



MS Spitsbergen

28.2 – 7.3.2026



Legend

— HX Expedition

Vestfjorden

Leknes

Svolvær

Stokmarknes

Sortland

Hinnøya

Harstad

Senja

Finnsnes

Trondenes

Narvik

Rohkunborri
nasjonalpark

Kiruna

30 km

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Day 1 - Tromsø

Our voyage began in the Arctic gateway city of Tromsø, where a crisp, cool atmosphere and overcast skies set the scene for the start of our winter expedition. Throughout the afternoon, guests arrived at the pier and stepped aboard MS Spitsbergen, gradually settling into cabins and becoming familiar with the ship that would be our home for the days ahead.

As everyone arrived and the ship came to life, many of us spent time exploring the decks and common areas, taking in our first views of the harbor and the surrounding snow-covered landscape. The quiet excitement of departure could be felt throughout the ship as we prepared for the journey along Norway's dramatic winter coastline.

In the evening, we gathered for the mandatory safety briefing and introductions from the expedition team, an important first step in preparing for life on board and the adventures ahead. Just as the briefing was underway, an unexpected highlight appeared outside. Word quickly spread through the room as the first hints of the Northern Lights shimmered above the harbor, briefly interrupting the presentation and drawing many of us out onto the decks to witness the magical display.

Soon after, the ship gently departed the harbor, and we enjoyed a beautiful sail away from Tromsø. As the city lights slowly faded behind us, the sense of anticipation grew for the expedition that lay ahead.



Legend ▾

 HX Expedition



Day 2 - Sund

Our second day began with an exciting start on board as preparations for our first true expedition activities got underway. During the morning, guests attended the mandatory briefings for hiking and snowshoeing, ensuring everyone was ready to explore safely in the Arctic winter environment.

The expedition team also introduced us to the ship's extensive science and education program, highlighting opportunities for guests to participate in research and learn more about the unique ecosystems of northern Norway. Another popular session focused on photography, offering helpful tips and techniques to help us capture the special moments we hoped to experience throughout the voyage. Later in the morning, everyone received their expedition gear, including boots and warm winter suits, an exciting milestone that made the upcoming landings feel even more real.

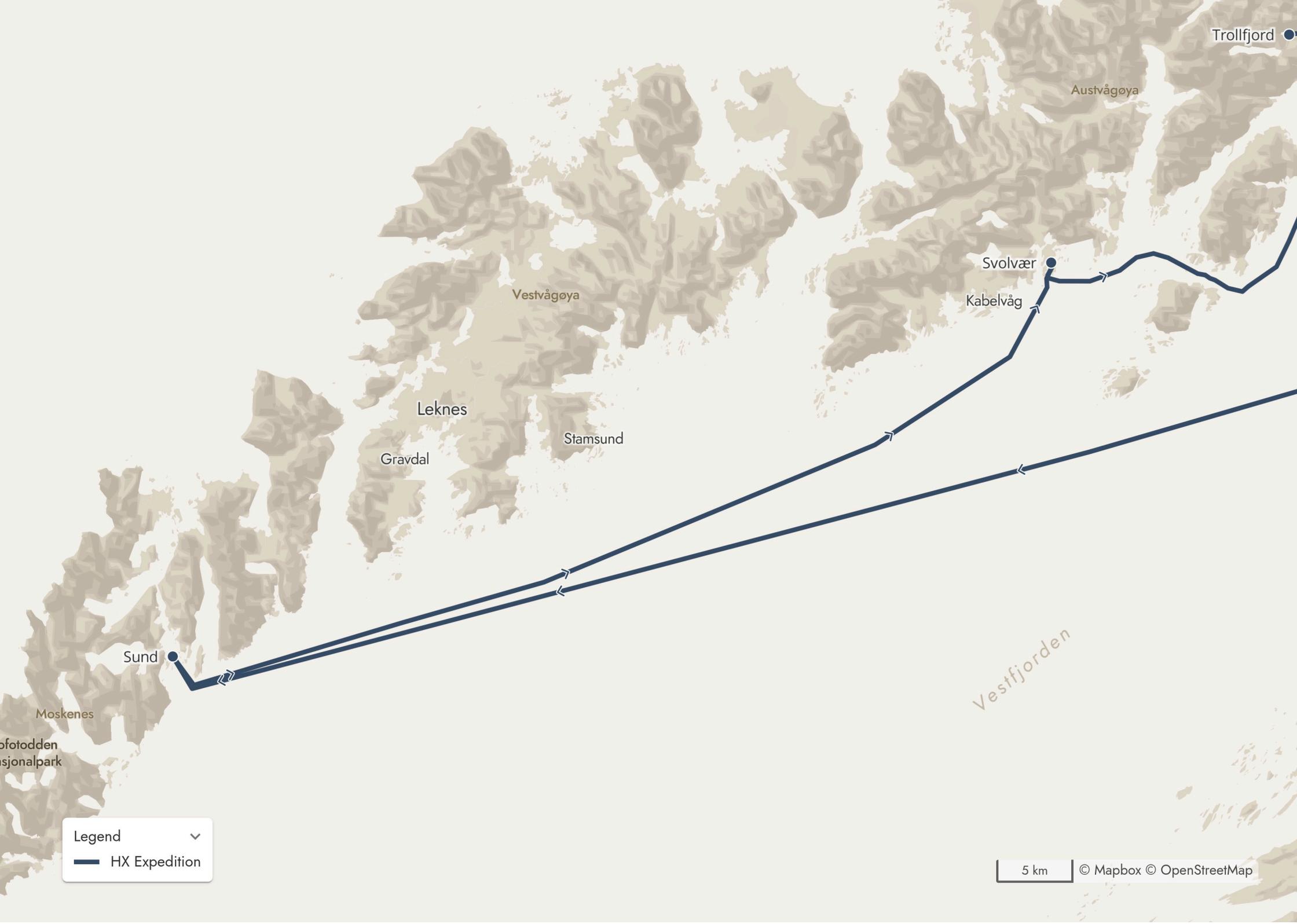
In the afternoon, it was finally time for our first expedition outing. We boarded the Zodiacs and set out on a long, scenic cruise toward a

