



Grand Greenland – Mythical Lands of the North

MS Fridtjof Nansen, 18 July – 1 August 2026



Legend

— HX Expedition

200 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 1: Welcome to MS Fridtjof Nansen

Guests arrived in Nuuk after a long day of travel and stepped on board MS Fridtjof Nansen — the hybrid expedition vessel that would carry us deep into the far north of Greenland. The Expedition Team welcomed everyone and guided guests through a safety drill, an excursion briefing, and an orientation address from the Hotel

Manager and the Expedition Leader. By the time the formalities were done, anticipation had settled into something quieter and more certain. MS Fridtjof Nansen slipped out of Nuuk harbour and turned north towards the Arctic.



Day 2: At Sea

Fog came and went as MS Fridtjof Nansen crossed into the Arctic Circle. On board, the day was one of preparation: AECO briefings, excursion presentations, and a kayak orientation set the tone for the expedition ahead. You collected your rubber boots and completed

the biosecurity process for your clothing — practical steps, but ones that mark the shift from traveller to expedition guest. As the coast fell further behind, the Captain and his officers welcomed guests to the ship with a formal address: the proper start to this journey north.





Qeqertarsuaq

Ilulissat

Itilleq

At Sea

Nuuk

Nuuk

Davis Strai

Legend

HX Expedition

100 km

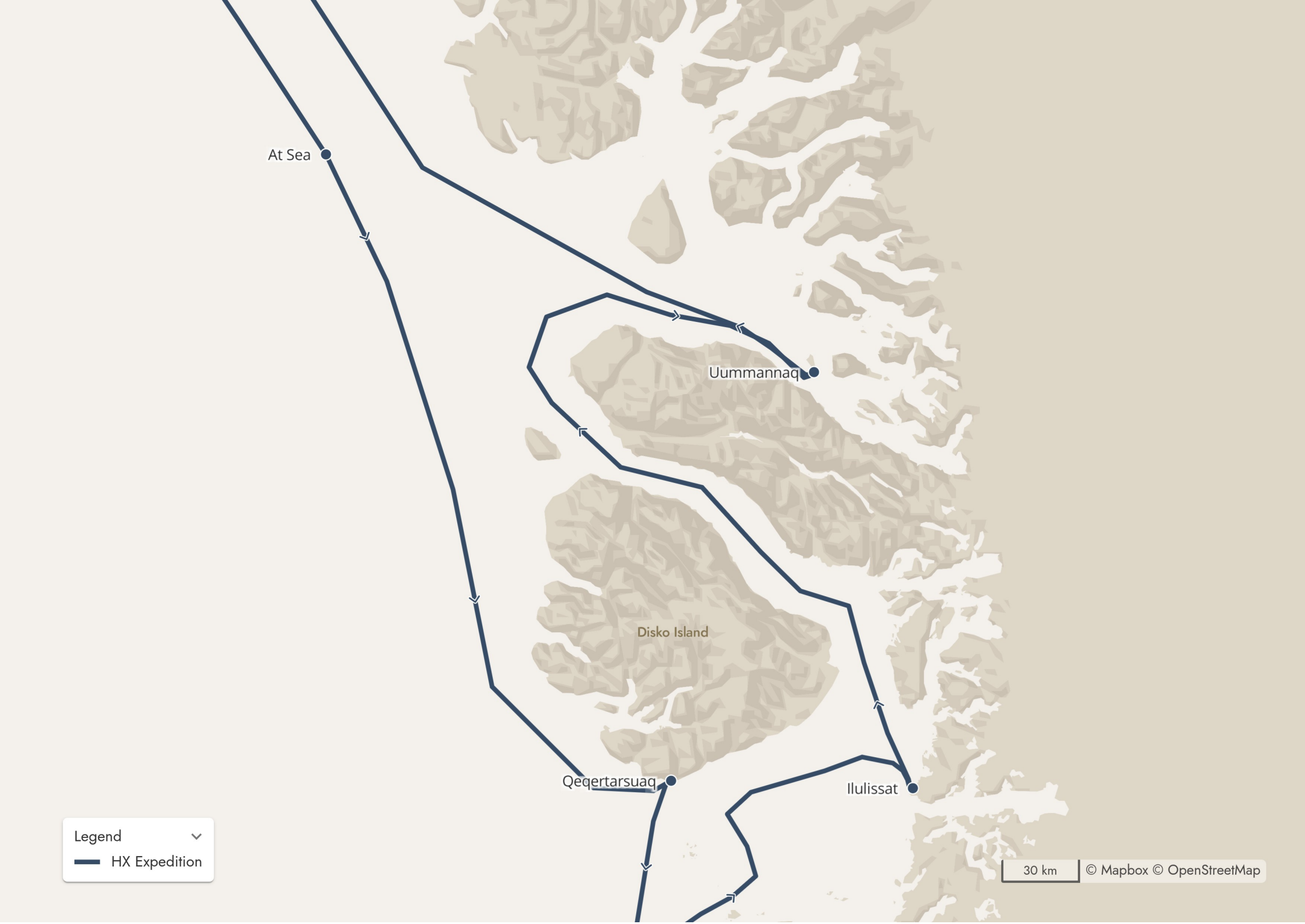
© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 3: Ilulissat

