



Northwest Passage — Across the Top of the World

MS Roald Amundsen, 11 August — 3 September 2026



Arctic Ocean

Beaufort Sea

Baffin Bay

Greenland

Bering Sea

Canada

Edmonton

Calgary

Vancouver

Ottawa

Toronto

Legend

— HX Expedition

300 km

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Day 1 — Nome, United States

The adventure began the moment guests stepped aboard MS Roald Amundsen, docked and waiting in port. We were there to welcome them. Due to some flight delays, part of the Expedition Team was still making its way to join the ship, and a few guests from the previous voyage found themselves with an unexpected bonus night on board.

The crew who were already aboard gave a warm welcome, smiling and happy to help with questions. Guests spent some time exploring the public areas of the ship. Because of the delay, departure was pushed back by one day.



Day 2 — Bering Sea

Day two, and the voyage was finally taking shape. The last guests from the previous voyage disembarked, and with everyone now on board, we were ready to set sail and begin the journey through the Northwest Passage. Guests attended the mandatory safety briefing, where the Expedition Team modelled the bright orange survival suits and walked through emergency procedures. The Captain welcomed

everyone on board, and guests met the members of the Expedition Team who would guide them over the coming weeks. With the ship finally underway, guests settled in for their first lecture. The next five days would be sea days as we made our way toward the entrance of the Canadian Arctic Archipelago.



Day 3 — Chukchi Sea

Another beautiful day at sea. The sunshine drew guests out onto the decks, and the birdlife put on a fine display, with both horned and tufted puffins flying alongside the ship. The highlight of the day was crossing the Arctic Circle, marked with a ceremony to meet Neptune himself and receive the official Arctic Circle baptism. It was also a

fine chance to become citizen scientists, joining different observation sessions and workshops to learn more about the environment we were sailing through. A few humpback, bowhead, and fin whale blows were spotted in the distance, a reminder of how much life was out here with us.



Day 4 — Beaufort Sea

Day four, and the sunshine held for another sea day. Today felt different as the ship entered icy waters, with sea ice appearing all around. We had to slow down, zigzagging carefully between the ice, for this would be the kind of ice cover we would be navigating through over the coming days. The Expedition Team also shared ice

charts and satellite images of the area, giving a clearer picture of what lay ahead. Some ringed and bearded seals were spotted in the water or resting on the ice.



Day 5 — Beaufort Sea

As the sea days drew to a close, it was time to prepare for the upcoming landings. Guests attended an AECO briefing, learning how to respect the environment they were about to explore. We handed out rubber boots so everyone would be ready for whatever weather

and conditions lay ahead. Wildlife kept appearing around the ship, with more whale blows, some bearded seals resting on the ice, and birds joining the scene. Excitement was building for the first landing.



Day 6 — Beaufort Sea

The last sea day. We began with quizzes and a scavenger hunt around the ship, a fine way to pass the time as we kept zigzagging through the ice. It was also the perfect day to delve into the history of the Northwest Passage and learn about the Inuit who call this place

home, with talks from our historian and cultural ambassador on board. Guests had the chance to learn more about the guest scientists joining the voyage and the work they were doing. With the sea days behind us, everything was ready for the first landing.



Day 7 — Smoking Hills

Today brought the first expedition boat cruising of the trip. We launched the boats and set out on the water at last. Guests cruised around the Smoking Hills, taking in the incredible scenery on a

beautiful day. Wildlife made an appearance too, with a peregrine falcon and some ground squirrels spotted along the shore.



Day 8 — Ulukhaktok, Canada

The first day on land and the first community visit, in Ulukhaktok. It offered the perfect introduction to an Arctic settlement and Inuit culture, with a drum dancing performance and a demonstration of

Arctic sports. Community members welcomed guests, dressed in traditional clothes made of caribou hide and seal skin. The day closed with a musical performance from the crew.