breathtaking landing site hidden within a narrow sund, surrounded by steep mountains and pristine winter landscapes. Along the way, we experienced a true taste of Arctic weather, with a mix of snow, rain, sleet, and wind adding a sense of adventure to the journey.

Once ashore, we stepped into a quiet snowy valley where many of us stretched our legs on a peaceful hike, surrounded by dramatic scenery and fresh winter air. As the afternoon faded into evening, the landing took on a magical atmosphere as darkness slowly settled over the fjord.

Back near the landing site, a crackling bonfire welcomed us with warmth. Gathered around the flames, we enjoyed traditional Scandinavian fish soup and vegetable soup, sharing stories and laughter after a memorable first day of exploration. With firelight, snow, and the stillness of the fjord around us, it was a perfect introduction to expedition life along the Norwegian coast.





Trollfjord

Austvågøya

Svolvev

Kabelvåg

Vestvågøya

Leknes

Stamsund

Gravdal

Sund

Moskenes

ofotodden
sjonalpark

Vestfjorden

Legend

— HX Expedition

5 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 3 - Svolvær

On our third day we arrived alongside in the lively harbor of Svolvær, the vibrant capital of the Lofoten Islands. Calm seas and pleasant winter conditions greeted us as we stepped ashore to explore this historic fishing town and its spectacular surroundings.

Several groups set out on guided activities, each offering a different way to experience the region. Some guests joined a historical town walk, learning about the rich fishing heritage and cultural traditions that have shaped life in this coastal community for generations.

Others opted for a more adventurous mountain hike, climbing high above the town for breathtaking views over the harbor and the surrounding peaks rising dramatically from the sea.