Ilulissat met us under low cloud, but the grey sky did nothing to diminish the scale of what lay before us. Ice from the Icefjord crowded the bay in every direction — a constantly shifting mass of white and blue that demanded your full attention. Guests chose to encounter it either by boat, moving slowly among the bergs, or on

foot along the boardwalk and the hiking trails above. At the head of the boardwalk, the Icefjord Centre offered grounding context: the geography of this extraordinary glacial system and the story of the early Inuit settlers who made this landscape their home.





At Sea

Uummannaq

Disko Island

Qeqertarsuaq

Ilulissat

Legend

— HX Expedition

30 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 4: Uummannaq

Greenland's Far North begins beyond the Nussuaq Peninsula, and Uummannaq was our first true taste of it. The community sits on a small island of just 1,400 people, its colourful buildings linked by walkways and staircases that climb towards the heart-shaped mountain towering above at 1,170 m — the feature that gives the settlement its name. Ice conditions required a switch from the ship's tender to

expedition boats, but the landing was well worth the adjustment. The community opened its doors: the granite church, museum, turf house, and blubber house each offered a different angle on life this far north, as did a visit to Santa's Mailbox. The day ended at the dog yard, where a local musher spoke about the bond between musher and animal and the demands of working sled dogs in the Arctic.

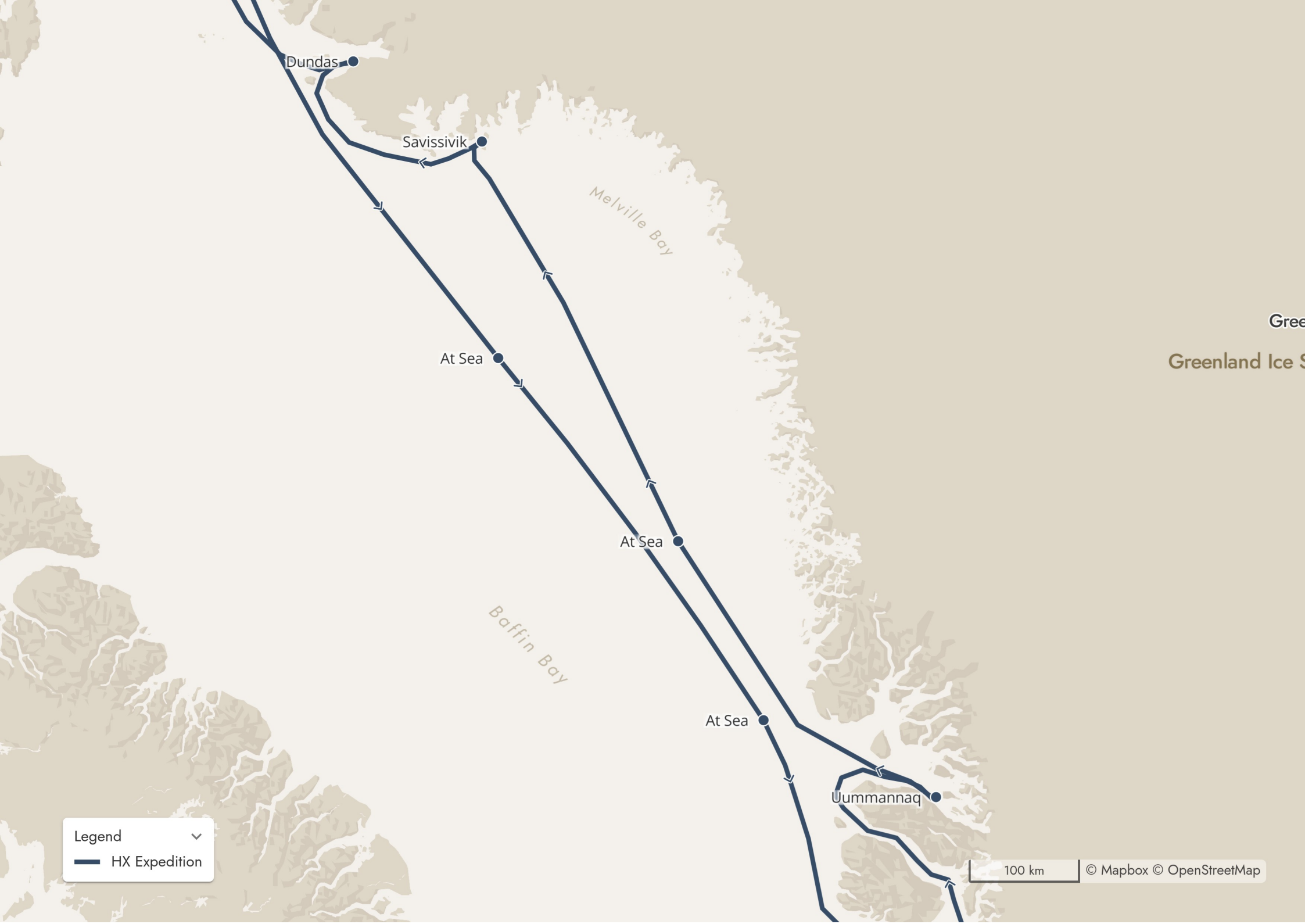


Day 5: At Sea

Fog settled in as MS Fridtjof Nansen pushed north through Baffin Bay, the horizon swallowed and the sea a quiet grey in every direction. With little to see beyond the rail, attention turned inward. The

onboard programme carried the day: lectures ran through the afternoon, and the time between sessions offered a chance to rest and let the journey so far take shape in the mind.