Day 9 — Murray Island, Canada

Murray Island was the first nature landing and the first chance to explore a truly remote Arctic island. The ride from the ship was quite wavy and a little wet, but that was part of the adventure. When we arrived, a light rain was falling, yet guests could still enjoy and explore the landscape. There were different kinds of berries to find, including lingonberries and bog berries, and remarkable beauty in

the small details. The tundra plants were already showing autumn colours, and the rocks were covered with colourful lichens. Several caribou antlers lay scattered around the island, a reminder of the wildlife that lives in such a remote place. It was a fine first Arctic experience, exploring a wild and remote island and discovering its beauty step by step.



Day 10 — Cambridge Bay, Canada

We woke to the bright, flat light of the Arctic tundra as we went ashore in Cambridge Bay, a vital crossroads of the Northwest Passage. Community walking tours offered a warm introduction to the settlement, while guests spread out across a rich menu of optional excursions: some explored Victoria Island by ATV, others joined a boat trip for harvesting and preparing char, and many hiked the striking terrain of Ovayuk Territorial Park. A visit to the CHAR science station offered a fascinating look at the research being conducted in

this remote outpost. Wandering through town, guests found their way to the Red Fish Studio and the school library, where skilled hands demonstrated the fine art of sewing seal-skin vests, preserving traditions for the next generation. The museum's artefacts spoke of centuries of ingenuity on the land. Overhead, snow geese filled the sky, already gathering for their journey south. In the evening, Tanis welcomed guests into the Explorer Lounge for 'An Arctic Life', sharing photographs and stories of growing up in Nunavut.



Day 11 — Jenny Lind Island, Canada

In the morning the HX Animal Groups took turns exploring Jenny Lind Island, while Science Boats headed out to collect plankton samples. The Extended Hike party returned with tales of tundra. Back on board, the Science Centre buzzed with activity—quiz and Sudoku challenged guests' minds, while Dougie's whale forensics workshop turned guests into detectives, decoding the life history of a mystery whale.

Claire's afternoon lecture on Edible and Medicinal Plants revealed the hidden pantry of the North, and Gibson shared personal stories of hunting and seasonality around Gjoa Haven. As twilight settled over the low-lying landscape, Chuck's Tiny Talk on Franklin's Sunken Ships offered a haunting reminder of the explorers who came before us.



Day 12 — Gjoa Haven, Canada

We spent a moving day in Gjoa Haven, a community steeped in history at the heart of the Northwest Passage. Community walking tours led guests through the settlement, while a rich programme of optional excursions awaited: storytelling, a lively round of Gjoa Haven Community Bingo, and intimate Arctic Conversations with local artists, as well as respected Elders who shared wisdom gathered over generations. The heart of the visit beat strongest in the community

hall, where guests were welcomed with powerful singing and drumming, and the energy rose as locals took to the floor in traditional dance that left everyone smiling. Back on board, Peter continued his series on Inuit history. As we sailed onward, the spirit of Gjoa Haven — generous, proud, and deeply rooted — stayed with us.



Day 13 — Coningham Bay, Canada

In a shallow inlet on the southeast coast of Prince of Wales Island, we explored Coningham Bay by expedition boat. In the distance, guests spotted beluga whales, as well as the cream-coloured shape of polar bears wandering the land. One curious polar bear swam toward the ship to investigate. The ship came alive at dawn as we approached

the narrow, legendary channel of Bellot Strait. The bridge team navigated with precision through the swift currents. The cliffs rose steep and ancient on either side, their layered rock telling stories older than any voyage. It was a day of pure expedition, just the thrill of transit through one of the most storied passages in the Arctic.