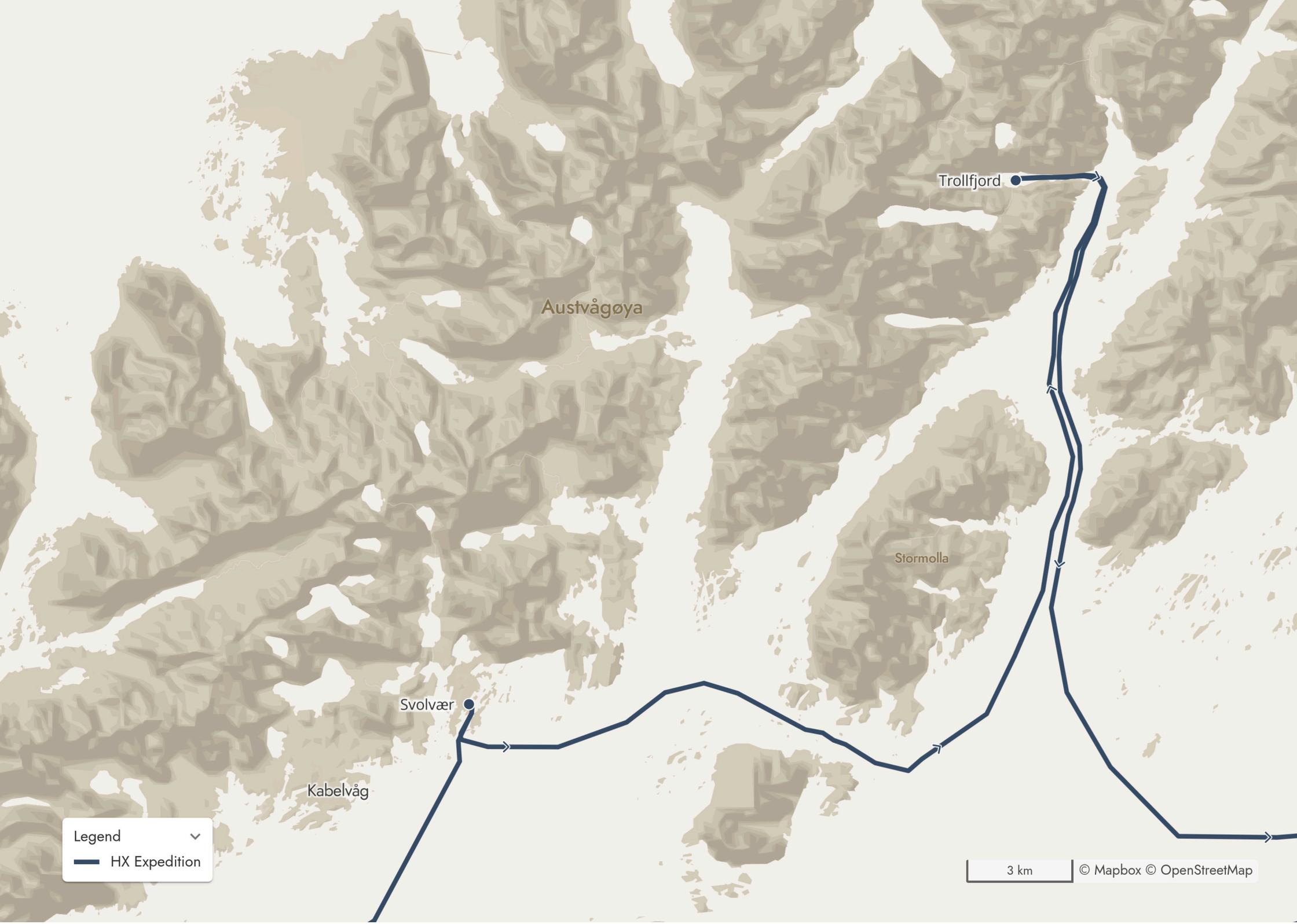
Another popular excursion was the sea eagle safari, where many of us

were thrilled to witness numerous sightings of the magnificent White-tailed Eagle soaring above the rugged coastline. Watching these powerful birds glide effortlessly through the Arctic air was a memorable highlight of the day.

Back on board in the afternoon, the expedition team hosted a series of engaging lectures, deepening our understanding of the landscapes, wildlife, and culture of northern Norway. Later, kayakers gathered for a dedicated briefing in preparation for upcoming paddling adventures in the fjords.

With calm conditions, fascinating excursions, and inspiring wildlife encounters, Svolvær offered a wonderful blend of exploration, learning, and Arctic scenery.