Dundas

Savissivik

At Sea

At Sea

At Sea

Uummannaq

Melville Bay

Baffin Bay

Greenland Ice Sheet

Legend

— HX Expedition

100 km

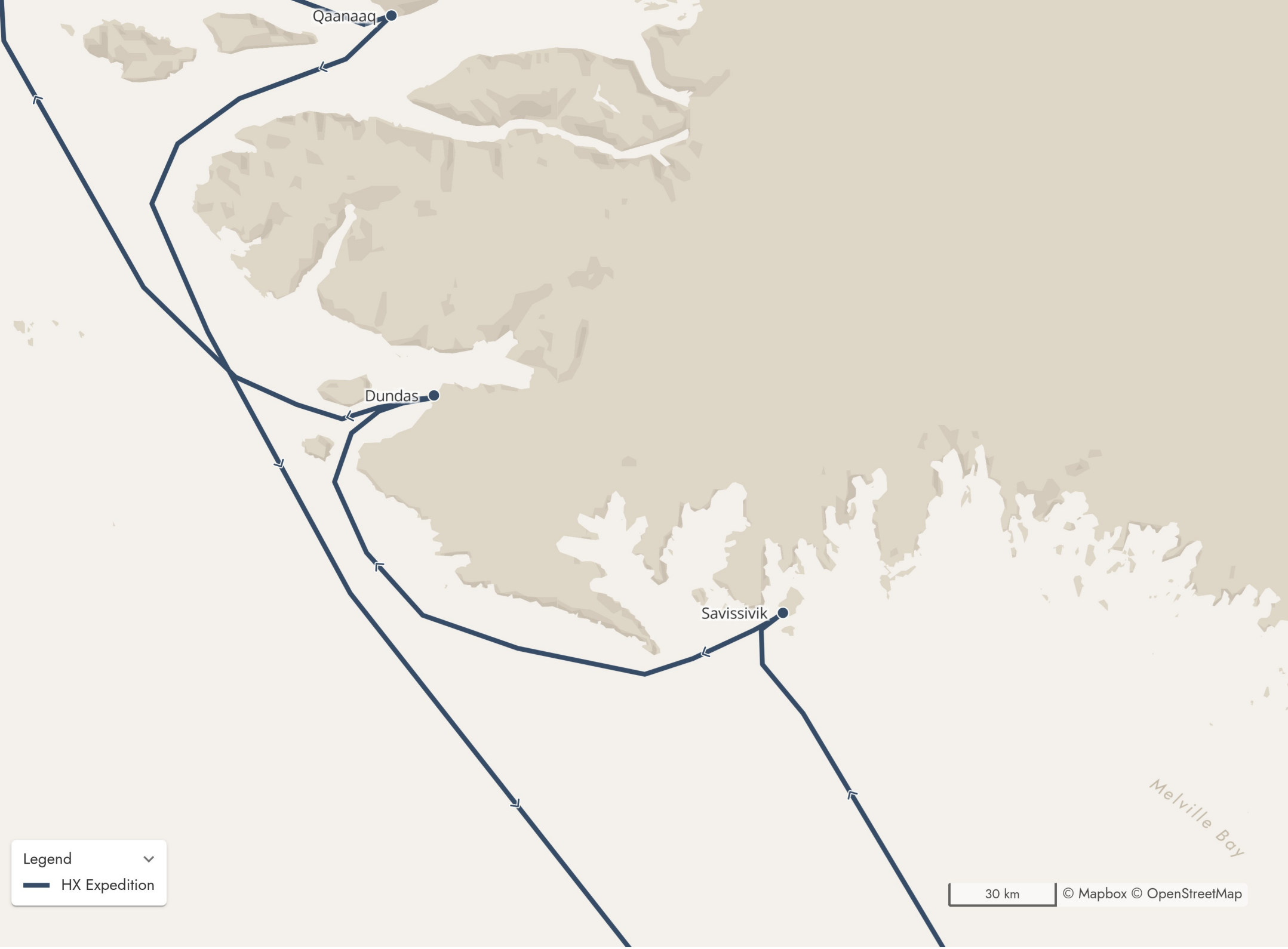
© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 6: Savissivik

Our first stop in the Thule region was Savissivik, a community of just 45 people. Fog returned overnight, forcing a change of plan: rather than cruising first and landing after, we came ashore in the morning. The community was generous in its welcome, opening homes, the church, the school, and the community centre. Demonstrations of local hunting and fishing equipment gave a direct sense of how life

here is sustained, and a kaffemik — a traditional gathering over coffee and food — made us feel genuinely at home. After lunch, the fog lifted enough to launch the expedition boats. We cruised to where little auks flew in their thousands and the pink snow came into view on the slopes above.





Day 7: Dundas/Thule

Dundas lies across the bay from Pituffik Space Base — the US installation built on land once home to around 140 Inughuit residents, who were relocated when the base was established. Many of the original buildings still stand, and we spent the day exploring this

abandoned community. Its most significant interior was the trading post of Knud Rasmussen, opened to HX guests for the first time through the cooperation of Danish Liaison Officers stationed at the base.



Day 8: Etah

The day began with a change of plan: sea ice at the tender pit required us to relocate MS Fridtjof Nansen before operations could begin. Once underway in the expedition boats, we entered the sea ice of Foulke Fjord, cruising beneath 600 m fjord walls with the Brother John Glacier rising behind us. A group of Arctic fox picked their way across the green slopes above the ice — an unhurried,

unexpected encounter. The afternoon brought us ashore at Etah, a place with considerable historical weight. Once a launching point for polar expeditions and the site of the last Inuit migration from the Canadian Arctic, the Thule remains here anchor it firmly to that story. From the high ground, the view ran the full length of the fjord and up to the ice sheet beyond.