Day 14 — Fury Beach, Canada

We made landfall on the historic shores of Fury Beach, where the gravel bars of Somerset Island meet the ice-choked sea. Expedition boats ferried groups along the coast in search of Arctic birds and whales, while the Extended Hike party returned with wind-burned cheeks. On board, Henryk transported guests with tales of sailing in Amundsen's wake through the Northeast Passage. Lara's Polar Plunge Prep gave the bravest among them the breathing techniques needed

to face the icy water, and the plunge itself was a triumph of spirit with cheers ringing across the expedition launch. In the evening, we encountered our sister ship MS Fridtjof Nansen bow to bow. The observation decks were filled with waving guests, and goods were exchanged between the ships. In the Explorer Lounge, the evening came to a close with maritime poetry, letting the rhythm of the words mirror the sea outside.



Day 15 — Port Leopold, Canada (AM)

The morning zodiac operations ran like clockwork as groups reached the quiet waters of Port Leopold, a historic shelter on the northeast tip of Somerset Island. Meanwhile, the Science Boat team continued their surveys and citizen science projects. The Expedition staff pointed out

the historic remains of old supply caches and the stark beauty of the high Arctic desert.



Day 15 — Prince Leopold Island, Canada (PM)

The afternoon brought one of the great wildlife spectacles of the voyage as we zodiac cruised toward Prince Leopold Island, one of the most important seabird sanctuaries in the Canadian Arctic. The cliffs were alive with thousands of thick-billed murre, northern fulmars, and black-legged kittiwakes, while glaucous gulls rode the

updrafts above the basalt columns. The colonies stretched from the sea to the sky in a living tapestry of black and white. In the evening, storytelling wove together ancient Inuit knowledge and modern science, revealing why Lancaster Sound is known as the place where the ice breathes.



Day 16 — Beechey Island, Canada (AM)

A solemn and powerful day awaited us at Beechey Island, where the silent graves of Franklin's men stand as a testament to the unforgiving nature of Arctic exploration. We went ashore beneath low, grey skies to pay our respects at the memorials on this desolate shore. On

board, the day was filled with creativity and learning: Holly taught guests to observe and sketch the natural world, and Avery and Henryk showed them the art of useful knots. Giulia's lecture on The Sound of the Sea opened ears to the underwater symphony of whales and fish.



Day 16 — Radstock Bay, Canada (PM)

During the scenic ship sailing, the massive cliffs of Devon Island rose from the mist as we approached Radstock Bay, home to the striking monolith of Caswall Tower. From the observation decks, we scanned the slopes and were rewarded with the sight of a polar bear mother with her two cubs, the little ones tumbling after her across the

shoreline. Lara's evening talk on Rock Stars of the Arctic celebrated the remarkable women who transformed polar science. We closed the day with Vincent's presentation on bridging scientific and Indigenous knowledge, a conversation that felt especially meaningful after standing on Beechey's historic shore.



Day 17 — Dundas Harbour, Canada

On board, Rhiann's lecture on Whales from Space showed how satellite technology is revolutionising our understanding of Arctic cetaceans, and Henry's double lecture on Conquering the North Pole unravelled the tangled history of the race to the top of the world. After lunch, we went ashore at Dundas Harbour, the abandoned RCMP outpost on Devon Island that stands as a lonely sentinel in one of the world's largest uninhabited islands. Walking among the

weathered wooden buildings, we imagined the lives of the people who once patrolled this impossibly remote post. The kayakers paddled the still waters of the bay and explored the coastline in search of wildlife. Peter and Avery welcomed guests for an evening of storytelling in the Explorer Lounge, with cultural insights to close the day.



Day 18 — Pond Inlet (Mittimatalik), Canada

With sunshine, guests were welcomed into the vibrant community of Pond Inlet, known in Inuktitut as Mittimatalik. Sailing into the bay, we were greeted by the tall dorsal fins of orcas cutting through the glassy water, a striking welcome to Baffin Island. The morning buzzed with activity as we prepared for a day of cultural immersion. Groups set out on different excursions, where storytelling accompanied every step along the way. A few experienced the gentle art of quilliq—the

traditional stone lamp—and some visited community members for honest Arctic conversations. Back on board, Dougie's lecture on the History of Whaling traced the near-extinction and remarkable recovery of these ocean giants. The evening brought Arctic Bingo in the Explorer Lounge, where images of glaciers, bedrock, and wildlife tested guests' expedition knowledge and filled the room with laughter.