Trollfjord

Austvågøya

Stormolla

Svolvær

Kabelvåg

Legend

— HX Expedition

3 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 3 - Trollfjord

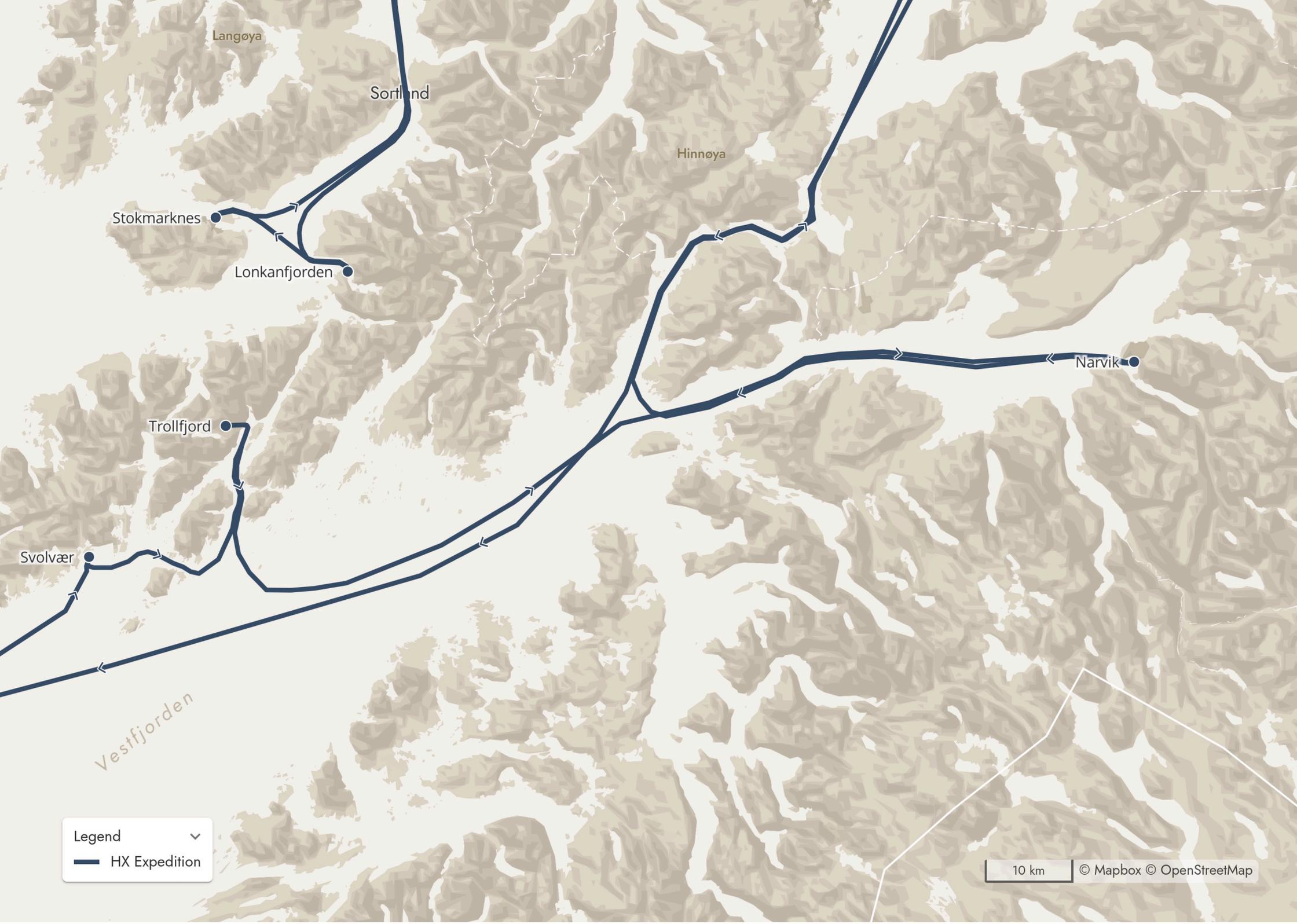
Following our day ashore in Svolvær, the evening brought another special highlight as the ship set course toward the legendary Trollfjord. As darkness settled over the Arctic landscape, many of us gathered out on deck, eager to witness the dramatic scenery of one of Norway's most famous fjords.