Ellesmere Island

Agassiz Ice Cap

Kane Basin

Ice Edge

Etah

Prince of Wales Icefield

Legend

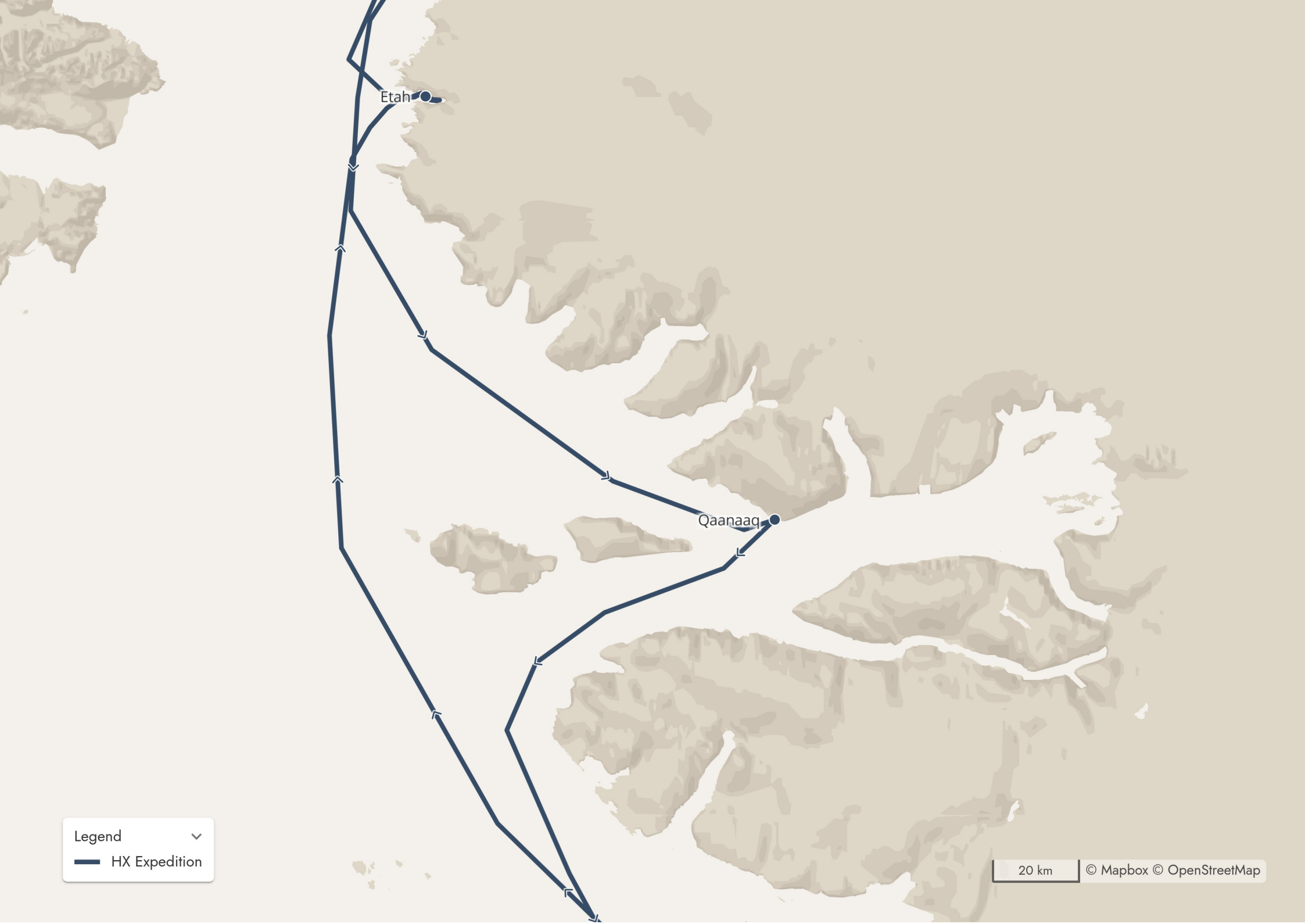
— HX Expedition

Day 9: The Ice Edge

In true expedition style, this day took shape as it unfolded. We pushed north towards the sea ice edge at 78.6 degrees north, and the morning began earlier than expected: an announcement of a polar bear on the ice brought guests to the rail, and a second sighting followed a couple of hours later. With the encounter still fresh, we launched the expedition boats for cruising through the sea

ice, negotiating a route with Canada to the west and Greenland behind. The calm conditions that afternoon made a polar plunge possible — guests lowered themselves into -1.4°C water from the tender pit, the shifting sea ice their backdrop. As MS Fridtjof Nansen turned south for the evening, a third polar bear appeared on an ice floe.





Etah

Qaanaaq

Legend

— HX Expedition

20 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 10: Qaanaaq

MS Fridtjof Nansen continued to Qaanaaq, Greenland's northernmost town — a place where Inuit traditions remain genuinely alive. The community opened its doors fully: the day began in the community centre with a drum, song, and dance performance, the space surrounded by objects of daily life including a traditional qajaq. We visited the Women's Union to learn about traditional winter dress,

then moved on to the church, and climbed to the Thule Museum at the top of the hill. Small in size, the museum carries considerable weight — its collection spans Inuit history and artefacts, among them a fragment of the Cape York Meteorite. Outside, the sun found the brightly coloured houses and lay across the icebergs filling the bay.



Day 11: At Sea

MS Fridtjof Nansen crossed Baffin Bay once more, the far north of Greenland behind us. The onboard programme carried the southward journey: lectures, workshops, and storytelling sessions filled the hours, and an evening of karaoke with the crew brought a

lighter close to the day. For those who had not yet marked the occasion, the Arctic Circle Baptism provided the proper send-off — a rite of passage that those who took part will carry with them long after disembarkation.





Ice Edge

Etah

Qaanaaq

Dundas

Savissivik

At Sea

Legend

HX Expedition

100 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Greenland

Day 12: At Sea

Fog held close as MS Fridtjof Nansen continued south, the sea a uniform grey and the distance shrinking between us and Greenland's more familiar latitudes. The onboard programme ran through the day with lectures and workshops, but the event that gave it shape was the

HX Foundation charity auction. Guests came together to raise over 2,000 euros — a collective contribution to the communities and regions that had defined this voyage.