Day 19 — Baffin Bay

A day at sea in the Davis Strait gave time to breathe, reflect, and absorb the journey we had shared. The ship's clocks moved forward, marking our gradual return toward Greenland. We spent the day roaming the decks, joining wildlife watches, and attending lectures that deepened our understanding of the Arctic world. Vincent unveiled the mystery of polynyas, those vital oases of open water in

the frozen sea, while Dougie's workshop on capture-recapture methods showed how scientists count the uncountable. Henryk offered a brief history of Greenland. The evening culminated in a lively Q&A with the ship's officers, followed by a Crew Band Show that had the Explorer Lounge dancing. As we crossed the strait, we looked back on the Northwest Passage with gratitude and wonder.



Day 20 — Disko Bay

On the second sea day, the Davis Strait stretched calm and wide beneath a pale Arctic sky as we sailed steadily toward the ice-chalked coast of Greenland. The morning began gently with a movement session in the Explorer Lounge. With the coastline still beyond the horizon, we turned our attention to the world awaiting us: Lara unveiled the deep history of Greenland's bedrock in her geology lecture, carrying us from 3.8-billion-year-old gneiss to volcanic basalt columns, while Marina offered a parallel exploration of ice sheets and

glaciers, explaining the frozen engines that shape the polar landscape. Between lectures, Larissa kept hands busy with Greenland flag beading. On Deck 4, Avery's Paddle Fit had guests stretching with kayak paddles, and the Pool Bar served smoky Mezcal Hot Toddies as the afternoon light turned golden. Henryk's Navigation offered a masterclass in Arctic wayfinding. The evening brought the HX Foundation Auction, where Dougie and the Expedition Team sparked lively bidding.



Day 21 — Ilulissat, Greenland

We awoke to the sight of massive icebergs drifting past the windows, for we had arrived at Ilulissat, Greenland's iceberg capital. The town spilled down the hillside in a cascade of colourful houses, and guests went ashore by tender for a full day of exploration. Many made their way to the Icefjord Centre, where sweeping architecture framed the raw power of the glacier's output, before walking the boardwalk or rugged trail to the fjord's edge. There, the ice lay stacked in impossible sculptures of blue and white, creaking and groaning as it made its slow procession to the sea. The Expedition Team was

scattered throughout town, at the Spar market, along the pier, and at the bus stop, ready with directions, recommendations, and warm conversation. Back on board, Marina's Nature Journalling workshop helped guests capture the day's impressions on paper, and Giulia's Tiny Talk revealed why the Icefjord matters, not merely as a spectacle, but as the hidden engine powering Greenland's rich fisheries. As evening approached, we gathered for 'What Did We See?' to share the day's discoveries and had a final wildlife watch as the midnight sun gilded the bergs in shades of rose and gold.



Day 22 — Sisimiut, Greenland

The ship nestled alongside in Sisimiut, where the colourful wooden buildings of Greenland's historic west coast greeted guests with Arctic charm. The morning started with wildlife watch before Chuck's lecture, 'Chasing Whales', explored the human dimension of Arctic whaling, fitting, perhaps, for a town with such deep maritime roots. Marina drew guests into the acoustic world of ice in her 'Sounds of Ice' workshop, where crackles, pops, and deep resonant rumbles revealed the hidden voice of glaciers. Guests fanned out across the

