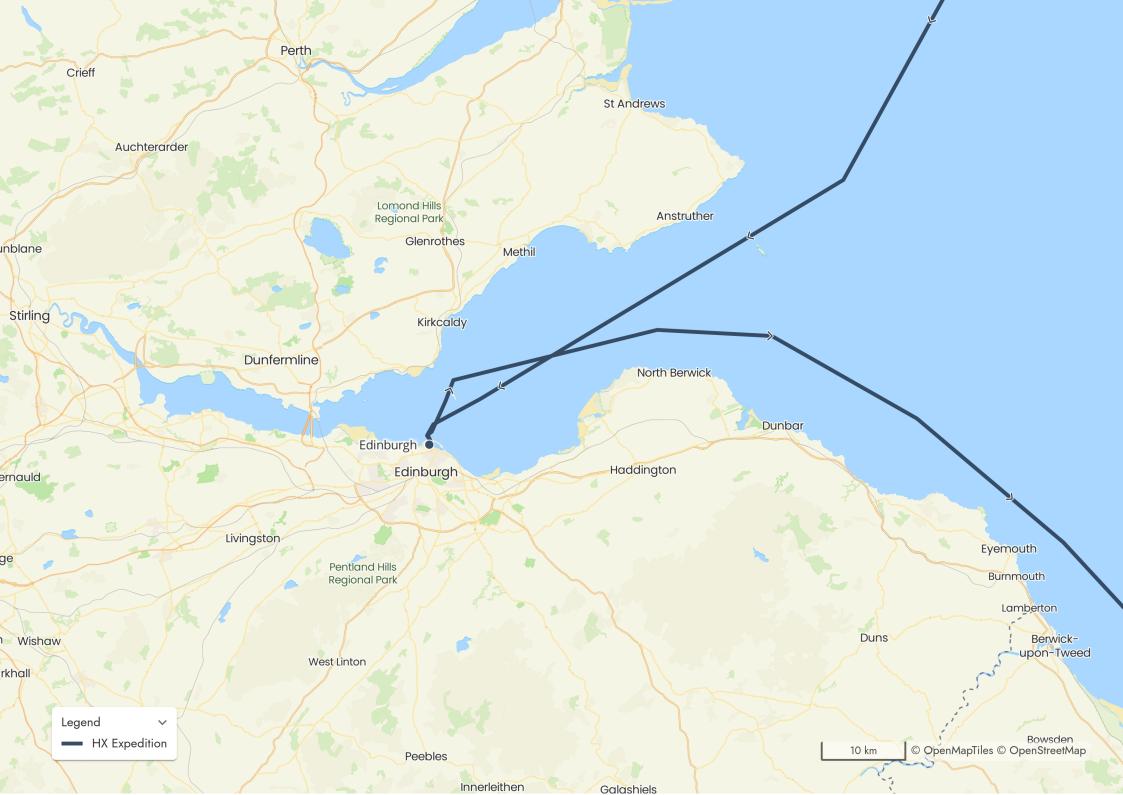
sight, autumn was a peaceful time to explore. Whether wandering the old town or visiting the Shetland Museum, Shetland revealed a striking, atmospheric beauty.











Day 12 - Edinburgh

After a bumpy night at sea, the calm waters of the Firth of Forth were very welcome. Stepping ashore, we found ourselves in one of Britain's most beautiful cities, where golden autumn leaves framed castle views and cobbled streets invited exploration. This unexpected stop became

one of the voyage's most memorable ones. Many explored on organized walking tours with local guides or, while others explored the city at their own pace.