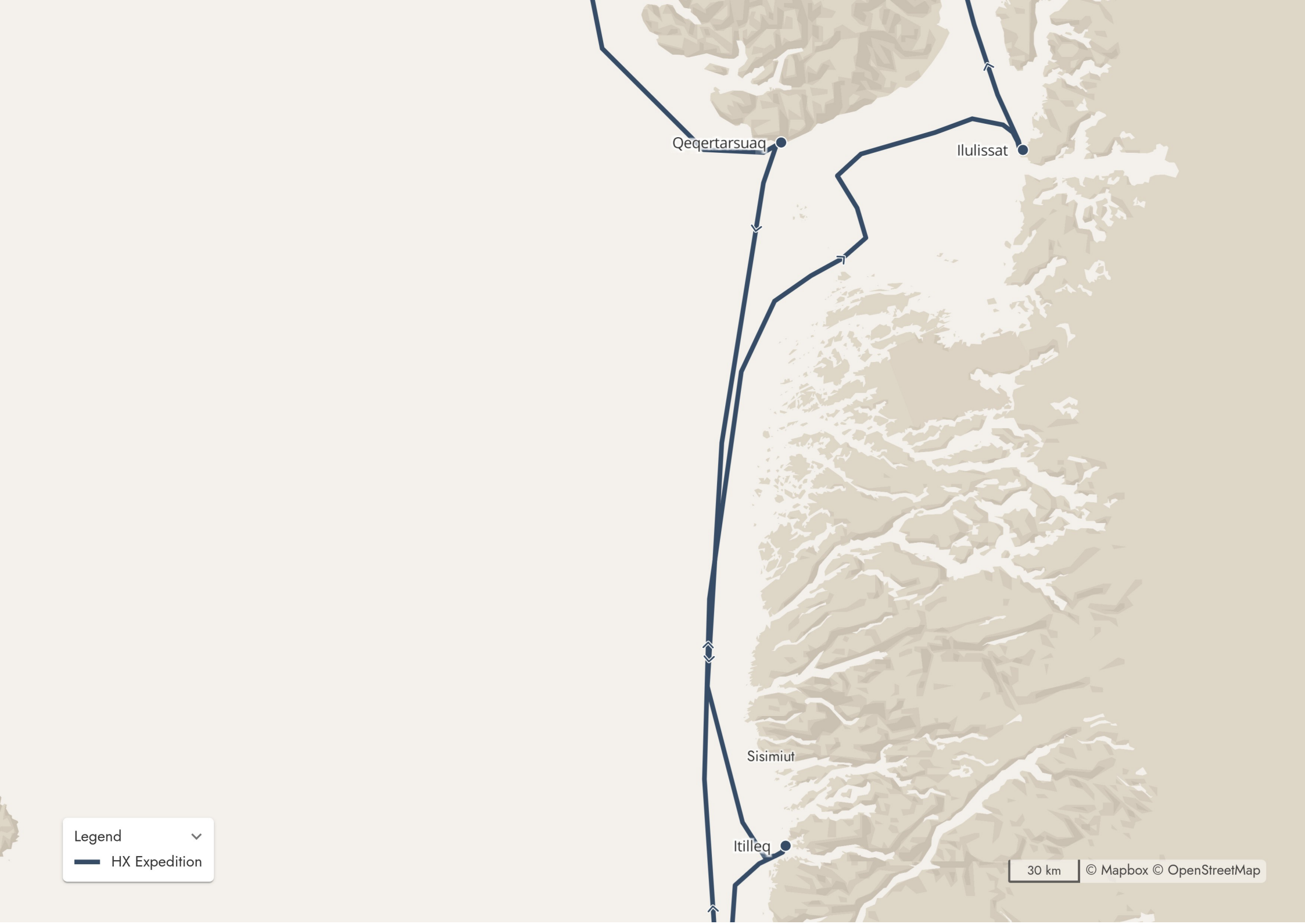


Day 13: Qeqertarsuaq

Qeqertarsuaq, the main settlement on Disko Island, sits beneath volcanic basalt cliffs with icebergs arriving steadily from Disko Bay. The community welcomed us with a polka dance demonstration from the local folk dance society — a performance that invited participation, and we did our best to keep up. You may have taken to the basalt rocks on a hike, visited a sled dog yard, or joined a guided

walking tour of the town. The black sand beach offered something different: a striking contrast to the ice and rock that had defined so much of the voyage. The evening gathered everyone in the Explorer Bar, where 'Rolling Waves' — the crew band — brought the day to a close with singing and dancing late into the night.





Qeqertarsuaq

Ilulissat

Sisimiut

Itilleq

Legend

— HX Expedition

30 km

© Mapbox © OpenStreetMap

Day 14: Itilleq

The final day of expedition began in the small island community of Itilleq, where we were invited for a traditional kaffemik. Homes were opened across the settlement, giving guests the opportunity to sit with locals and ask about life at the far end of the fjord. Once the visits concluded, village and ship gathered for a game of football. Several of the Itilleq residents were already out in the fjord — today marked

the start of the muskox and reindeer hunting season — but the match was played in good spirit, and the ship's side came away with the win it had been chasing since last week's defeat. In the afternoon, MS Fridtjof Nansen turned south, passing out of the Arctic Circle on course for Nuuk.





Farewell and Safe Travels

Today we bid you farewell in Nuuk. From all on board MS Fridtjof Nansen, thank you for joining us and sharing this journey into the Far

North of Greenland. We wish you safe travels onwards and hope to see you again.





logbook.travelmap.net/20260718-fngre2619