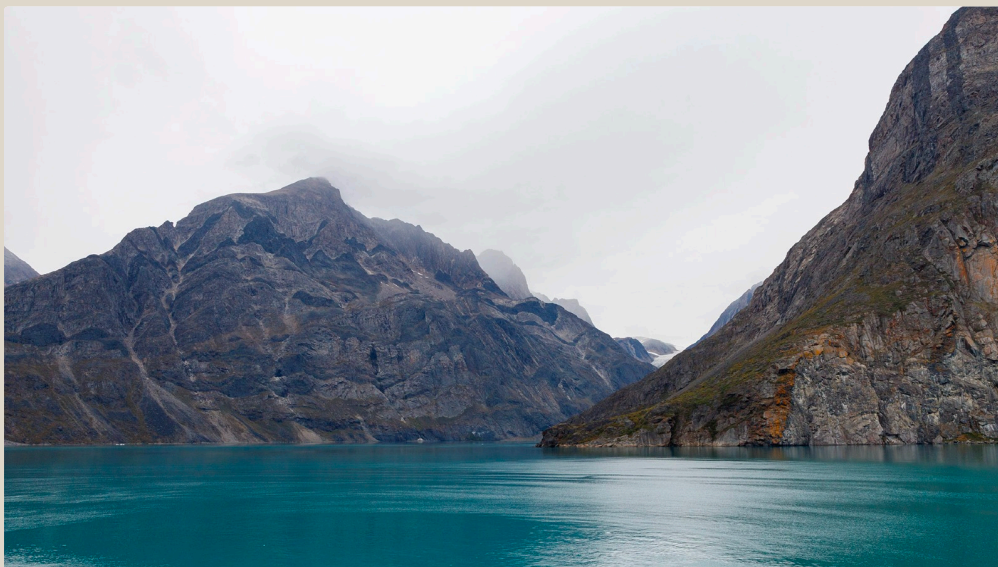
settlement: some joined Discovery Walks along the pier and through the historic core, others boarded buses for a panoramic tour or visited the nearby islands, and the more adventurous fired up ATVs for a backcountry adventure into the tundra hills. As the evening shadows lengthened—heralding the slow return of Arctic darkness—Peter presented the film *Experimental Eskimos*, a sobering and essential documentary about three Inuit boys.



Day 23 — Evighedsfjord, Greenland

We awoke to the steep, dark walls of Evighedsfjord—Eternity Fjord—where the mountains rise straight from the water in ancient, weathered grandeur. The morning light was soft and diffused as we launched the expedition boats for a full day of exploring this magnificent Greenlandic fjord. Kayakers paddled quietly among the bergs, into a silence so deep it felt as though the land itself were holding its breath. Between excursions, we gathered in the Explorer Lounge to hear Ole Skifte's guest lectures on daily life and history in Maniitsoq, a warm window into the living culture of Greenland's west

coast settlements. The afternoon offered a chance to finish art projects in the Activity Room, and we traded our expedition boots for deck shoes one last time. The Science Centre opened for a final recap, where the team shared the citizen science data we had gathered: cloud observations, wildlife sightings, and plankton samples, a tangible record of our passage through the Arctic. We gathered for the Photographer's Video and Captain's Farewell, raising a glass to the crew and to each other while watching our voyage unfold once more on screen.





Day 24 — Nuuk, Greenland

The last morning arrived with the colourful houses of Nuuk, Greenland's capital and the final port of call. We gathered for one last breakfast in the Aune restaurant, the clatter of cutlery a little softer than usual, the coffee cups refilled more slowly, as if we all hoped to stretch the moment just a little longer. The ship that had carried us through the Northwest Passage, from the Bering Sea to Davis Strait, from Cambridge Bay to Eternity Fjord, suddenly felt less like a vessel and more like a home we were not quite ready to leave. By mid-morning, the expedition launch was busy with luggage and last-

minute stories, photographs, and hugs exchanged with the crew who had become family over three and a half weeks of shared adventure. We stepped onto the pier at Nuuk's modern harbour, the mountains of Sermitsiaq rising behind the city, and for a moment the solid ground felt strange beneath our feet. From here, we scattered toward airports and onward flights, some across the Atlantic to Copenhagen, others east to Reykjavik, carrying with us cameras full of polar bears and icebergs, notebooks stained with tundra mud, and hearts full of the Arctic.



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