Slowly and carefully, the ship entered the narrow fjord, its towering mountain walls rising steeply from the water on either side. Under crisp winter air and light snowfall, the atmosphere felt almost otherworldly. Powerful beams from the ship's lights illuminated the cliffs and snow-dusted peaks, revealing textures in the rock and ice that would normally remain hidden in the night.

As we continued deeper into the fjord, the bridge team demonstrated remarkable precision and seamanship, guiding the ship steadily through the narrow passage. At the fjord's end, we experienced an impressive maneuver as the ship carefully turned around within the confined space, a moment that drew many guests out onto the decks to watch the skillful navigation unfold.

With dramatic scenery, quiet snowfall, and the fjord illuminated in the darkness, the visit to Trollfjord became a truly magical Arctic moment, a perfect evening experience following an adventurous day in the Lofoten Islands.





Langøya

Sorflund

Hinnøya

Stokmarknes

Lonkanfjorden

Trollfjord

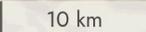
Svolvær

Narvik

Vestfjorden

Legend 

 HX Expedition

10 km  © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 4 - Narvik

Today we arrived alongside in the historic port town of Narvik, a place deeply connected to both Norway's maritime heritage and the events of the Battles of Narvik during World War II. Although the weather was unusually mild for the season, icy conditions underfoot reminded us that we were still firmly in the Arctic winter.

Guests had the opportunity to choose between two outdoor excursions. One group set out on a longer mountain hike, beginning with a short shuttle ride before venturing into the surrounding landscape. The trail led steadily upward, offering sweeping views over the fjord and the town below. Another group enjoyed a more relaxed walk through Narvik itself, continuing into the nearby forested hills where scenic viewpoints revealed beautiful panoramas of the harbor and bay.

While guests explored ashore, the ship's science and education team launched the science boat to investigate the fascinating underwater

history of the harbor. Using an underwater drone, they captured video footage of several historic wrecks resting on the seabed. Narvik's harbor is known as a protected underwater graveyard containing numerous ships sunk during the 1940 battles, including vessels such as the German destroyers Z2 Georg Thiele and Z21 Wilhelm Heidkamp, lying silently beneath the cold waters.

Later in the afternoon, we gathered on board for a series of engaging lectures. One presentation explored the culture and traditions of the Sámi people, while another session in the science center gave guests the opportunity to watch and discuss the remarkable underwater footage captured earlier in the day.

Narvik offered a fascinating combination of dramatic scenery, outdoor exploration, and powerful historical stories hidden both above and below the waterline.





Finnsnes

Tranøya

Harstad

Hinnøya

Sortland

Langøya

Stokmarknes

Lonkanfjorden

Narvik

Legend

— HX Expedition

10 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 5 - Tranøya

This morning we awoke to calm and beautiful conditions as we approached Tranøya on the island of Senja. Fresh snow blanketed the landscape, creating a bright white winter scene that looked almost untouched. Although rain had been forecast for later in the day, the morning remained clear and peaceful as we began our activities. After a short Zodiac ride from the ship, we arrived at a small jetty for a dry landing and began exploring the island. Guests spread out across a variety of activities, each offering a different way to experience the quiet beauty of this Arctic setting. Snowshoers ventured into the snowy terrain for a steady hike, while others enjoyed a relaxed walk through the surrounding landscape, taking in the fresh air and stillness of the island.

Kayakers paddled through calm waters along the coastline, experiencing the fjord from a unique and peaceful perspective. Meanwhile, the science and education team operated their underwater drone from the jetty, giving guests the opportunity to

observe the fascinating marine world beneath the cold, clear water. A highlight of the visit was a stop at a historic farmstead, where we explored a small museum and admired well-preserved buildings, including a charming church that has stood on the island for more than a century. Nearby, wildlife sightings added an extra sense of excitement, with both Moose and Reindeer spotted in the surrounding area.

Later, guests gathered around a bonfire where warm drinks, coffee, and biscuits were served, creating a cozy atmosphere in the snowy landscape. As the afternoon progressed and light rain began to fall, we enjoyed one final treat at the landing site, a traditional stew served beside another crackling fire.

With fresh snow, wildlife sightings, and warm moments shared around the flames, Tranøya offered a wonderfully authentic Arctic winter experience.





Legend

— HX Expedition

10 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 6 - Lonkanfjorden

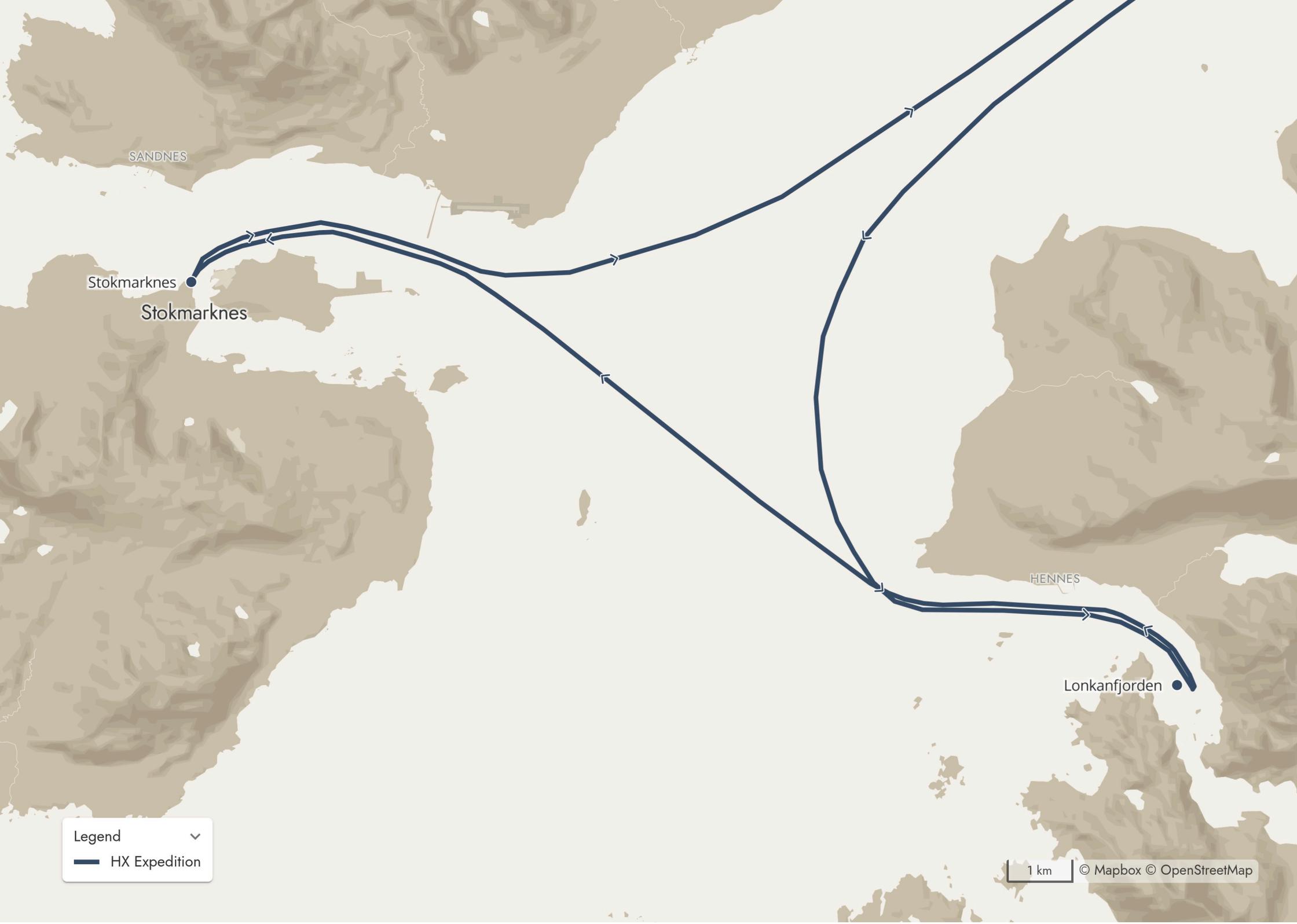
Our day began in the peaceful waters of Lonkanfjorden, where beautiful weather and near-perfect conditions greeted us for a morning of exploration. The calm fjord provided excellent conditions for Zodiac cruising and kayaking, allowing us to fully appreciate the dramatic scenery that defines the Norwegian coastline.

From the Zodiacs, we navigated slowly along steep rocky shores and icy waters, observing the intricate details of the intertidal zone and the rugged landscape carved by glaciers long ago. Several guests also joined the science and education boat, where the underwater drone once again revealed the fascinating world hidden beneath the surface.

Wildlife sightings added excitement throughout the morning. Majestic White-tailed Eagles were seen soaring above the cliffs, occasionally circling low over the fjord in search of fish. Their impressive wingspans and effortless flight were a spectacular sight against the winter sky.

In some areas, parts of the fjord were frozen, adding a unique dimension to the Zodiac cruise as we carefully navigated through patches of ice. One especially delightful surprise came when the expedition team organized a special Zodiac stop within the fjord, serving hot chocolate to guests while surrounded by towering mountains and pristine Arctic scenery.





SANDNES

Stokmarknes

Stokmarknes

HENNES

Lonkanfjorden

Legend

— HX Expedition

1 km | © Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 6 - Stokmarknes

Later in the afternoon, we arrived alongside in the coastal town of Stokmarknes, the historic birthplace of the renowned Hurtigruten coastal voyage. Light rain accompanied our arrival, giving the harbor a moody and atmospheric feel as the town's lights reflected softly on the water.

After coming ashore, guests visited the fascinating Hurtigruten Museum, where the story of Norway's iconic coastal service comes vividly to life. Walking through the museum offered a glimpse into more than a century of maritime history, from early coastal voyages that connected remote communities to the modern expedition journeys we experience today.

A special highlight of the evening was the opportunity to step aboard the historic museum ship MS Finnmarken, preserved within the museum itself. There, we enjoyed dinner surrounded by the ship's beautifully restored interiors, an unforgettable setting that connected us directly with the legacy of Norwegian coastal travel.

Later that evening, we gathered once more in the cozy Brygga Restaurant on board our ship, where warm waffles and cheerful conversation created the perfect atmosphere for a sail-away celebration. As we departed Stokmarknes under rainy skies, the glowing lights of the harbor slowly faded behind us, marking a memorable end to another wonderful day along the Norwegian coast.

Årøya, Norway - Mar 6, 2026

Day 7 - Årøya

On our seventh day, we arrived at Årøya under moody and dark winter skies and slightly windy conditions, perfect for our last landing of the voyage. With fresh Arctic air and excellent visibility, we stepped off the floating jetty onto the snow-covered island, fully

embracing the feeling of being in the far north.

Once ashore, everyone explored the landscape in their own way. One



Legend

— HX Expedition

20 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

group strapped on snowshoes and ventured into the forest with the Activity Guides, moving steadily through the quiet, snow-laden terrain. The hike itself was beautiful, but the highlight came at the very end: an exhilarating slide down a snowy hill. Others chose to wander independently along marked paths, enjoying the peaceful surroundings at their own pace.

Some of us climbed to the nearby hilltop viewpoint, reaching it just as darkness settled over the Arctic. Though the distant views were hidden by night, the atmosphere was unforgettable—standing together in stillness among snow-covered trees, guided only by our

headlamps and the faint glow above. The deep Arctic silence made the moment feel especially powerful.

Back near the landing site, a crackling bonfire welcomed us with warmth, quickly becoming a gathering place where we shared stories, warmed our hands, and reflected on the day before heading back to the ship.

With calm weather, peaceful scenery, and a wonderful blend of adventure and quiet reflection, Årøya provided a magical and memorable last day ashore in Arctic Norway.



Tromsø, Norway - Mar 7, 2026



Day 8 - Tromsø

Our voyage gradually came to an end as we arrived back in Tromsø, the well-known "Gateway to the Arctic." Snowflakes drifted quietly through the morning air while a cool breeze swept along the harbor. As the city began its slow morning rhythm, we gathered one last time over breakfast, sharing stories and reflecting on the remarkable journey we had experienced together.

Before long it was time to part ways and conclude our exploration of

the fjords, islands, and winter wilderness of northern Norway. Over the course of the voyage we had enjoyed peaceful moments in snowy landscapes, stood in awe of towering mountains, and witnessed the unforgettable spectacle of the Northern Lights illuminating the Arctic sky. Throughout it all, new friendships were formed, adventures were shared, and lasting memories of the Arctic were created.



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